

MINUTES OF MEETING OF ALBERBURY WITH CARDESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Held at Wattlesborough Village Hall on Monday 7th September

Present: K Evans (Chairman), Mrs K Stokes, R Griffiths, R Kynaston, Mrs J Wilson, M Tomlins, D Parry, M Mead (Shropshire Council), CSO's A Roberts and C Stevens from West Mercia Police, and 5 members of the public

Apologies: P Siese, C Bourne and Clr. D Roberts

1172 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING Minutes 1164 to 1171 of the Meeting held on 13th July were proposed for acceptance by Mr Griffiths, seconded by Mr Parry, and approved unanimously.

1173 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Mrs Stokes declared a pecuniary interest in item 11b of Planning

1174 COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND LIC BUSINESS M Mead said that the next LIC meeting would be at Minsterley on 10th September where the Future Fit project would be a major topic, and they would also be discussing the Speedwatch initiative..

The Clerk reported that Clr. Roberts had stated that the current round of the SAMDev process was expected to be concluded by the end of September

1175 PARISH PLAN The Chair said that they were now at the end of a process that had taken two years, with much consultation, and the Community Led Plan was now published. He wanted to thank all of those who had helped with the process, particularly Mathew Mead.

Particularly of interest was the housing policy and he said that the consensus was for the parish to stay as 'Open Countryside' status, and to revisit this in 3-4 years time. The website would also need improving.

M Mead said that the Plan was a really competent document and would form a good basis going forward as Parish Councils were asked to take on more functions. Footpaths Officer P Roberts also thanked the Chair for his efforts. On a proposal from Mrs Stokes, seconded by R Kynaston, the Plan was adopted by the Council nem con.

1176 WATTLESBOROUGH PLAYING AREA It was noted that the litter bin had now been supplied, and that hedge trimming was ordered. The annual safety inspection had not reported any major defects except for low bark in some areas. It was agreed to diary future inspections so that attention to items like these could be done before the inspection.

1177 PARISH MATTERS

- a. **Highways** The Clerk said that Highways England had suggested that they would attend to the footpath at Halfway House in October. The dangerous gully just adjoining the tarmac on the A458 at Middletown, had not been fixed yet. Mr Parry noted that the proposed night time closures of the same road during early September had not taken place, which was very irritating.
Mr P Roberts, Footpaths Officer, told the police present that there was still a 'Trespassers will be shot' sign on one of the local footpaths, and they promised to deal with this.
- b. **Police:** CSO A Roberts addressed the meeting, stating that the crime scene was very quiet with only one recent offence, though quite nasty, a dog attack. She introduced Catharine Stevens as the new CSO in the area.
Of concern in the rural area were increasing and sophisticated thefts of horse tackle, with two recent high value burglaries of £10 – 15,000 each. She told members about the Horsecwatch scheme and the use of Smartwater on horse tack.

She said that speed enforcement was still continuing in Alberbury, and Mr Griffiths suggested that they could try a different site in the village. She was asked about speed enforcement on the A458 and said that this was more difficult, but she would confer with colleagues and take a look at the location.

- c. **Halfway House Inn:** Members were told that this pub is likely to close imminently
- d. **Trees:** Mr Parry updated members on the parish trees. All had been heeled in earlier in the year and some were not showing as much life as should be expected. Members agreed to put them in the care of the local Cubs and Beavers who would develop schemes around the public areas in due course (proposed R Kynaston, seconded Mrs Wilson, none against). The Chair observed that the whole saga had been a hassle for all and needed to be better planned in future.
- e. **Fireworks:** Mr Griffiths said that the annual display at Alberbury would be on November 7th, and the Clerk was asked to confirm the arrangements with the insurance company.
- f. **Village Hall, Alberbury:** The Stage 2 submission to the Lottery Fund for Hall improvements had been completed, said Mr Griffiths, and he thanked the Council for their support.

1178 CORRESPONDENCE The Clerk noted one item of correspondence and there were no matters arising

1179 FINANCE The Clerk produced the new Financial Position to date sheet, which showed the projected outturn for the year if all known and current expenditure went through as planned, and there had been little change from the previous meeting.

The Clerks Salary for this meeting, plus expenses, total £261.65; Parish Plan expenses £272; Village Hall hire £12; ROSPA inspection £85.20 and Wattlesborough grass cutting etc at £150; were all proposed for payment by Mr Parry and seconded by Mr Griffiths, all in favour.

The Clerk reported a no comment response to the Parish Accounts from the external auditor

1180 PLANNING Three matters were discussed. The replacement hedgerow at Heath Farm was said to be required because the previous hedge had died, but a member of the public said that there was more to the story and that he was very disappointed in the performance of Shropshire Council in this regard.

The screening opinion at Wigmore Farm was said to be required as an Environmental Impact Assessment had not been requested. There may also be a footpath diversion required.

Finally the reserved matters application at the same location was not the affordable house but a re-shaping of the open market house previously approved

1181 DATE OF NEXT MEETING October 26th at Alberbury, 7.30 pm

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Signed: Chairman

Clerk

Date: