

## Parish Council of Alfrick and Lulsley

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council on Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> April 2012 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Alfrick.**

### **Present:**

Cllrs; Miss L Randall, Messrs; P Brown, A G Cooper, B Fishwick, S V Glazzard, B Martin, G Lowe, P Tebbit, G M Brewin (Clerk),

**Apologies;** Cllr Mrs C Williams, A Warburton (District Councillor), D Hughes (District Councillor), Dr D Bradley (Parish Tree Warden),

**Visitors** – Mr J Robinson

**In the absence of the chairman the vice-chairman Cllr P Tebbit took the chair.**

**Public Questions prior to the formal meeting see appendix a; - none**

### **The formal meeting began at 7.30pm**

#### **1. Members' Apologies for absence**

The apology from Cllr Mrs C Williams was accepted.

#### **2. Members' Declarations of Interest.**

None

#### **3. Reports; County & District Cllrs, Footpaths' Warden, Tree Warden, Village Hall, Community Shop.**

See appendix -a

#### **4. Confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2012, circulated in advance.**

These had been circulated in advance, they were approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

#### **5. Financial Matters;**

##### **Approve the following payments:**

- a) NALC Magazine subscription; £15.50 – approved.
- b) WCALC Subscription; £296.29 inc vat. - approved.
- c) Local Govt. Seminar ',Localism' Fees; £96 inc vat - approved.
- d) Clerk's expenses Jan – March 2012; £402.21 - approved.
- e) Lengthsman's acct – note delegated action payments, £734.40, £1040.40 – noted.
- f) Confirm the council's accounts for 2011-12 circulated in advance.

The accounts and detailed items of expenditure had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The clerk reviewed individual items compared with the estimate made at the half-year. Although some expenditure had been incurred on unexpected items other savings had more than compensated for these giving a year-end surplus of £1325.28 instead of a forecast deficit of £334. For full details see appendix b

The council approved the annual accounts (subject to the local audit) and the Annual Governance Statement..

#### **6. Planning Matters; Note the following Delegated Responses;**

- a) Appln. no. 12/00365/HOU 1, Church Cottages, Alfrick, Worcestershire, WR6 5HH, Two storey side extension and relocation of side conservatory to rear.

'This council recommends REFUSAL. The proposal involves the relocation of the current conservatory from the side of the semi-detached cottage to the rear of the cottage and the construction of a two story extension on the side. The size of the proposed extension will give an increase in size of the property of about 50% and will make it look unbalanced compared with the adjoining cottage.'

- b) Appln No 12/00315/FUL, Creation of access track and ramp, Rear of Orlando, Old Storridge, Alfrick, WR6 5HT  
'This council recommends REFUSAL of this application. It is in an AONB and an intrusion into the appreciation of the area.'

- c) Appn 12/00266/HOU, Greenfields, Alfrick Pound, Alfrick, ' This is not available on the MHDC website (8th April) even though the documents were issued on 23<sup>rd</sup> March. It is noted that the documents relating to this application do not include a statement relating to the extensions to the property - It could be construed by an observer that it is only about access and relocation of a tool shed. A re-issue the whole document is requested.'

In noting the above delegated responses the council asked the clerk to send the details of item c) to Cllr D Hughes (District Councillor) to seek clarification from MHDC Development Control Office as to the inaccuracies identified in the response above.

- d) Appn No 12/00495/FUL Grid Ref 374689 N 252785; Retrospective application for partly completed stables for equestrian use and associated vehicular access Location - Land At (OS 7468 5278), Alfrick, Worcestershire,  
This request for comment had arrived outside the agenda deadline so the council discussed it with a view to advising the

clerk to make a delegated response under the council's delegation procedure.

A discussion covered a range of details including the history of planning applications at this site. The clerk was asked to respond indicating that the council could not recommend acceptance and requested that the MHDC Development Control Office consider the following:

*The provision of a store room within the stable block is essential and the use of one of the rooms as a store should be a permanent arrangement.*

*There must be no more buildings on this site; temporary sheds etc*

*The property must remain for personal use with no commercial activity.*

*Arrangements must be defined for the disposal of animal waste which should not be stored adjacent to the stables.*

*The removal of the reinforced track between the stables and the gate at the cross-roads and the proper closure of that gate should be completed as required by a previous planning approval.*

The clerk would respond accordingly and report at the next meeting.

**7. Informal Planning Group;**

Report on the Public Meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> April, the development of a neighbourhood plan and establishment of a formal committee of the council to process this.

The council considered the poor attendance at the meeting – total 22 - and considered what could be done to raise awareness of the new planning and development procedures now in place under the Localism Act.

It was agreed that;

A further full mailing would be made to the electorate with a different approach to the subject.

A public meeting would be called on a weekday – preferably a Wednesday.

The clerk would identify suitable dates.

The formation of a formal committee would be held over until after this next meeting.

The chairman and Cllr S Glazzard reported on the seminars they had attended on the Localism Act implications for local authorities.

The chairman proposed and it was agreed that the council should pursue the gaining of a General Power of Competence under 'The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012' and asked the clerk to pursue this matter.

**8. Heating Oil Syndicate; Cllr P Tebbit to report**

Following his investigations into forms of syndicated purchasing Cllr P Tebbit would refine the search and report at the next meeting.

**9. Clerk's Report - a) Actions from the previous meeting; b) Correspondence Received**

The clerk reported that on the matter of poor Broadband reception those on the Leigh Sinton telephone exchange were consistently reporting download rates of less than 1Mbs. Councillors offered to provide information to enable a substantial complaint to be made to BT and the matter to be raised with the local MP Mrs H Baldwin.

He reported that for those who needed a substantial broadband feed satellite communications were now available at a cost of around £200-300 for the installation and £25/month.

He reported that the Lengthsman had dug out and cleared the two drains at the low point of The Claws unfenced road.

All items of relevant correspondence had been circulated via email at the time of receipt.

He drew members' attention to the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May.

**10. Items for the next meeting.**

The next meeting would be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. Current items above would be reviewed after the election of the Chairman and appointment of representatives to outside organisations.

**11. Confirm the date of the next meeting; - 15/05/2012 at 19:30 hrs. in the Village Hall, Alfrick.  
This will be the Annual Meeting of the Council.**

The meeting closed at 9:15pm



Chairman...15/05/2012