

ALVESCOT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16th November 2016

Present: Mike Honour (MH), Richard Munro (RM), Justine Garbutt (JG), Dennis Govan (DG), Becky Hird (BH), Pam Barling, Ralph Mawle (RMa), Martin Way (MW), Malcolm Farley (MF), Nigel Williams (NW), Robert Lewin (RL)

97 Apologies for Absence:
None

98 To Receive Declarations of Pecuniary Interest
Local Plan- MH

99 Adjournment for Public Participation
RMa- Progress on car park and activity in Jimmys Lane. War Memorial on Sunday had not been swept. If he had been asked he would have cleared it RMa, went up early to look and spent 1 ½ hrs sweeping he leaves. Village benches- the benches on playing field and at the top of the road have not been painted for 4-5 years. These need to be done. War Memorial- lettering is fine and can be read total waste of money to re letter it. MH The leaves were swept away on village litter pick day by MH and RM but more leaves fell due to high winds. We have taken advice from a stonemason and the lettering cannot be re cut as the stone is too soft. We will be placing a bronze plaque to the side of the memorial. We cannot attach it to the wall as the wall is known to fall.
MW – footpath behind playing field has been diverted down to the copse. It used to be a very wide path which enabled it to be used all year round. It is now very narrow and will get muddy and will not be able to be used as the interlocking paths are not accessible. The row of scots pines have gone and there were spruce trees down to the copse. The new owners admit it is well -used path but they have roped off down the side of the path to make it narrower. The O/S map shows it is not against the wall. MW has been to see the owners. They want to put a 6' high fence along the back where the rope is. MW has written a letter and is gathering signatures to ask them to reinstate the path. JG- Part of the Highways Act is change to enjoyment of the area.
RM- does the width restriction stop buggies being able to go down the path. Yes
NW- Did the footpath survey get sent to OCC. Stiles on some footpaths do need attention. Yes it was sent to them. Stiles are for landowners to repair.

100 Minutes of Meeting:
100.1 Minutes were accepted and signed
100.2 None

101 Alvescot Charities
NW was asked to give a brief background to the Alvescot Charities. It has 2 aims- to give grants for education and help find apprenticeships and provide food and clothing to the poor of the Parish. Charity has funds of £32k and an income of £400pa. A grant for £30 is available for education; Hardship grants are difficult to give as it is based on means tested benefits and few people come forward. Charity has applied to the Charity Commission to widen the conditions to “contribute to anything that contributes to the quality of life for Parishioners”.
RM- Good to extend aims. Are incomes apportioned in a set manner.
No it is set by the dividend that comes in.
RM- One of Plan A’s aims is to provide more for young people and the committee do run an annual event aimed at them. Plan A has been paying for this but their funds are coming to an end so they may come to you to help with future events. Plan A meeting is next month so RM will ask if their next event is Easter. Parish Council agreed with the Charity changing its aims.

102 Car Park

102.1 DG reported he held a meeting with MF and David Walters (DW). The school has no funds that they are willing to contribute towards the quote for £6.5k, the idea was £1k from fete and balance split 3 ways. DG read the correspondence received from DW received after the meeting. Without the contribution from the school we are unable to go ahead. DW did offer to go back to the Governors but he did not think the outcome would be positive.

MF-Offended that the school did not see this as a priority although they use the car park the most and want to use the MUGA.

RM- This is very disappointing. Do we think the reason is they are scrapping together all their monies for the new classroom. If this is then there is no point in going forward with a permanent solution to the car park until after the extension. The reason we are pursuing this is because the residents raised in Plan A that they wanted a permanent solution and that is what we are committed to.

MH suggested that as a temporary fix we lay 10-15t of gravel that can be paid for from the fete money. Then when the school extension is completed, if allowed, then we can raise the issue again. This was agreed.

103 Planning Applications:

103.1 16/02403/FUL Rectory Farm- approved

103.2 16/02565/FUL 8 Pemscott Close – approved

103.3 16/03258/FUL 1 Thorpes Close – awaiting decision

103.4 16/03585/ St Peters Infant School – Planning permission for a new classroom behind the school . JG- Comments made in the application concerning car parking do not tie up with reality- it says it has been sorted and there is no problem. Commitment to provide funding is not forthcoming and they are relying on the goodwill of the pub and the Church. The pub has withdrawn use before and may do again. Safety of the children is a problem when parking is everywhere; this is the main problem and there is an inadequate travel plan. No objections to the building itself.

