

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ALBERBURY WITH CARDESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Held at Wattlesborough Village Hall on Monday 11th December

Present: R Kynaston, (Chairman), R Griffiths, Mrs J Wilson, Mrs K Stokes, R Davies, D Parry, C Bourne, Clr. Ed Potter, and no members of the public

Apologies: M Tomlins, M Mead (Shropshire Council)

1346 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING Minutes 1336 to 1345 of the Meeting held on 23rd October were proposed for acceptance by Mr Griffiths, seconded by Mr Parry, and approved unanimously.

1347 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Mr D Parry informed members that he intended to apply for planning permission to build an affordable house, and asked that his local connection be confirmed with Shropshire Council, this was agreed nem con.

1348 PLACE PLAN SUBMISSION The Clerk explained the Place Plan review requirements to members and it was decided to make no change in the Planning Status of the parish, namely that it is Open Countryside. Priority should be given, said members, to road repairs and maintenance, particularly the 200 yds. from Eyton to Ford, the Woollaston cross roads to the Welsh Border on the A458, and Rowton Lane.

1349 PARISH MATTERS

- a. **Highways:** The Clerk reported, on a question from Mr Griffiths, that there had been no apparent progress in replacing M Davis of Highways Dept., but the Leaser of Shropshire Council, Peter Nutting, was coming to the January meeting where this could be raised.
Clr. Potter noted that there was no progress with the Halfway House layby improvement; and he was still chasing the Highways Agency.
Mrs. Leighton in Alberbury was arranging for her hedge to be cut.
The provision of Vehicle Activated Speed Signs was discussed again and The Clerk reported that such signs were lower cost than he had previously thought and it would be possible to afford one such sign for Alberbury with a small increase in precept. This could also be discussed with Peter Nutting. The Clerk undertook to get several quotes ready for the next meeting, and members were asked to think about a suitable site.
Finally the replacement of the Village Entry Gates was discussed and The Clerk said it was the kind of Village project that could be afforded in the current financial year. Mr Griffiths undertook to get some quotations
- b. **Police:** No report. It is possible that the Parish Council had dropped off the police e mail list during their recent changes, so this will be checked.
- c. **Defibrillators:** Mr Parry noted that there will be a training course on the 13th January. The Clerk is to see the Halfway House shop and/or restaurant about a second site as soon as possible
- d. **Website:** There remained a domain hosting problem that several persons were working on, before the new site can be used. This was becoming more urgent, said The Clerk, as the Domain renewal was due shortly. Meanwhile both the existing and new websites were being kept up to date.
- e. **Other:** A member of the public had queried where any profits from the Alberbury fireworks display were used and it was noted that any such surplus is retained by the Village Hall for the benefit of the parish

1350 LOCAL COUNCIL BUSINESS Clr. Potter addressed the meeting, telling members that the Children's Services of Shropshire Council had recently received an OFSTED inspection and had been rated as Good, which was very good news. This is despite a change in policy such that children from other areas (e.g. London) become Shropshire's responsibility and cost after two years.

He noted that there was a new contractor for Highways starting April 1st, with incentive based service. The financial position at Shropshire Council was still dire, with a £5m deficit already for this current financial year. He said that rumours about the development of the Riverside multi-storey car park and the attached retail centre were correct in that redevelopment proposals were being considered.

Finally he observed that the A&E consultation on the local hospitals appeared to have stalled, but there was a current problem at Shrewsbury where the maternity unit had had to close due to a leaking roof.

1351 CORRESPONDENCE The Clerk reported that he had been asked whether there were any local objections to the new illuminated fish restaurant sign at Halfway House, which did not appear to have Planning Permission. Members noted that the business needed support, particularly after recent events at that site, and as long as the sign was switched off when the restaurant was closed, they had no objections. Clr. Potter said he would communicate this to the Planning department.

1352 FINANCE The Clerks Salary and expenses £267.55, the Village Hall hire £12 and the Wattlesborough field maintenance charge of £302.40 were proposed for acceptance by Mrs Stokes, seconded by Mr Parry, and agreed unanimously. The Clerk circulated a year to date cash position which was judged satisfactory, and told members that no increase in precept would be needed for the status quo next year commencing April, but he would come back to the next meeting with the effect of any Vehicle Activated Signs expense as discussed earlier. Clr. Potter noted that there might be a need to contribute to the Ford Youth Club in the future, as some of our children went there.

1353 PLANNING Members discussed the potential development of touring caravans at Halfway House Public House, and the application for caravan storage at Whiston Farm; there were no action points resulting.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

1354 DATE OF NEXT MEETING 15th January at Alberbury Village Hall, 7.30 pm

Signed: Chairman

Clerk

Date: