

Parish Council of Alfrick and Lulsley

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday 23rd January 2020 at 19:30hrs in the Village Hall, Alfrick.

Present: Chair; Cllr B Martin

Cllrs: Ms C Bradley, R Ashton, T Clarke, A G Cooper, A Crockford, G Lowe, E Mutter, C. Cllr P Tuthill, Dist. Cllr Ms S Rouse, Dist. Cllr P Whatley, D Bradley (Parish Tree Warden), G M Brewin (Clerk)

Apologies; Cllr Ms B Brown.

Visitors: One

Reports: County & District Councillors, Footpaths' Warden, Tree Warden, Village Hall, Community Shop.

County Cllr P Tuthill reported on the West Midlands Ambulance Service, Improvements at the Worcestershire Hospital Trust, the restructuring of the Fire Service and restructuring of some major road junctions.

Dist Cllrs Ms S Rouse and P Whatley reported on progress on Ecology and Bio-diversity within the District Council's area, the impact of the South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP) updating and possible revisions to administrative boundaries subsequent to a visit by the Boundaries Commission..

Dr D Bradley (Parish Tree Warden) had sent a formal report which is attached.

The clerk read a brief report from Mr B Fishwick on Village Hall matters, which is attached.

Cllr B Martin as vice-chair of the Village Shop Committee reported on the Shop and Cafe's activities.

The formal meeting commenced at 19:30 hrs

AGENDA

1.

Members' Apologies for absence

The apology for absence from Cllr Ms B Brown, and were 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 28th November 2019

The minutes had been circulated in advance, were agreed as true record and signed by the Chair.

4.

Financial Matters;

- a) Consider the report of the committee to consider expenditure in 2020-21, and agree a budget and precept for 2020-21
As Chair of the budget committee Cllr A Cooper reviewed the proposed budget (see appendix -a)
In the subsequent discussion it was noted that for several years expenditure had been budgeted for; War Memorial renovation, Improvements to the Jubilee Spinney and improvements to the Alfrick Pound.
It was agreed that these projects should be formalised and to this end agenda items would be added to the next meeting.
The committee's proposal for a precept for 2021-22 of £13.000 was agreed.
- b) Note payments, Lengthsman, November, £172.80, December £302.40. - Noted.
- c) Approve payment to Mr B Salter, Mowing the War Memorial Green in 2019. £174.00 - Agreed
- d) Close the 'old' Bank Account at Lloyds Bank and transfer the balance of £8049.73 to the new Lloyds Bank Internet-based account - Agreed

5.

Planning and Environmental Matters; -

- a) Review status - Clay Green Farm development.
Now that the appeal against the MHDC refusal of the 23 houses plan had been allowed the council would wait to see proposals from the developer.
- b) Cllr Ms C Bradley to report on the Parish Wildlife, Alfrick Pound and Jubilee Spinney projects.
Some work had been done on the Pound and the spinney but bad weather had prevented some planned activities.
it was agreed to review these - see above 4) a.

6.

Committee on New Public Facilities.

The Committee Chair, Cllr A Cooper to update on the informal meeting on 15/01/20

Extensive work was progressing on the Tennis Court/ 'multi-use games area' improvement/relocation, the Childrens' Play Area and the Adult Exercise Equipment and linking footpath. There was little to no interest in Allotments. He would be attending the next meetings of the Village Hall and Horticultural Show committees to discuss details. He would also be progressing the ideas for a Bus Shelter/Seat and Recreational Shelter on the Playing Field. It is likely that some additional contributions will be needed to achieve all the items being considered at present.

7.

Highways and Footpaths

War Memorial surrounds. Clerk to report.

The clerk reported that the matter of a revised shape and additional kerbing was still with WCC Highways.

He was waiting for a response from the Lengthsman regarding outstanding road drains that needed attention by WCC.

8.

Playing Field.

Clerk to report.

The clearing of the ditches including some additional work has been held up as a result of the very wet conditions.

