

Parish Council of Alfrick and Lulsley

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council on Tuesday 28th January 2016 at 19:30hrs in the Village Hall, Alfrick.

Present:

Cllr Miss L Randall, Chair.

Cllrs; Mrs D Jammal, P Brown, A J Crockford, B Fishwick, B Martin, G Lowe, E Mutter, D Bradley (Parish Tree Warden), G M Brewin (Clerk), County Cllr P Tuthill, Dist Cllr Ms S Rouse.

Apologies: Cllr A G Cooper, Dist. Cllr A Warburton.

Public Questions prior to the formal meeting; None

Reports:

There were verbal reports from:

County Cllr P Tuthill, Dist Cllr Ms S Rouse, Cllr G Lowe, Parish Paths Warden, Cllr B Fishwick, Village Hall Representative, Cllr B Martin, Community Shop Representative, and Dr D Bradley (Parish Tree Warden)

The formal meeting commenced at 8:22pm

AGENDA

1.

Members' Apologies for absence

The apology from Cllr A G Cooper was accepted.

2.

Members' Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest in agenda items.

3.

Confirm the minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 17th November 2015

These had been circulated in advance, were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair.

4.

Financial Matters;

- a) Approve the Report of the Budget Review Group and confirm the precept for 2016-17.
The Budget Review Group (Cllrs Randall, Brown and Cooper) reported an expected expenditure of £14280 for 2016-7 and after a discussion a precept of £14300 was agreed.
- b) This council is entitled to opt out of the new audit arrangements with the Sector Led Body.
The council is asked to decide to opt out and appoint its own auditor from 2017.
The clerk explained that although exempted councils ie turnover less than £25000, would not be required to have an external audit, it was necessary formally to designate an auditor to whom queries on financial matters could be addressed. He advised that the existing 'internal auditor' was willing to be so designated and it was agreed to appoint Dr Linda Cotterill (FCA) as the council's auditor for these purposes.
- c) Approve payment - R Lambert - VAS Meter maintenance - £35.00 - Agreed
- d) Approve payment - A R Thomas - War Memorial Planting & Maintenance 12/06/15 - £72.00 inc vat - Agreed
- e) Approve payment - A R Thomas - War Memorial Planting & Maintenance 28/10/15 - £200.04 inc vat - Agreed
- f) Approve payment - A R Thomas - War Memorial Planting & Maintenance 12/12/15 - £72.00 inc vat - Agreed
- g) Approve payment - A R Thomas - Playing Field Maintenance - June - Sept. - £480.00 inc vat - Agreed
- h) Approve payment - Village Hall - Meeting costs - August 2014 to December 2015 - £234.00 - Agreed
- i) Consider supporting - Purchase of table tennis tables for the Village Hall
(note £1068.14 - held for Youth Projects)
Cllr B Fishwick outlined the Village Hall's project to set up two table tennis tables and encourage the establishment of a table tennis club. The expected cost would be c £700. After a discussion, County Cllr P Tuthill offered to fund one of the tables from his discretionary fund if the council covered the cost of the other. It was agreed to go ahead on this basis; Cllr Fishwick would advise actual cost to Cllr Tuthill and the clerk would proceed with the formal purchase.
- j) Note Clerk's Delegated Payment - Andrew's Gardening Services - Alfrick Pound Maintenance £100.00 - Noted

5.

Planning and Environmental Matters; -

- a) Review status and actions ref. Clay Green Farm Planning Appeal.
There was a protracted discussion on the forthcoming Public Enquiry, dates, procedures, representation, etc and it was agreed that there was a need for a further meeting with MHDC Development Control Office on the approach to take particularly with staff changes at MHDC imminent, and the nature of specialist representation. The clerk was asked to contact Mr D Rudge to clarify matters and also to contact Robert West Consulting to commission specialist support.
- b) Respond to Planning application 15/01258/FUL & 15/01259/LBC - Hawthorn House Stocks Lane.
Alfrick - "No Comment" agreed.

6.

Working with Leigh and Bransford Parish Council on a Joint Neighbourhood Plan.

Chair to report.

Together with Cllr A Cooper and District Cllr S Rouse they were working with WCC to format Neighbourhood Plans that would cover both Leigh and Bransford plan and Alfrick and Lulsley plan . The clerk noted that the Knightwick, Doddenham and Martley Neighbourhood Plan was being presented on Saturday 30th January for public inspection and response. He would send copies to all for information and review.

7.

Clerk's Report -

- a) Actions from the previous meeting - these had been completed with the exception of the transfer of the Old Storridge Charity funds which was still in progress.
- b) Correspondence received. All relevant items had been circulated in advance of the meeting.
- c) Items drawn to the council's attention.
Delegated Payment - A R Thomas - War Memorial Planting & Maintenance £476.40 - Agreed
Replace Litter Bins - following a comment regarding the poor state of two bins he outlined the costs to the Council as c £250/bin. He was asked to prepare a full proposal for the next meeting of the council.
As the council had not published an Autumn Newsletter he proposed a Winter Newsletter covering:
Precept; what it pays for and how the council collects it.
Progress on the Clay Green Farm development.
Lengthsman's work and support to identify problem areas.
Neighbourhood plans with Leigh and Bransford
He was asked to produce a draft and circulate to members for comments as soon as possible.

8.

Items for the next meeting.

Agenda items 5 a, 6 and 7 c, above

9.

Confirm the date of the next meeting;

Thursday 25th February 2016 at 19:30 hrs. in the Village Hall, Alfrick Agreed.

The meeting closed at 9:35pm

Minutes confirmed.....

25/02/2016