

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ALBERBURY WITH CARDESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Held at Wattlesborough Village Hall on Monday 18th February 2019

Present: M Tomlins (Chairman), R Griffiths, Mrs J Wilson, C Bourne, Mrs K Stokes, Mrs S Evans, Mr R Davies
Clr. Ed Potter and 1 member of the public

Apologies: M Mead (Shropshire Council), D Parry, R Kynaston and PC Cookson

1439 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING Minutes 1431 to 1438 of the Meeting held on 14th January were proposed for acceptance by Mr Griffiths, seconded by Mrs Wilson, and approved unanimously.

1440 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were none

1441 PARISH MATTERS

- a. **Highways:** The Vehicle Activated Sign was finally to be installed the next day, said The Clerk, and this would monitor speeds and traffic density. Mr Griffiths said that if Shropshire Council are doing a traffic counter as promised, then this should be downstream of the new VAS sign. There had been no progress yet on installing the Village gates, nor had The Clerk had a reply about moving the bus stop. Councillor Griffiths asked the meeting for permission to write again to Shropshire Highways about the lack of a Stop sign on Rowton Lane, the lack of a 7.5 tonne limit and the condition of Rowton Lane generally, and this was agreed.

Various Highways problems were then raised eg. the condition of the Five Turns junction at Fords Heath, Westbury Level Crossing, Abbey Lane and The Clerk will write to Shropshire Council copy Clrs. Potter and Evans, who share this area.

- b. **Police:** In the absence of PC Cookson (on leave) The Clerk reported on the recent break in at Halfway House stores, which appeared to drug related and potentially linked to a similar crime in Pontesbury. An arrest had been made but no prosecution to date.

- c. **Other** It was agreed by all to repair the noticeboards at Alberbury and Cardeston (not expected to exceed 3300 in total
There was currently a rubbish problem at the layby on the A458 between Cardeston and Ford, and The Clerk will investigate what solutions are possible.

1442 LOCAL COUNCIL BUSINESS Clr. Potter addressed the meeting, saying that budget setting was still underway at Shropshire Council, and that a break even result was expected for 2018/19. It was expected that the Council Tax increase would be 3.99%, but even then the Council would be sorely stretched, particularly in Children's services and funding of Special Educational Needs. Highways issues were a major concern and a complete restructure of that department was currently underway, including a new liaison post for Parish Councils.

He said that the Future Fit decision to remove A&E services from Telford was now going to be called in by the Secretary of State for Health for review

1443 CORRESPONDENCE The Clerk reported that he had received details on planned developments at Ford, with up to 100 new houses, but only on a site with existing planning permission and one new site opposite the garage. It was noted that this may pressurise the primary school, but Clr. Potter said that there were out of catchment children there who could be managed out, and in the worst case, another classroom could be built.

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1444 FINANCE The Clerks Salary and expenses £281.08 and the Village Hall hire £12 were proposed for acceptance by Mr Davies, seconded by Mrs Evans, and agreed unanimously. It was also agreed to fund the two Village Halls in the sum of £500 each, having seen annual accounts from each hall.

The Clerk confirmed that former Councillor D Roberts would again act as internal auditor, and he asked members to agree that existing controls and financial systems were adequate and effective. This was agreed nem con.

Finally, The Clerk tabled the year to date cash position which showed £6000 approx. would be the year end position after a year in which several projects were completed, so this was a good result

1445 PLANNING Councillors discussed 7 items, all of which had been pre-circulated except the extension to Alberbury Village Hall, which it was agreed to support. The upstairs café at Halfway House Stores is also being supported. The proposed dwelling east of Jarrandale at Halfway House had been refused permission.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm

1446 DATE OF NEXT MEETING 25th March at Alberbury Village Hall, 7.30 pm

Signed: Chairman

Clerk

Date: