

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ALBERBURY WITH CARDESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Held at Wattlesborough Village Hall on Monday 15th May 2017

Present: R Griffiths, M Tomlins, C Bourne, D Parry, Mrs J Wilson, R Kynaston, Mrs K Stokes, P Siese, R Davies, Cllr. E Potter, PC J Summerfield and PCSO J Bradley from the police (part mtg.) and 6 members of the public

Apologies: M Mead

1307 DECLARATION OF OFFICE Mr R Davies, having been recently elected, made his Declaration to the Clerk and was welcomed as a new Member of the Council

1308 ELECTION OF A CHAIR The Clerk asked for nominations for the post of Chair and Mr R Kynaston was proposed by M Tomlins, seconded by D Parry. There being no other nominations, The Clerk declared Mr Kynaston elected as Chair, and he then took position as such.

1309 ELECTION OF A VICE CHAIR Mr Kynaston then asked for nominations for the post of Vice Chair, and Mr M Tomlins was proposed by Mr R Griffiths, seconded by Mr Parry; and there being no other nominations he was also elected.

1310 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING Minutes 1297 to 1306 of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 4th April 2017 were proposed for acceptance by P Siese, seconded by R Griffiths, and approved unanimously

1311 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were none

1312 PARISH MATTERS

- a. **Highways** The verges across Stretton Heath were reported to be in poor condition with blocked drains, due to insufficient passing places. The Clerk reminded members that the Westbury PC section of this road was built by public subscription and has a better specification than the Alberbury end. The hole at the side of the carriageway on the A458 opposite Rowton Castle, is getting worse, and The Clerk was asked to contact the Highways Agency again.
- b. **Policing:** PC J Summerfield addressed the meeting, summarising the year past with 2 burglaries to dwellings, 2 Business break ins, 4 Shed break ins, 2 Assaults, 1 car theft, 6 other thefts and 4 ASBO's. Some of this was clearly down to travelling criminals, he said, and in the last few weeks there had been a noted increase in shed thefts; he asked all members to be vigilant and if something looked strange, to report it. There was then a short discussion on marking property with SmartWater, which gives a unique owner identity to anything marked and, said The Clerk, has a 100% conviction rate when used in prosecutions.
There was then a discussion about speeding in Alberbury and whereas it was noted that the Safer Roads Partnership were still attending frequently, Mr Griffiths felt very strongly that Shropshire Highways Department were taking little or no interest. As their main highways person, Mike Davis, has also recently left, this was now a very poor situation. PC Summerfield said that the Police Liaison person at the Council, Brian Williams, might be able to assist; additionally new District Councillor E Potter asked for more background information and promised to push the Council for more action.
- c. **Other:** It was agreed to repair the gate at Wattlesborough Village Green, and the fence at the Wattlesborough playing area (where a safety inspection was imminent). The Clerk also undertook to check the legal position for dog fouling, if not in a Dog Control Area. **Defibrillators:** These had now arrived, said The Clerk, and he now had permission from the Halfway House stores to site one there. Mr Parry volunteered to arrange training for these and assist with the installation as soon as possible. The Clerk also said that he had had no reply from Severnside Housing about the Abbey Lane parking issue. Finally, it was observed that the recent Count for the local election had been a little sloppy.

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- d. **Questions from the Public:** A member of the public asked if the Council had dealt with 17/01369/FUL, Inside Storage of Caravans, outside of the meetings, and was told that yes, they had, and no issues had been raised. Another attendee asked for this Council to be stronger on pushing for a 40 mph limit on the A458 at Halfway House. Finally a third member of the public was concerned that a number of local footpaths were currently impassable and this information will be passed to the Footpaths Officer P Roberts.

1313 COUNCILLORS REPORTS/LJC BUSINESS The Chair welcomed Mr Ed Potter to the meeting, as the new Unitary Councillor for the Loton Ward. He introduced himself to those present who did not know him, and offered his mobile phone number 07779 117182 for any necessary contacting. He asked members to bear with him for a week or two, as the new 'kid on the block', he was busy making contacts and being trained. He noted that Peter Nutting was the new Leader of Shropshire Council, but the Committees had not been formed yet. He also said there were substantial challenges ahead, particularly in Adult Social Care.

1314 PARISH PLAN PROGRESS AND WEBSITE Member of the public Mr Carlyle addressed the meeting, stating that in his view, he was disappointed in the current website, and was in the process of developing a new, improved version hosted by Hugo Fox. He showed early work to members and asked if he could demonstrate a working version as soon as possible. After declaring an interest, Mr Parry said that he was happy to host this at the Rowton Castle Country Club, and this was subsequently arranged for June 8th at 8pm.

1315 CORRESPONDENCE The Clerk read out several items of correspondence and there were no matters arising

1316 FINANCE The Annual Return was tabled by the Clerk and all members consented to the contents, checks and balances as previously discussed in April; the Chair then signed the form ready for Internal Audit.

The Clerks Salary and expenses £272.05 and the Village Hall hire £12 were proposed for payment by R Griffiths, seconded by Mrs Stokes, and agreed unanimously.

The Clerk's Salary was then discussed, which was usually agreed as a two year deal. On this basis and on a proposal by C Bourne, seconded by Mrs Wilson, it was agreed to increase this by 2.6% with effect from the next meeting

1317 PLANNING There was one matter considered that had arrived since the Agenda was published: 17/01811/FUL Double garage at Edgcroft, Halfway House, and there were no known issues with this.

1318 DATE OF NEXT MEETING 10th July at Alberbury, 8 pm

Signed: Chairman

Clerk

Date: