

MINUTES OF MEETING OF ALBERBURY WITH CARDESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Held at Alberbury Village Hall on Monday 13th July

Present: R Kynaston (Chairman), Mrs K Stokes, R Griffiths, P Siese, Mrs J Wilson, M Tomlins, C Bourne, D Parry and 5 members of the public

Apologies: K Evans, PC J Summerfield, M Mead (Shropshire Council) and Clr. D Roberts

1164 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING Minutes 1154 to 1163 of the Meeting (AGM) held on 18th May were proposed for acceptance by Mr Griffiths, seconded by Mr Parry, and approved unanimously.

1165 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Mrs Stokes declared a pecuniary interest in item 8b. of Planning, and Mr Griffiths, Mr Kynaston and Mrs Stokes declared Personal interests in the same application. Mr Parry declared a personal interest in item 8a.

1166 COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND LJC BUSINESS Not given and no matters arising.

1167 PARISH MATTERS

- a. **Highways** The Clerk said that Highways England had not replied about litter bin provision at Halfway House, and that he would now escalate the matter. The footpath between Upper House Farm and Abbey Lane in Alberbury has still not been cleared. Several members reported a dangerous gully just adjoining the tarmac on the A458 at Middletown, which the Clerk was asked to report.
- b. **Wattlesborough Play area:** Mr Parry told the meeting that despite an e mail to the contrary, a litter bin had never been provided at this location, and the Clerk was asked to investigate this. Mr Parry was thanked for having arranged to cut the hedge
- c. **Noticeboards and information boards:** The Clerk advised the meeting that he had not heard from Shropshire Council whether planning permission was needed for a new noticeboard at Wattlesborough, so it was judged now OK to proceed with this. It was also noted that the board in Alberbury had been vandalised.
- d. **Police:** The Clerk reported that the police were still doing frequent speed checks in Alberbury
- e. **Trees:** A member of the public asked about the trees that had been donated by Shropshire Council in February. Mr Parry said that they had all been heeled in and were now in the care of the local Cubs and Beavers who would develop schemes around the public areas in due course.
- f. **Website:** The Clerk said that this topic had been requested to be revisited at this meeting. He reminded members that the current parish website was very cheap, and that grander ideas, such as those suggested by M Mead of Shropshire Council, would be likely to cost more, though this was not a reason not to develop the site. The Chairman observed that it was difficult with websites of this type, to get them updated regularly. Mr Parry said that the website required would depend on what the public requested, and that the Paris Plan was likely to suggest some answers. It was decided to revisit this topic when the PP is completed.
- g. **Alberbury Village Hall:** Mr Griffiths informed members that a major upgrade to the Hall was currently being planned and funds raised, with roughly £250k required. In order to progress to the next stage with a potential Lottery grant, letters of support were required, and he circulated suitable questionnaires to achieve this, asking for as many replies as possible.

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1168 CORRESPONDENCE The Clerk reported on the latest update on Shropshire Council's SAMDev document, which now allowed for parishes to change their Open Countryside status to something else, like Hubs and Clusters, by resolution; this would then go into the next Place Plan review

1169 FINANCE The Clerk introduced a new Financial position to date sheet, which showed the projected outturn for the year if all known and current expenditure went through as planned; councillors thought this was very useful. Asked if it could be put on the website, the Clerk said that as it was a working document, unaudited, this was not really appropriate. A member of the public asked if VAT could be claimed monthly, and The Clerk replied that this wasn't in his view necessary and was an additional workload; as the sums were quite small the annual recovery method was satisfactory, he said, though any substantial expenditure could be claimed as a one off.

The Clerks Salary for this meeting, plus expenses, total £259.49; Parish Plan expenses £462.78; Village Hall hire £12; Zurich Insurance £516.78 and the Wattlesborough show donation agreed in May of £100; were all proposed for payment by Mr Siese and seconded by Mr Griffiths, all in favour.

1170 PLANNING Three matters were discussed. The Douglas fir tree at Rowton Castle was actually a Cedar of Lebanon, said Mr Parry, and was sadly dying. (Since the meeting this has now been approved so that the tree can be felled at some point). Councillors decided to support the application at Lower Wood Farm, which would make the access safer, and to oppose the application at Stretton, which appeared to be an attempt to convert an outbuilding into a residential unit, which was potentially a future open market house.

1171 DATE OF NEXT MEETING September 7th at Wattlesborough, 8 pm

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed: Chairman

Clerk

Date: