

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

Held at Wattlesborough Village Hall on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Present: D Parry (Chair), R Kynaston, Mrs. S Evans, M Davies, C Bourne, R T Hughes, Cllr. E Potter, and 5 members of the public

Apologies: Mrs K Stokes, Mrs J Wilson

**1681 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** Minutes 1672 to 1680 of the Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022 were proposed for acceptance by Mr Hughes, seconded by Mr Kynaston, and approved unanimously

**1682 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** None

**1683 CLERK'S REPORT** The Clerk had received a request for funds from Hope House Hospice, and it was agreed to donate £100, proposed Mrs Evans, seconded Mr Davies, nem con. He had also received a request from Wattlesborough Village Hall committee as to whether, if the Parish Council placed all the orders, the re-surfacing project for the Hall could go through the Council and recover VAT. Members agreed that if the liabilities were clear, potentially with a legal document in place, then this could be achieved.

The Clerk also told members that the Police Commissioner for West Mercia was planning to attend the December meeting, after some robust correspondence. Finally, he advised about the Shropshire Council Empty Homes Strategy currently being promulgated and told members that he had further information if required. Cllr. Potter added that the point of this was to bring as many empty homes as possible back into use.

**1684 UNITARY COUNCILLORS REPORT** Cllr. Potter said that the continued increase in energy costs was likely to put some local enterprises out of business, and there was already an impact on Shropshire Council services, Care Homes, heated swimming pools etc. (Historical note, the invasion of the Ukraine by Russia earlier this year had caused up to a four-fold increase in energy prices). This meant that the budget would now require £45million in revenue savings, and the price of borrowing for capital was going up. Finally, he noted that the new purple re-cycling bins had now been delivered to the Parish, and that collection days for waste were likely to change in October.

### **1685 PARISH MATTERS**

- a. **Highways** A member of the public commented on the parking problems at Wigmore Lane and The Chair said that he was shortly organising for the 5-bar gate to be re-located which would free up some more space, however there was an ongoing problem with too many cars for the space available. Fly-tipping and rubbish problems, particularly along the A458, were reported, and in several locations, highways signs are overgrown. Cllr Potter said that there was an Environmental Maintenance Grant available from Shropshire Council.
- b. **Policing:** No report. Additionally, The Clerk reported that he had not completed the speed report from Alberbury yet due to problems accessing data.
- c. **Platinum Jubilee Events:** The Clerk reported that with VAT recovery now included, £1907.46 was the total surplus from the Jubilee events. £1300 had already been distributed so another £607.46 was available. It had already been agreed to donate £100 to the local Scouts so this would come off that, leaving around £500. Various ideas such as a bench or some fruit trees. On the latter. The Clerk was asked to contact Shrewsbury Town Council who have trees available.

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- d. **Children's Playground Wattlesborough:** The annual report had been received with a few minor defects, less than previous years, which The Clerk will action. The Chair was thanked by Mr Kynaston for all his efforts around the playground.
- e. **New bench for Cardeston:** The Clerk had circulated details of a recycled plastic bench which would be maintenance free and was very solid, at approx. £740 + VAT. At the request of Mrs Carlyle, former councillor of this parish, a plaque will be fixed to the bench stating that it had been placed there by the Parish Council. Subject to further checks on price and quality, The Clerk was authorised to proceed with the purchase of said bench, proposed Mr Bourne, seconded Mr Davies, all in favour.
- f. **Other:** It was noted that Roger Carlyle had died, who had done much for the Parish and Rural England, and that The Clerk had sent a card. Mr Bourne said that the hedge between the A458 and Bradgate at Cardeston had been cut as requested. The Chair told members that the 4–500-year-old yew tree at Rowton Castle, which has died, would be cut down during November.

**1686 FINANCE** The Clerks Salary and expenses £300.52, Border Lawncare £19, Village Hall hire £12, Grounds Maintenance Wattlesborough £439.20 and SALC training £30 were proposed for payment by Mr Davies, seconded Mrs Evans, and approved unanimously.

The Clerk reported that the Internal Auditor had approved last year's accounts, and these had now been published on the website.

**1687 PLANNING** Mr and Mrs Woodhall and their Agent were present to give more details on 22/03458/FUL which is a new farm building replacing several older structures. The new building would be less square footage than those it replaced, and the area would be tidied as a result. After they had left the meeting, Councillors decided to support this application (Proposed C Bourne, seconded M Davies, all in favour). Two enforcement actions were noted, and there was no action required on the other recent applications.

**1688 DATE OF NEXT MEETING** 17<sup>th</sup> October at Alberbury Village Hall, 8 pm

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm

Signed: Chairman

Clerk

Date: