

Parish Council of Alfrick and Lulsley

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday, Thursday 23rd February 2023 at 19:00hrs in the Village Hall, Alfrick.

Present: Cllr B Martin, Chair,

Cllrs: R Ashton, N Catlow, A K Hinton, G Lowe, G Messervy-Whiting,

C.Cllr Ms K Hanks, D. Cllr P Whatley, G M Brewin (Clerk).

Apologies: Cllrs Ms B Prodger, T Clarke, D.Cllr Ms S Rouse, S Warr, (Parish Tree Warden),

Visitors: none

Reports:

C.Cllr Ms K Hanks; Reported on current WCC activities.(see appendix -a)

District Cllr P Whatley reported on the activities of the MHDC noting the finalised budget for 2023-4.

The formal meeting commenced at 19:12hrs

Agenda

1.

Members' Apologies for absence

The apologies from Cllrs Ms B Prodger and T Clarke, were accepted.

In noting the apology from Cllr Ms B Prodger the Chair asked the clerk to send her the best wishes of the council for a speedy recovery.

2.

Members' Declarations of Interest

None

3.

Confirm the minutes of the last meeting held on Thursday 26th January 2023 (circulated in advance)

These were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

4.

Financial Matters

a) Note and accept the Budget for 2023-4. Omitted from the previous meeting. (circulated in advance)

Noted – see appendix -b

b) Clerk to report on the purchase and installation of a Bus Shelter on land at Clay Green

There was a delay as the integrity of the old foundation slab was in some doubt and needed digging out.

c) Note the following payments made under the 'Delegated Action' procedure.

KOMPAN LTD, Playing Field Maintenance £114.00 inc vat Noted

A&L Village Hall, Meeting expenses £102.00 Noted

R A WILKS, Parish Lengthsman exp £354.00 inc vat Noted

d) Note Bank Acc at 31/01/23; £27544.95 Noted

5.

Planning and Environmental Matters;

Note the delegated restricted response to: Application Number: M/22/01034/OUT

Location Address: Swan Cottage Alfrick Worcester WR6 5HY

Proposal: Outline application with some matters reserved for a proposed dwelling to land adjacent Swan Cottage

'This council checks vehicle speeds along this stretch of road regularly. Data from our VAS shows the 85th percentile

is 36.26mph westbound over 3 different 2 week periods in 2022, The applicant's equivalent is 33.4mph'.

Noted.

6

Establish a committee to recommend on the appointment of a new Clerk to the Council.

It was agreed that Cllrs: N Catlow, (Chair), T Clarke, A Hinton and G Messervy-Whiting would form a committee for this.

7.

Update of the Alfrick & Lulsley Self Help Community plan. (circulated in advance)

Cllr. G Messervy-Whiting asked members to pursue details of those who could be included in the plan.

8.

Arrangements for Alfrick and Lulsley Horticultural Show committee's use of the Council's Playing Field.

The clerk said he had received a response from the Chair of the Show Committee (Rev Anne Potter) which he read out to the meeting. See appendix -c

Cllr R Ashton had sought out formal details (from MHDC) and informal advice on events on council-owned property, which had been circulated to members.

After a discussion it was agreed that Cllr A Hinton would produce a formal document based on this information for onward transmission to the Show Committee with an invitation to attend the next meeting (23/3/23) for a discussion based on this.

9.

New Tennis Court - S106 funded project.

The Clerk reported that he now had the draft of a lease and accompanying 'side letter' from the Village Hall Committee and was waiting for a second quotation for the construction work.

It was agreed that the process of submitting a request for funds from MHDC would be that both the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee would produce written confirmation that the draft lease and accompanying 'side letter' were acceptable and would be confirmed on receipt of funding. The project with details of construction costs etc would then be prepared and sent to MHDC for approval.

10.

Support the use of Speed Dummies (or Scarecrows) (circulated in advance)

Cllr Hinton said there was some concern over the effects these might have on horses being ridden on local roads.

It was agreed the the council could not support a general use of these 'dummies' and it would be up to individual users to be responsible for their use and siting.

11.

Clerk's Report -

The VAS was back from the manufacturer who had revised various settings and firmware. Whilst it still worked erratically at the Lulsley location, where it had previously operated satisfactorily, this site did not conform to the manufacturer's recommendations and at those sites that did meet these it performed satisfactorily.

It was therefore fit for purpose and he would withdraw the council's complaint against the manufacturer.

He was in the process of acquiring extension poles to enable it to be used at sites where the location did not currently meet the recommended dimensions.

He said that Suckley PC had not resolved their possible use of the 'old' VAS but if it was no longer required he proposed 'buying-out' Suckley Parish Council's share to enable it to be permanently in the parish, at a cost of £100. This was agreed.

12.

Items for the next meeting.

a) An informal period will be set aside at the beginning of the meeting for members (and others) to complete Nomination Papers for election on 4th May for delivery by hand by the clerk to the Returning Officer before 4pm on Tuesday 4 April 2023. Agreed

b) Discuss the problems caused by dogs on the Playing Field.

13.

Confirm the date of the next meeting: 23rd March 2023 at 7pm Confirmed

Resignation of the Chair of the Council.

Prior to closing the meeting the Chair Cllr B W Martin said that he was resigning from his position with immediate effect.

Members expressed their thanks for his efforts over many years and gave their best wishes for the future.

Cllr. G Messervy-Whiting proposed Cllr Nathan S Catlow as Chair and this was agreed unanimously.

