

Parish Council of Alfrick and Lulsley

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council on Tuesday, 16th October 2012 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Alfrick.

Present:

Cllrs; Miss L Randall, Messrs; P Brown, A G Cooper, B Fishwick, B Martin, G Lowe, P Tebbit, D Hughes (District Councillor), G M Brewin (Clerk), Dr D Bradley (Parish Tree Warden).

Apologies; Chairman: Cllr Mrs C Williams, Cllr Cllr C Smith (County Councillor), A Warburton (District Councillor),

Visitors – Three.

Public Questions etc. prior to the formal meeting see appendix a;

The formal meeting commenced at 7:40pm

In the absence of the Chairman the Vice Chairman Cllr P Tebbit took the chair.

1.

Members' Apologies for absence

The apology from the Chairman Cllr Mrs C Williams was accepted.

2.

Members' Declarations of Interest

There were no 'Declarations of Interest' in agenda items.

3.

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

See appendix -b

4.

Confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 18th September 2012.

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

5.

To fill a vacancy by co-option.

The clerk reported that although no formal applications had been received he had received some expressions of interest and it was hoped that the vacancy would be filled at the next meeting.

6.

Financial Matters;

a) Approve payment: Clerk's Expenses – 3 months, - £258.92 - Agreed

b) Consider allocating parish council funds for additional Lengthsman' work.

It was resolved to resolved to allocate £1000 from the council's reserves, half of this to routine maintenance and the other half to emergency call-out work to cover the remaining five months.

The clerk was asked to discuss this with the lengthsman and continue to search for additional funding.

7.

Planning Matters;

a) Consider giving council support to a request for a protected area around the Chapel Meadow pond – (Great-Crested Newts habitat).

The clerk read a summary of a report by DJD Architects, who had been been instructed by Draycott Developments with regards to the Chapel Meadow site in Alfrick. In order to reassure the Parish Council the Worcestershire Wildlife Consultancy has been commissioned to undertake an independent assessment of the site.

The report concluded that the presence of Great Crested Newts does not preclude development proposals as long as suitable forms of mitigation and enhancement are incorporated into any given scheme to maintain the favourable conservation status of the species.

In noting the contents and conclusions of this report the council resolved that this matter, having been drawn to the attention of all concerned, could be left for further consideration until a planning application was made for this site.

b) Actions to avoid the destruction of the surface of Sandy Lane by inappropriate use.

After a discussion the clerk was asked to investigate the possibility of having this unmaintained public highway reclassified as a Bridle Way bearing in mind the very narrow width in places which restricted highway users on foot and horseback if four-wheeled drive vehicles were driven along it.

- c) Planning Application 12/01349/FUL The Pound House, Alfrick Pound, Change of use from agricultural land to domestic curtilage. After a review it was agreed that the council would support this application.

8.

Community Plan Advisory Group; Progress report.

Cllr P Tebbit reported that the Advisory Group had held its first meeting – a summary of which would be reported in the Autumn Newsletter. See appendix -c

9.

Heating Oil Syndicate; Cllr P Tebbit to report.

Cllr P Tebbit reported that a summary of progress would be reported in the Autumn Newsletter and that he felt that this matter was now concluded. This was agreed. See appendix -d

10.

Clerk's Report -

a) Actions from the previous meeting:

Christmas Tree – Information from the council's insurers indicated a substantial additional premium would be required to cover this.

Good Citizens' Awards – Information from Lindridge Parish Council which operates such a scheme was discussed.

Cllr B Fishwick agreed to draft proposals for further discussion at the next meeting.

Other actions had been covered in agenda items.

b) Correspondence Received

The clerk drew members' attention to the next Parish Conference on 31st October at County Hall which he would be attending.

11.

Approve the Autumn Newsletter

Revisions relating to the lengthsman see 6(a) above were to be included. Otherwise this was approved. See appendix -e

12.

Items for the next meeting.

Review Half-yr financial situation – clerk to circulate in advance, Funding for Lengthsman, Council sponsored Christmas Tree, Good Citizen Awards, Casual Vacancy, Vehicles using un-maintained roads.

13.

Confirm the date of the next meeting; -

20/11/2012 at 19:30 hrs. in the Village Hall, Alfrick.

Chairman

e. H. Williams ...

20/11/2012