

Parish Council of Alfrick and Lulsley

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council on 18th March 2014 at 19:30hrs in the Village Hall, Alfrick.

Present:

Cllr Miss L Randall, Chair,

Mrs D Jammal,

Messrs: P Brown, A G Cooper, B Fishwick, G Lowe, B Martin, D Hughes (District Councillor), G M Brewin (Clerk).

Apologies:

Cllrs D Lee, Mrs C Williams, P Tuthill, (County Councillor), A Warburton (District Councillor), D Bradley (Parish Tree Warden),

Public Question Time prior to the formal meeting; None

Reports:

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

Cllr D Hughes reported on the progress of the Development of 14 New Dwellings - Chapel Meadow, Alfrick and there was an informal discussion about the relevance of the stages of planning applications and the council's response to this outline application. (This would be covered formally in item 5 a).

There were verbal reports from:

Cllr G Lowe, Parish Paths Warden, Cllr B Fishwick, Village Hall and Cllr B Martin, Community Shop.

AGENDA

1.

Members' Apologies for absence

The apologies from Cllr D Lee and Cllr Mrs C Williams, were accepted.

2.

Members' Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest in agenda items.

3.

Confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 18th February 2014 circulated in advance.

The clerk had made a small correction to the circulated document referring to the support of Cllr Warburton Item 5 a). These were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

4.

Financial Matters;

- a) Approve payment – VAS Speed Meter Location etc Dec-Feb – £66.50 - Agreed
- b) Approve payment – War Memorial Planting, Summer – Autumn 2013 – £632.40 inc vat - Agreed
- c) Consider work to be subject to Competitive Tender 2014-15:
 - i) Playing Field Maintenance -
The clerk presented four quotations for the work as set out in the council's schedule. After a discussion of the various costs it was agreed to accept the quotation of A R Thomas subject to a small clarification to be resolved by the clerk.
 - ii) War Memorial Maintenance
The clerk was pursuing this.
- d) Formally note repayment of £750.00 cheque 000612 to WCC following cancelling of the Skateboard installation. - Noted
- e) The clerk was asked to arrange a refund of the donation of £250 from the Alfrick and Lulsley Horticultural Society made in support of the same project

5.

Planning and Environmental Matters;

- a) Consider and respond to email and contents from Cllr D Hughes – already circulated ref - Land adj. Chapel Meadow, Alfrick - 13/01557/OUT - Drainage details
Following the informal review with Cllr D Hughes (see above) and a formal discussion the clerk was asked to send copies of the council's response to the review of drainage at Chapel Meadow to both District Councillors and to the Head of Development and Planning at MHDC asking for the council's comments to be conveyed to the Northern Area Development Review Committee. (See appendix – a.)
- b) Consider any further action ref Chapel Meadow Development.
None was considered necessary at the moment.

6.

Neighbourhood Forum Advisory Group

Cllr A Cooper reported; Progress is being made in the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan, all be it very slowly. The group is now in the process of preparing a questionnaire which will in due course be sent to every household in the Parish. We hope that this will be within the next month, but it is subject to obtaining a grant to cover the costs. A new member is required for the group from Lulsley. If there is anyone who is interested in finding out more and hopefully joining us, please ring Andrew Cooper on 01886 833903.

7.

Approve Spring Newsletter

The clerk circulated copies to members. This was discussed and agreed with a request to add a note on serious dog fouling of the pavements and playing field.

8.

Consider correspondence from Mr P Tebbit -Circulated in advance

The council agreed with Mr Tebbit's comment on the out-of-date condition of the Parish Website. It was agreed that Cllr B Martin would discuss this with the various contributors and that the clerk would look at the possibilities of a possible upgrade to the facility.

10.

Clerk's Report -

- a) Actions from the previous meeting: All items had been completed except for 4. c. ii above which he would continue with towards a resolution.
- b) Correspondence Received
He drew members' attention to a letter from Miss C Turley regarding the lack of children's play facilities. It was agreed that considering correspondence from the council's insurers together with the experience of Suckley Parish Council, that children's play facilities should be added to the agenda of the next meeting and Miss Turley and others interested be asked to come to the public session before the next meeting to discuss this.
- c) Items drawn to the council's attention.
 - i) The Lengthsman's Contract for 2014-15 had been received allocating £2171.35 for the coming financial year. It was agreed to continue with these arrangements.
The Lengthsman was working on a final round of drain clearances to complete the account for the current year before the end of March.
 - ii) The clerk advised the council that the revised regulations to enable the direct Bank Transfer of payments by parish councils had been published but with the limited number of payments made by the council in a year together with the fact that the council did not have dedicated computer facilities lead him to recommend that the council remain for the time being on the current arrangements of payment by cheque. This was agreed.
 - iii) The clerk advised the council that the government had issued a consultation document on a Transparency Code for smaller parish councils. This council already complies with the majority of this code and would have no difficulty in meeting it fully when implemented.
 - iv) He noted an email received from Mr P Tebbit on behalf of the MHDC Policy Group on Community Engagement. He already has all the information he needed in respect of Alfrick & Lulsley but hoped that the council would formally agree to participate in the project.
The clerk was asked to confirm the council's support for this project and looked forward to Mr Tebbit's report.

11.

Items for the next meeting.

Items 4. c)ii, 6., 10. b) above.

12.

Confirm the date of the next meeting; - 15/04/2014 at 19:30 hrs. in the Village Hall, Alfrick.

Confirmed

The meeting closed at 9:45pm.

Minutes Confirmed

.....Chairman 15/04/2014