RM will draft a reply to WODC and circulate.

103.5 Jimmys Lane- MH has talked to the owner of the field. He will be putting in planning permission in the spring for stables/barn. WODC advised him that he did not need planning permission for the “road” as it is under a certain length. Clerk will check the length. It does look untidy, but there are only poultry houses, machinery and a container there. He has planted leylandii trees at the entrance.

104 Local Plan and Plan A

104.1 Local Plan has not yet been adopted by WODC it has been amended and is being put forward to consultation. The number of houses for the district has increased and some new sites have been found. Carterton West is not one of them. The Plan does look sound but there is a fair amount of lobbying from developers. PC needs to comment. JG- we can only comment on the changes.

RM will draft a response and reiterate our position.

104.2 Plan A- revised list attached. MF was asked to report on Speedwatch. PCSO has been contacted and he will get back with the costs involved and what can be done.

War Memorial- Clerk has made enquiries and been advised that the plaque should not be attached to the memorial. The wall at the back is known to fall over so Clerk will enquire about the price of a piece of stone to attach the plaque to.

105 Playing Field Committee:

105.1 MH and MDCH decided it was too short notice to apply for the grant as some organisation needs to take place. No works have been carried out yet on repairs.

The leaves on the MUGA have been cleared and there is a crack at the top right hand corner along the fence line. MDCH is getting a quote and advice on what action needs to be taken if any. Sub -committee will need to make the proposal.

JG will persue with Tino if he can do groundsman job.

106 Traffic & Highways

106.1 Most of the potholes down Mill Lane have been repaired.

107 Environment & Conservation_

Village litter pick was done. Not many people volunteered although a lot of rubbish was collected. MH will chase WODC to collect bags.

- 100 Countryside & footpaths
108.1 Paul Wilson forwarded the response from Rights of Way consultation
108.2 The footpath has been narrowed but not blocked we need to check if it has been moved so looking at the planning application will give us the position. Their actions have spoilt the enjoyment of the footpath and it was agreed that the Council will contact Dan Weekes and ask for his intervention. It was though it was not very community spirited. Clerk will also ask for a new definitive map.
- 109 Communication:
109.1 Last Pump article did not make it into magazine. RM asked how we can communicate better. Maybe we need to start The Forum again. JG suggested we split up the village and ask for email addresses as communication is much easier by e mail. We can then just deliver to the house who do not have email. RM-Delivery is not a problem as we can make use of the Pump being delivered, compiling it is. Also the Pump's deadline is the wrong end of the month for us.
RM will compile this months and Clerk will print it and drop it into Tessa for inclusion. Delivery is done on the last weekend of the month.
- 110 Village Hall Representative
110.1 Shed has been erected
- 111 Finance:
111.1 Cheques paid list was circulated and approved. Cheques were signed.
111.2 Precept Figures- Precept figures were circulated before the meeting. Clerk went through all the income and expenditure for seen for 2017/18 this included money requested for the playground. Money was included for the car park renovations. Money for repainting of the benches, quote from McCracken will be obtained for cutting the bend on the turn to Carterton and firework training will need to be included. JG asked that we consider raising the money for the car park through the precept. This will be a large amount to add but as the residents of Alvescot raised this in Plan A we should look into it. Clerk will re draft for the meeting in December where the precept can be agreed. It was thought it would need to raise to £13k even if car park is not included.
111.3 New website- Clerk has contacted suppliers and they are going ahead with the set up. We need to choose a design- agreed.
- 112 Risk Assessment
112.1 Two hard drives have been obtained by Clerk. As per risk assessment one will be held by Clerk and one by Chairman which will be swapped at each meeting to ensure files are safe.
- 113 Fireworks:
It was a very successful evening with a larger crowd than usual attending. Next year PCC will be asked to start at 5.45pm so they can start serving at 6pm. Voluntary donations this year were £657.50. Thanks to Don Hird and Mike Honour for letting off the fireworks. They will be bought from Witney next year where we maybe able to negotiate a discount. One more person needs to be trained to help on the night.
- 114 Correspondence
114.1 Joint meeting 8th December- JG will attend
114.2 Scottish and Southern vulnerable people- article to be included in Forum
- 115 Future Meetings:
Next meeting will take place on 21st December. This will be a short meeting and will be followed by the Christmas meal. Agenda will be limited to essential items.