The Cricket Nets will need replacing and a report from the 'Cricket Group' was expected shortly.

9.

Clerk's Report -

- a) Actions from the previous meeting. These had been completed
- b) Correspondence received. The clerk drew the meeting's attention to the MHDC refusal of retrospective approval for the stables at Brownings Acre. This was noted.
He proposed that a 'Spring Litter-picking' with lunch afterwards be set for Saturday 21st March.
This was agreed.
Members had been given the latest six-weeks report from the VAS speed Camera produced by Cllr R Ashton.

10.

Items for the next meeting.

War Memorial renovation, Improvements to the Jubilee Spinney and the Alfrick Pound.

Report - Committee on New Public Facilities.

VE Day - 75th anniversary celebrations

11.

Confirm the date of the next meeting;

Thursday 27th February 2020 at 19:30 hrs. in the Village Hall, Alfrick - Confirmed

The meeting closed at 21:30 hrs.

Minutes confirmed 27/2/2020

Tree Warden's report to Parish Council meeting 23rd January 2020

Having held a working party at the spinney on November 3rd another one was held on Saturday 7th December at which we spread wood chip (kindly supplied by Nick Denley) along the very muddy access path. On 11th January we tackled the brambles and dogwood on the pound.

Future working parties are planned for this Saturday at the pound and at the spinney on Saturday 8th February. More and younger parishioners are urgently required.

I have heard from the Woodland Trust that the hedging plants are due for delivery late February or early March. I therefore plan to assemble a working party to plant them towards the end of March, date TBD. I suggest that a meeting with Martin Cook be held to discuss the exact line of the hedge and to get his agreement.

Derek Bradley Alfrick & Lulsley Tree Warden

Report from the Secretary - Alfrick Village Hall Committee

1. Following the award from the show committee to the village hall we have now bought and installed electric hand dryers to all the locations having hand washing facilities –5 in all. This should enable the hall to cease using the paper towels.

2. The hall has been asked by an arboriculturist acting on behalf of Western Power Distribution for permission to trim some bushes and a tree to ensure the safety of the low voltage power lines behind the hall, it is likely that there will be some work carried out there in the next couple of months or so.

The next VHC meeting is on 3rd February.

appendix - a

Alfrick and Lulsley Parish Council
Expenditure Proposals 2020 – 2021.

| | 2019 – 20. | 2020 – 21. |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Precept | 12840.00 | 13000.00 |
| Sundry Inc. | 200.00 | 200.00 |
| Total Receipts | 13040.00 | 13200.00 |
| Account Pyments | | |
| Audit | 150.00 | 50.00 |
| Clerks Expenses | 1200.00 | 1400.00 |
| Clerks Salary | 3920.00 | 4250.00 |
| Education | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| Footpaths | 350.00 | 350.00 |
| Insurance | 580.00 | 600.00 |
| Jubilee Spinney | 500.00 | 1500.00 |
| Meeting Exp. | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| Parish Lengthsman | 1000.00 | 1000.00 |
| Parish Tree Warden | 75.00 | 150.00 |
| Playing Field Maint. | 1500.00 | 2000.00 |
| Subscription | 400.00 | 400.00 |
| War Memorial | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| Litter & Gen Tidy up | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| Alfrick Pound | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| Total Payments | 12725.00 | 14200.00 |
| Deficit | -1000.00. | |

Deficit projected as we have budgeted for works to be done over recent years and not to date spent the money, so we are in credit.

We do not know as yet how much our precept will increase with the new house on Churchfield.

We are in all probability going to be faced with increases in the demands on our budget once the projects currently being talked about for the 106 money have been introduced, for the likes of insurance and maintenance.

Therefore, for the projects we have been setting aside funds for the last two/three years, eg, War Memorial, The Pound, we want to get these funds spent in this year so that we will not be faced with large bills going forward.

The Spinney, is again a one off to cover the gates and fence and to do whatever needs doing.

A Cooper

Chair - Budget Committee, Jan 2020