

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ALBERBURY WITH CARDESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Held at Alberbury Village Hall on Monday 13th January 2020

Present: M Tomlins, (Chairman), R Griffiths, Mrs J Wilson, Mrs K Stokes, D Parry, Mrs S Evans and Clr. Ed Potter, plus three members of the public

Apologies: R Kynaston and PC R Cookson

1501 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING Minutes 1491 to 1500 of the Meeting held on 25th November 2019 were amended to read pecuniary instead of prejudicial under 'Declarations' and then proposed for acceptance by Mr Griffiths, seconded by Mrs Wilson, and approved unanimously.

1502 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were none

1503 PRESENTATION ON SMARTWATER Rachel Oakley of Smartwater Ltd addressed the meeting on the 'We Don't Buy Crime' initiative, part funded by West Mercia Police. She explained that each household in the Parish could have an individual kit to property mark possessions in a completely unique way to that household. Such marking could be as small as a pin prick and was revealed under U/V light. Subject to 80% of residents taking the offer up, West Mercia Police would fund the local signage and 25% of the kit costs, which were £8.90 + VAT per pack. Results were said to have reduced rural break ins by 80% in the areas where Smartwater was deployed.

The Council agreed to fund a free kit for every household out of the 2020-21 precept in the estimated sum of £2500 to £2700 (to be confirmed); Proposed D Parry, seconded Mrs J Wilson, nem con. Smartwater will send details to The Clerk as soon as possible so that the proposal can be advertised

1503 PARISH MATTERS

- a. **Highways:** The Clerk reported much correspondence from Alberbury residents about the state of the highway there, which had been copied to Shropshire Council Highways and the Mr E Potter. Mr Potter said that there was a huge argument proceeding at Shropshire Council about potholes and surfacing, with £10m released from reserves to address the problem, however there were concerns about previous shoddy work and poor contractor control.
Mr Griffiths listed all the previous requests for Highways improvements in Alberbury, and he will send a summary to The Clerk, who will write to the Director of Place at Shropshire Council, Mark Barrow.
- b. **Police:** The Police report had been pre-circulated by The Clerk and there were no additional matters to report. It was noted that speed sensors will shortly be installed by Shropshire Council.
- c. **Website:** The Clerk reminded members that the .co.uk domain for the Council was shortly up for renewal, and though the .com domain was the main one used, at £12 per annum + VAT it was sensible to keep the .co.uk domain to stop others using it and causing confusion. This was agreed unanimously.
- d. **Speed Camera Report** This had been pre-circulated and there were no queries. It was agreed to continue to share data with Powys.
- e. **Other:** The Clerk suggested that a Clerk's Report at future meetings could deal with progress matters since the last meeting, correspondence and other points of interest; it was agreed to try this out. Mr Griffiths asked if there was any progress with the new incinerator proposed at Buttington, and was told that there had been no planning application as yet.

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1504 LOCAL COUNCIL BUSINESS Clr. Potter addressed the meeting, reporting that the Place Plan discussions were ongoing, with a proposal for a rural doughnut around Shrewsbury so that CIL monies and similar were not 'pinched' by the Town. He then spoke about rough sleeping initiatives in Shrewsbury, where there were said to be 18 such persons, but others commuting into the town as its population were seen as generous. He said that neither money nor refreshments should be given to beggars as they were redirected towards drugs, but instead to give donations to the local ARK (by Shrewsbury station). He also commended the internet link <https://www.streetlink.org.uk/> which was used to alert local contacts if one believed someone was a rough sleeper, and direct them to the hostel in Castle Foregate and other assistance. Mr Griffiths said that considerable thanks were due to Mr Potter for his continued hard work on a number of fronts, and it was also agreed to include his monthly report on the website.

1505 CORRESPONDENCE The Clerk apprised councillors of letters received and sent, and there were no matters arising

1506 FINANCE The Clerks Salary and expenses £273.25, and the Village Hall hire £15 were proposed for acceptance by Mr Parry, seconded by Mr Griffiths, and agreed unanimously. The Clerk had previously circulated a yearly cash estimate and suggested budget for 2020/21, which suggested that a breakeven year was possible with a reduced precept, but had little allowance for village projects. In view of the Smartwater decision earlier it was proposed to leave the precept at £9500 to give some headroom. This was proposed by Mr Griffiths, seconded by Mr Parry, and agreed unanimously.

So far as the remainder of 2019/20 was concerned, the Clerk's estimate showed an unspent amount likely of about £3000. He has previously circulated a proposal from Mr Parry and himself to spend £2500 to 2700 on the Wattlesborough play area and surrounds, much of the work required by the ROSPA inspection last summer. It was agreed to finalise these proposals with firm quotes and progress matters as soon as possible.

1507 PLANNING The following matters were discussed:

- a. 19/05279/LBC Wollaston Farm, Wollaston, Proposal: Installation of replacement windows and doors affecting a Grade II Listed Building, Applicant: Miss H Doyle-Wilday, APPLICATION No issues raised nor comments made
- b. 19/04584/FUL Oak Tree Cottage, Wattlesborough, Proposal: Erection of a garage with living accommodation over and link extension to house. Decision: Grant Permission No comment
- c. 19/05259/FUL Rowton Grove, Rowton, Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the erection of an agricultural storage building Applicant: F L Jones & Son No issues raised nor comments made
- d. 19/05518/FUL Erection of an affordable dwelling with detached double garage with external staircase and storage above and sewage treatment plant LOCATION: Proposed Dwelling Land At, Halfway House, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, . OS REFERENCE: 334220 - 311648 APPLICANT: Miss Ella Cockerham-Barker The Agent, Sean Jones, explained to the meeting that this was a standard 100m2 affordable house at a location between the Halfway House Garage and the barn conversion recently approved, and that the space in the garage roof was for storage only, and not high enough for residential use. On a proposal from Mrs Wilson, seconded by Mrs Stokes, it was decided to support this application, nem con.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm

1508 DATE OF NEXT MEETING 17th February at Wattlesborough Village Hall, 7.00 pm, preceded by the Friends Against Scams presentation which all members were asked to publicise.

Signed: Chairman

Clerk

Date: