

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

Held by Zoom teleconference on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7.30pm

Present: R Kynaston (Chair), R Griffiths, M Tomlins, D Parry, Mrs J Wilson, C Bourne, R Davies Mrs K Stokes, Mrs S Evans and Clr. E Potter

Apologies: PC R Cookson

Historical note: The global pandemic caused by the COVID 19 Coronavirus was still continuing, with approaching 80,000 UK deaths since February 2020, and at the time of this meeting England was in a third complete lockdown. At the time of writing these minutes, the first vaccinations had just commenced, however all travel corridors to and from the UK had been stopped.

**1566 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** Minutes 1556 to 1565 of the Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020 were proposed for acceptance by D Parry, seconded by R Griffiths, and approved unanimously.

**1567 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** There were none

**1568 CLERKS REPORT** The Clerk reported he had received a thank you from the Air Ambulance for the recent donation. He had not still received a reply from M Barrow of Shropshire Council despite chasing, and would now send a robust letter. The Speed Indicator Device for Alberbury was now on order, though delivery would have to wait until Shropshire Council installed the pole. Finally as he had advised by previous email, elections for Parish and District Councillors were due in May this year, subject to COVID. A number of Councillors had exhorted Councillor Potter to stand again, and he was thanked by the meeting for his recent service, above and beyond what was normally expected.

### **1569 PARISH MATTERS**

**Highways** The meeting noted that considerable recent progress had been made in the Highways area on a number of fronts, particularly at Wigmore Lane and Stretton Heath, and significant work was currently ongoing at Alberbury. However, zero progress has been made on sorting out the various issues with Rowton Lane. Mr Bourne noted that there were two large potholes at Cardeston.

**Policing** It was noted again that the new crime reports clump various parishes together and this was not desirable, it was understood that a number of parishes had complained about this. The Clerk had obtained the number of speeding tickets issued in the last year for Alberbury which was disappointing low.

**Other** The Clerk had received a complaint about the length of time it was taking to complete the works at Wattlesborough playing area, but as Councillor Parry pointed out, it was still too wet to spread the bark fill. The Clerk had responded with a suitable letter. Mr Parry also advised that the British Legion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary fell in 2021 and they were considering a major event in Shropshire, at a venue such as Loton Park. Further details to follow.

**1570 COUNCILLORS REPORTS/LIC BUSINESS** Clr. Potter addressed the meeting, saying that COVID 19 was continuing to dominate Council matters, and that Shropshire was currently seeing 400 COVID cases per 100,000, including many younger people. The vaccination rollout was currently patchy he said, with some GP's not willing or able to participate. On the Severn Barrier question, the latest thinking was that this would not be part of the latest Planning Application for the Shrewsbury NW Relief Road.

**1571 FINANCE** The Clerks Salary and expenses £572.31 (which included £291.51 Website expenses) were proposed for payment by Mr Parry, seconded by R Griffiths, and agreed unanimously.

The Clerk had pre-circulated a year to date cash position and forecast, which showed spare monies still available. It was proposed to increase the Village Hall Grants to £1000 each hall (Proposed Mr Parry, seconded Mrs Wilson, nem con) and, respecting that both halls were struggling, to pay this immediately. A course for the Clerk on Audit procedures at £30 was also approved.

The budget for 2021/2 had also been pre-circulated, which suggested space for village projects. It was suggested to install village entry gates at the Welsh end of Alberbury, increase the grass cutting service to include the LHS verge in the Welsh

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direction and improving the signage in Wigmore Lane. It was proposed by Mr Griffiths, seconded by Mr Parry, to leave the precept at £9500 for 2021/2, and this was approved, none against.

**1572 PLANNING** Three applications 20/05353, 20/04917 and 20/04833 were discussed with no adverse comments. The final one was for the proposed works to the Halfway House Inn, which were viewed by all as necessary and desirable.

**1573 DATE OF NEXT MEETING** 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021 scheduled for Alberbury but likely to be Zoom, 7.30 pm

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

Signed: Chairman

Clerk

Date: