

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF ALBERBURY WITH CARDESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Held at Alberbury Village Hall on Monday 20th April

Present: K Evans (Chairman), R Griffiths, M Tomlins, C Bourne, D Parry, Mrs J Wilson, Mrs K Stokes, M Mead (Shropshire Council), Cllr. D Roberts, CSO A Roberts from the police (part mtg.) and 14 members of the public

Apologies: R Kynaston, P Siese

1142 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING Minutes 1132 to 1141 of the Meeting held on 23rd February 2015 were proposed for acceptance by R Griffiths, seconded by M Tomlins, and approved unanimously

1143 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Planning item a. M Tomlins declared a personal interest

1144 PARISH PLAN The Chairman stated that analysis of the returns had been delayed by the Easter break but there was a meeting organised for the 5th May at which it was hoped to finalise matters

1145 COUNCILLORS REPORTS/LJC BUSINESS Councillor Roberts told members that he was spending much of his time at present on planning matters. The Inspectors ruling on SAMDev was expected by the end of May, (and Mathew Mead added that the core of the document had been largely approved). There appeared to be delays with extending the remit of the Council's outsourcing operation, I P & E, due to the pension deficit and operating losses. Mr Roberts said that there was a long term plan being considered by politicians to recombine the two halves of Shropshire under one Council and save £15m pa. He updated members on the new university, saying that work on the accommodation by the Market Hall was progressing, but prospective student numbers were still low at the moment. He also said that the county small holdings were on the market.

He was asked by a member of the public when the new Severn theatre would stand on its own feet financially, and he said that the subsidy had now been reduced as agreed originally.

At the LJC, the main discussions were about SAMDev, the Youth service, and the Pontesbury library (which needs another partner or funding proposal in order to keep going). Cllr. Roberts and R Griffiths agreed that the new LJC had a more local feel.

1146 PARISH WEBSITE The Clerk reported that a number of recent comments had questioned the quality and modernity of the current website. He said that it cost about £35 pa currently and was a very basic site, also it only got updated when he had time available. M Mead said that there were more up to date sites available as packages on the internet, but they would probably cost more, basically one got what one paid for. The Chair said that the new Parish Plan would be informing this debate somewhat and it was agreed to bring this matter back to a further meeting.

1147 PLAYING AREAS The lack of a waste bin at Wattlesborough was discussed again and Cllr. Roberts was asked to attempt to source an extra wheelie bin

1148 PARISH INFORMATION BOARDS The design for the new boards had been pre-circulated and the footpaths representative, P Roberts, answered questions. The cost of the two boards will be £500 plus VAT and this was agreed to proceed, nem con.

1149 PARISH MATTERS

- a. **Highways** : The Clerk reported that he had had a reply from the Highways Authority with respect to the footpath and litter problem at Halfway House, and these had been placed in their work programme

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There was then a discussion about naming Old School Lane and Old School Green at Wattlesborough, which have not previously been adopted, and The Clerk will look at options. In other matters, the footpath between Abbey Lane and Upper House Lane in Alberbury is dangerously overgrown, the no through road sign at Abbey Lane is missing and the edges to Rowton Lane have not been attended to at the parking places; The Clerk will report these matters. Mr Bourne said that there had been a surveyor visit to the bridge at Cardeston, and improvements to the flooding issue were ongoing.

- b. **Policing:** CSO Angie Roberts addressed the meeting. Police resources were now reduced somewhat following the retirement of Keith Hadfield, and their operating area had increased, but crime remained low. There was still a problem with shed burglaries and some ASB activity. On the question of speeding, The Clerk reported that Alberbury had now been designated a Community Concern area by the Safer Roads Partnership, and increased speed enforcement would result, until further notice. This was because the average speed of vehicles passing through the village had been measured at over 50 mph. The Chair asked CSO Roberts if she could also request speed checks on the main A458.
- c. **Other:** The Clerk was asked to find out if a 3' x 2' noticeboard at Wattlesborough would require planning permission. He also told members that the noticeboard at Halfway House on Godfrey Arthurs dwelling, was not the property of the Parish Council

1150 CORRESPONDENCE The Clerk read out several items of correspondence and there were no matters arising

1151 FINANCE The Clerks Salary and expenses £253.63 and the Village Hall hire £12 were proposed for payment by R Griffiths, seconded by M Tomlins, and agreed unanimously.

The Clerk then circulated the forecast year end position and the reconciliation with the monies held in the Bank were shown to The Chair; subject to any queries/adjustments these accounts will be signed at the AGM.

1152 PLANNING The Clerk said that the items on the agenda had already been dealt with via e mails, and in particular, the proposal for 10 house at Heath Drive, Halfway House, had been strongly opposed in a similar way to the recent Wattlesborough Heath and rear of Wattlesborough Village Hall applications. On the item d., outdoor caravan storage at Cardeston, he was asked to enquire about landscaping. Not on the agenda was the revised submission for the development at the Old Post Office at Alberbury, said to be an adjunct rather than separate house. Councillors discussed this at length and told the owner, who was present, that a single plot exception house would be acceptable, but otherwise they were not convinced that the proposed new building could not become an open market house at some point in the future.

1153 DATE OF NEXT MEETING 18th May at Wattlesborough, the AGM

Signed: Chairman

Clerk

Date: