

ALVESCOT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17th May 2017

Present : Justine Garbutt (JG) Mike Honour (MH) Richard Munro (RM) Becky Hird (BH) Dennis Govan (DG)
7 members of the public

1 **Apologies for Absence:**

None

2 **Election of Officers:**

2.1 Election of Chairman: Mike Honour was proposed and seconded

2.2 Election of Vice Chair: Richard Munro was proposed and seconded

3 **Signing of Declarations:**

Chairman and Vice Chairman signed their declarations

4 **To Appoint Members of sub Committees:**

4.1 Playing Field: Mike Honour, Becky Hird

4.2 Fete: Richard Munro, Mike Honour

4.3 Planning: Richard Munro, Justine Garbutt

4.4 Village Hall: Becky Hird

4.5 Car Park: Dennis Govan

5 **Code of Conduct Update:**

All Councillors were reminded to update their Code of Conduct declarations if required

6 **To Receive Declarations of Interest:**

None

7 **Adjournment for Public**

Pam Barling: Field 1468 is only 7 acres the barn proposed is far too big for the area. There are only 6 sheep and a couple of ponies, they do not own the track up to the field although he did fill the holes on the track. There is a crime reference number for when 2 local farm owners called the police as they were laying a tarmac drive at 11.15pm. There are lots of boats, diggers, cars and a camper van kept there. The camper is lived in and there is also a generator- they are frequently at the premises until midnight.

Ralph Mawle: the construction of the barn could be turned into a house.

John Colston: The barn extends 23' to the ridgeline it will be visible from most of the village. The door is 3m tall and the walls will be clad in stone with a tiled roof. The building is right next door to Jimmys Lane. The whole site is untidy.

8 **Minutes of Last Meeting**

8.1 Minutes of meeting 5th April were accepted and signed

8.2 Fete minutes from 8th May were accepted and signed.

8.3 None

8.4 None

9 **Planning Applications: RM**

9.1 16/04045/FUL- Park Farm withdrawn

9.2 16/04253/OUT – Sunset View – awaiting decision. Has been recommended for refusal

9.3 17/00582/HHD – Rock Cottage – withdrawn

9.4 17/00761/HHD – Greystones – withdrawn

9.5 17/01237/FUL – Field 1468 - awaiting decision

1 | Signed

Date

JG when commenting on this application we need to separate planning from enforcement. We cannot comment on what might happen only on the plans given. It is quite an ugly building and will not be easy to convert. It is considered a fire risk if columns are placed inside the skin, columns are best placed outside so it looks more like a barn and breaks up the elevation. There are grounds to mention size, look and architecture. MH – NFU regulations state that straw/hay/machinery should be stored separately. If they were the barns would be much smaller.

If they do apply for change of use we will have to comment on this when it arises.

RM – we could ask if they see fit to pass then a condition be placed for no domestic use. RM will draft a letter of objection for a more traditional stone barn or look alike modern barn with York boarding. Scale will also be of a concern.

It was noted that representations have been made from several villagers. These comments have been passed to all Councillors and have been taken into account with their discussions.

Clerk will contact enforcement concerning the generator/camper van and the activity.

9.6 17/01280/HHD- Walnut Barn – awaiting decision

9.7 17/01397/FUL – Rock Cottage – awaiting decision

9.8 A letter has been received from Sue Whiting which was sent to St Peters School reference parking in the lane during school hours and construction. This was read out. We are not aware if there has been any response from the school and if the issues were resolved. In our submission to the planning application we raised issues about parking and traffic and there was a condition placed that before use traffic management needed to be in place. JG: maybe if there was a gate at the top of the playground then access could be made directly from the coach car park. This could also solve the problem of the coach that picks up the children parking in Mill Lane.

RM- when the building was delivered there was no issue. Some people are upset with the lack of communication from the school, maybe the letter may help issues the travel plan needs to address.

BH will find out if there has been a response.

10 **Playing Field: MH**

10.1 New seat has been fitted and parts for ladybird rocker have been ordered. Cricket net is being arranged to be re-sited. Supplies have been purchased for moving.

RoSPA inspection will take place in July.

MH has been approached by the school. They have removed some play equipment and have offered it to the Parish Council to erect in the playing field. In principal we are in agreement but need to know how much space it will take up and the cost of fixing. There is astro turf and rubber matting available. MH will contact MDCH to progress. There is a firemans pole, which we were going to put in this year

BH reported there is some barbed wire in the hedge behind the goal. MH will advise MDCH

MH- School have asked if they can use the grass area in the playing field for their sports day. Either 30/06 or 07/07. There are no objections to this but it will be for the school to inspect the surface to ensure it is safe.

11 **Traffic & Highways - MH**

11.1 Letter received from OCC - reluctantly, they have agreed to replace the Lower End sign.

11.2 Letter received from Anthony Kirkwood re speed limit changes at B4477 junction. In précis they have no money to pay for it. It will cost £100 for each survey, probably 2 needed. These would need to be carried out before any agreement was made and the costs for changing the speed limit would be circa £5200. We cannot justify carrying out the surveys if nothing happens afterwards. Clerk will write to Carterton Town Council and ask if they will help with the costs.

12 **Environment & Conservation: DG**

12.1 Litter pickers were returned and litter was picked up 2 days later

13 **Countryside & Footpaths: MH**

13.1 Fence has been erected alongside the footpath. It is 6' high so no action can be taken they are within their rights as we have not heard from Dan Weekes as to there being a historic width to the path.

Mobile home has not been moved yet. Place it was going to can now not have it.

- 14 Fete: RM
Risk Assessment was presented to APC, this covers the H&S aspect only. The same arrangements will be required for transfer of money to the value of £3k. Clerk will send Came & Co risk assessment and ask them for the increase for money with the same arrangements as last year.
Clerk will ask McCracken if they can cut before 17th June and see if they have any way of picking up the clippings. It is thought they do not have the facilities but Clerk will ask.
- 15 **Finance**
15.1 Insurance: DG: we may be able to save some money if we look into different Brokers. It was decided we would renew with Came & Co for this year as time is short but DG will look into other insurance quotes in February 2018. All Local Council Policies are much the same.
15.2 Cheque list and accounts balance circulated and agreed. Cheques were signed. Amount was changed for Came & Co cheque as we will renew for one year. New list will be sent to Councillors.
15.3 Income & Expenditure figures were finalized for 2016/17. There shows an outstanding balance of £3500 but this is for projects which are not yet complete. The finances ran to the budget set.
15.4 Audit: Annual Governance Statement was read to the Council and agreed. Section 1 was signed by Chairman and Clerk. Section 2 of Accounting Statement- figures were read by Clerk and agreed by the Council. This was signed by Chairman and RFO. These will now be passed for Internal Audit.
- 16 Items to be Publicised:
E mail addresses for correspondence
Fireworks- extra person needed to be trained.
- 17 Village Matters:
Website- Clerk has obtained information on website- it is now moving up the search criteria. For a number of hits counter to be added it will cost £40. Agreed it was not needed.
Thames Water: Letter has been received from Thames Water after they were contacted by Robert Court. They have admitted that the survey of the pipes did not go the full length so they may not have gone as far as the dog leg. They will undertake this again and contact us with the results. Changes have been made to the monitoring equipment at Alvescot so more time will be given if there is a problem. The sewage runs from Alvescot to Carterton so updating their station will also help the flow. We will wait to hear from them.
- 18 **Next Meeting**
Next meeting will be on 21st June at 7.30pm