

Parish Council of Alfrick and Lulsley

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday 23rd May 2019 at 19:30hrs in the Village Hall, Alfrick.

Present: Cllr B Martin, Chair

Cllrs: Ms C Bradley, Ms B Brown, R Ashton, T Clarke, A Crockford, G Lowe, E Mutter, DCllr Ms S Rouse, §DCllr P Whatley, G M Brewin (Clerk),

Apologies; A G Cooper.

Visitors: one parishioner.

Prior to the meeting members signed their Declarations of Acceptance of Office.

Public Question Time. None

Agenda - The meeting was opened by the current chairman; Cllr B Martin

1.

To accept nominations and appoint a Chairman

By unanimous agreement Cllr B Martin was nominated.

Cllr Martin agreed, signed the 'Declaration of Acceptance of Office' and took the chair.

In taking the Chair, Cllr Martin welcomed the newly elected members; Cllrs. Ms C Bradley, R Ashton and T Clarke and hoped that they would find their membership of the council productive and enjoyable. He expressed his thanks for the support of councillors over the past year and gave his and the council's best wishes to District Councillors Sarah Rouse and Peter Whatley standing as Independents and coming top of the poll for the MHDC elections.

2.

To accept nominations and appoint a Vice-Chairman

Cllr A G Cooper was nominated and agreed unanimously .

(In sending his apology for absence to the clerk Cllr Cooper had agreed to his nomination.)

3.

Members' Apologies for Absence

The apology for absence from Cllr A G Cooper was accepted.

4.

Members' Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest in the agenda items

5.

Confirm the minutes of the monthly meeting held 25/04/19. (Circulated in advance)

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

6.

Appoint councillors to committees and representatives to external organisations;

- a) Designate consultees on Planning Matters. Alfrick, Cllrs. A Cooper, B Martin; Alfrick Pound and Old Storridge, Cllrs. Ms B Brown, Ms C Bradley, G Lowe; Lulsley, Cllrs. T Clarke, E Mutter.)
 - b) Village Hall Committee. Cllr B Fishwick - although not a member of the council it was agreed that Mr B Fishwick's experience qualified him to continue to represent the council.
 - c) Community Shop Committee. Cllr B Martin
 - d) Two representatives to WCALC Area Meeting. Cllrs A Cooper, B Martin
 - e) Alfrick Trustee of the Suckley Charities, Cllr E Mutter
- All Agreed

7.

Financial Matters

- a) Confirm Clerk's salary and hours of work for 2018-9; (NALC - SCP20 - £13.15/hr, 312hrs/yr, £341.90/month. Agreed. *(The clerk had drawn members' attention to the new rates of pay agreed by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services).*
- b) Approve payment - Alfrick and Lulsley Village Hall, Council meetings - £180.00 - approved
- c) Approve payment - Annual council insurance Came & Co - £563.07 (5% discount for 3yrs. agreement.) approved
- d) Approve payment - Playing Field - Grass Cutting, MCB Landscapes - £270.00 inc vat. - approved
- e) Consider revising the council's bank account at Lloyds Bank to provide on-line banking facilities. Agreed. The Clerk was asked to proceed with arranging this.

8.

Confirm the adoption the General Power of Competence

This Council declares that it meets the criteria set by the Secretary of State under the Localism Act 2011 (s8) in the Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012. viz:

- i. At least two-thirds of total number of councillors must have been elected
- ii. The Clerk holds CiLCA 2012 or other relevant qualification.

And therefore confirms the adoption of the General Power of Competence as set out in the above act.
Confirmed.

9.

Planning and Environmental Matters;

- a) Review status and actions ref. Clay Green Farm Development. The results of the appeal to the Panning Inspectorate are still awaited.
- b) Review status and actions ref. Chapel Meadow Development. The revised 'Affordable Accomodation' details are still to be resolved.
- c) Respond to; Application Number; 19/00621/FUL - The Warren, Lulsley, WR6 5QT
Proposal; Proposed agricultural building for storage.
After a careful discussion it was agreed that subject to the detail design being in accordance with the MH-AONB preferences this council supported this application.

10.

Consider the establishment of a committee to manage the council's assets: War Memorial, Playing Field, Jubilee Spinney, Alfrick Pound and Bus Shelter at Alfrick Pound.
This was not agreed.

11. Clerk's Report

- a) Items from the last meeting.

He reported that council has been able to successfully register with the Natural Networks Programme and have been referred to the team at the Wildlife Trust. The next step will be to carry out a Biodiversity Enhancement Assessment of the suggested sites, for which a date has to be decided. This will involve assessing the current wildlife value of sites and making suggestions as to how this might be improved. Also further on-site checks for eligibility criteria such as public accessibility and that the land is not eligible for Countryside Stewardship.

A date will be set with Cllr Ms C Bradley who is leading the 'Pollinators Group' and there will be a report at the June meeting.

- b) Outstanding matters requiring the council's notice.

- i) At the start of a new council it is usual to provide members with copies of the Council's Standing Orders and other regulatory documents and in the interests of reducing paper usage these are now in digital form on individual 2Gb USB sticks which are available for each member.
- ii) At the suggestion of the Chair he would circulate a programme for councillor's training arranged by Worcestershire CALC with a view to members attending some of these events.
- iii) Although the Section 106 funds from the Chapel Meadow development were not yet available he would discuss the way forward with DCllr S Rouse who has had recent experience of this with another parish.
- iv) The stone wall between the 'Pound' and the adjacent property is in need of repair. He had discussed this with the property owner and agreed that at the end of Autumn the loose stonework could be removed so that the work required to rebuild could be identified.

12.

Items for the next meeting

See 7-(e), 11-(a), 11-(b), ii & iii.

13.

Confirm the date of the next meeting;

Thursday 27th June 2019 at 7.30pm, Alfrick Village Hall. Confirmed

The meeting closed at 21:15 hrs.

Minutes confirmed..... 27/05/2019