Cllr Catlow signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and closed the meeting.

The meeting closed at 20:30 hrs.

Minutes confirmed.....

appendix -a

County Councillor Karen Hanks

Report to Alfrick and Lulsley Parish Council

23 February 2023

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- 1) Budget was approved at Full Council Meeting on the 16th February 2023. The increase was 2.94% increase plus 2% uplift in adult social care levy. There is a 5% increase for the lengths man's scheme, following 15% last year.
- 2) Re. Local Government Boundary Commission review of Worcestershire County Council, only limited changes are expected. The LGBC proposals are due post local elections in May and June 2023.
- 3) I am awaiting a date for the repair of footpaths, which are budgeted for at Clay Green 5-8 and Folly Road, near Rose Cottage.
- 4) The County Councillor's divisional fund continues, and I welcome requests.

appendix -b

Alfrick & Lulsley Parish Council

Expenditure 2022-23. at 30/10/2022

	Budget 2022-23	Actual at 31/10	Expected yr-end	Comments on final 1/3 yr	Budget setting 23-24
Receipts					
Precept	£ 13,500.00	£ 13,500.00	£ 13,500.00		£ 13,500.00
Sundry Income	£ 200.00	£ 5,287.00	£ 5,287.00		£ 80,000.00
Lengthsman Income WCC	£ 1,500.00	£ 1,052.00	£ 1,500.00		£ 1,500.00
VAT Refund		£ 14,935.00	£ 14,935.00		£ 25,000.00
Old StorrIDGE Charity Income		£ 65.00	£ 150.00		£ 180.00
Old StorrIDGE Charity donations					
Total Receipts	£ 15,200.00	£ 34,839.00	£ 35,372.00		£ 120,180.00
Expenditure					
Audit	£ 75.00	£ 402.00	£ 402.00	No further costs	£ 450.00
Clerk Expenses	£ 1,400.00	£ 533.00	£ 883.00	Expected	£ 1,400.00
Office Costs					
Clerk Salary	£ 4,216.00	£ 2,503.00	£ 4,602.00	Expected	£ 4,650.00
Donations					
Election Expenses					£ 1,200.00
Education	£ 500.00	£ -	£ -	Expected	£ 200.00
Footpaths	£ 250.00	£ -	£ 100.00	Discretionary	£ 150.00
Insurance	£ 750.00	£ 778.00	£ 778.00	No further costs	£ 1,000.00
Jubilee Plantation	£ 250.00	£ -	£ 100.00	Expected	£ 500.00
Meeting Expenses	£ 150.00	£ 121.00	£ 180.00	Expected	£ 220.00
Education/Training/Other			£ 8,000.00	Bus Shelter	£ -
Parish Lengthsman	£ 1,500.00	£ 440.00	£ 1,500.00	Expected	£ 1,500.00
Parish Tree Warden	£ 150.00	£ -	£ 150.00	Expected	£ 150.00
Playing Field Maintenance	£ 2,000.00	£ 1,842.00	£ 2,200.00	Expected	£ 2,500.00
Subscriptions	£ 400.00	£ 386.00	£ 386.00	No further costs	£ 400.00
VAT		£ 6,140.00	£ 9,000.00		£ 22,000.00
War Memorial	£ 500.00	£ 2,910.00	£ 2,960.00	Expected	£ 500.00
Litter and general tidy up	£ 250.00	£ -	£ -	Discretionary	£ 250.00
Alfrick Pound	£ 250.00	£ -	£ -	Expected	£ -
Youth Projects					
Playing Field Equipment	£ 1,000.00	£ 25,175.00	£ 25,175.00		£ 80,000.00
Total Payments	£ 13,641.00	£ 41,230.00	£ 56,416.00		£ 117,070.00
Surplus/Deficit -	£ 1,559.00	-£ 6,391.00	-£ 21,044.00		£ 3,110.00
Balance B/fwd		£36,507.00	£36,507.00		£15,463.00
Balance at Year -End		£30,116.00	£15,463.00		£18,573.00

Subject: Alfrick and Lulsley Horticultural Society

From: Anne Potter - To: geoffreybrewin@waitrose.com, Brian Martin - Cc: - Date: 21 February 2023 at 22:02

Dear Geoffrey

Further to your email of February 3rd 2023, sent in your capacity as Clerk, attaching the Alfrick and Lulsley Parish Council agreed long-term agreement to cover the use of the council's playing field by the Alfrick and Lulsley Horticultural Show for their annual show I am initially responding as Chair of the Alfrick & Lulsley Show Committee to acknowledge receipt of said document.

Firstly, I have been reliably informed there is no such body as the Alfrick and Lulsley Horticultural Society, as per your email, and that there is no Alfrick and Lulsley Horticultural Show. The horticultural section is an integral part of the Alfrick & Lulsley Show held annually.

The document has been circulated to the members of the Alfrick & Lulsley Show Committee who will discuss the contents and respond accordingly. The initial reaction, apart from how sad it is that after 70 years the Parish Council members have felt the need to issue such a document, is basically how can there be a long-term agreement without discussion?

As the current Chair of the Alfrick and Lulsley Show Committee I have taken it upon myself, who is also very disappointed and sad, to 'officially' notify the Parish Council that the 2023 show is in its initial planning stages and, God willing, will be holding it on the playing field in Alfrick, as per the past 70 years, on the first weekend of September.

Best wishes

Anne

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