

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ALBERBURY WITH CARDESTON PARISH COUNCIL**

Held at Wattlesborough Village Hall on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September

Present: R Kynaston, (Chairman), R Griffiths, R Davis, M Tomlins, Mrs K Stokes, D Parry, Mrs S Evans, C Bourne, Clr. Ed Potter, PC Ross Cookson and 6 members of the public

Apologies: None

### **1472 SPECIAL SESSION ON PC PROCEDURES AND SYSTEMS**

The Chair introduced this session to follow on from an informal meeting held by councillors since the last PC meeting.

Minutes: It was agreed that in future, draft minutes would appear on the website clearly marked, and that the signed confirmed minutes would replace those draft minutes after the next meeting

Matters Arising: Future agendas would include a Matters Arising item to include any matters not on the agenda

Personal details on the website: Mr Tomlins withdrew his permission for his to be shown, but all other members were content for the previous personal information to be reinstated. Clr. Potter noted that this was in line with Shropshire Council's website

Accounts: The Clerk confirmed that the confirmation of exemption from external audit had come through in mid-July, somewhat late, and the Internal Auditor had then signed them off. However, the draft accounts had been on the website since late May. He would take advice as to whether a Variances Sheet was required if the Council was exempt. Mr Tomlins noted that in his opinion, an Asset Register was required, and again, The Clerk would take advice on exemption, although this would be required for a full audit. Councillors noted that the assets would include a bus shelter, bench, football goals, playground equipment, the church bench at Cardeston, the VAS at Alberbury and the new Village gates there also.

Correspondence: The Clerk will copy all outgoing correspondence to all councillors until further notice.

Table format: Future meetings will take place with councillors seated at a horseshoe table or similar

**1473 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS:** Minutes 1455 to 1463 of the Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> May, and Minutes 1464 to 1471 of the meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> July were corrected for some typos, and it was also agreed that the local connection of Ms Cockerham-Barker had been established in the May meeting. The corrected Minutes would appear on the website, and Mr Parry noted that the Council had spent far too long on the minutiae of these Minutes and needed to move on.

On the July meeting The Clerk said that he had not yet decided whether to make a formal complaint against Mr Tomlins for his behaviour at the last meeting, at which point Mr Tomlins apologised, stating that his behaviour had been unbecoming of a Parish Councillor. The two sets of Minutes were proposed for acceptance by Mr Kynaston, seconded by Mrs Wilson; and there were five in favour, one against and 2 abstentions, so the Minutes were approved.

**1474 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** Mr Kynaston and Mr Bourne both had Planning Applications lodged for Biomass Boilers and all Councillors declared personal knowledge of the applicants.

**1475 LOCAL COUNCIL BUSINESS** Clr. Potter addressed the meeting, referring to the County Space Plan where it appeared that the first major site for development would be the former Ironbridge Power Station,

and others such as the Tern Hill Barracks would come later. A member of the public stated that the County Plan was flawed so far as the number of required houses was concerned, with the minimum figures ignored

There had been an overspend at Shropshire Council for the first quarter, he said, which meant that deficit reduction measures would have to continue. A new school for SEN pupils was being considered for the west of the county. In Shrewsbury, the future of the Archives was still in doubt and the two shopping centres on Pride Hill were being merged into one retail concentration.

#### **1476 PARISH MATTERS**

- a. **Highways:** On the drainage issues at Wigmore Lane and the old A458 at Halfway House, The Clerk had written to Shropshire Council but had not had a response. It was noted that the footpath between Roberts Lane and Abbey Lane in Alberbury needed clearing, not from overgrowing hedges but actual growth across the path, and The Clerk was asked to write to Shropshire Council. On the A458, there was similar overgrowth on the path between Ford and Cardeston, and a hole in the footpath opposite Jessamine Cottage, caused by BT. Finally the hedge in Wigmore Lane needed topping and pushing back; The Clerk said that if there was no response from Shropshire Council on this matter then this Council could consider commissioning the work. Mr Davies asked if the resurfacing work between Ford and Alberbury was still planned and Clr. Potter said that it was still in the future schedule. On the speeding front, The Clerk was asked to write to Wynnstay Farmers whose vehicles are regularly speeding through Alberbury, and there was a request for a 30mph repeater sign in Wigmore Lane. Finally there is a problem with sunken culverts on the old A458 at Halfway House with some sewage being released, and Clr. Potter said that he would make enquiries.

- b. **Police:** PC Ross Cookson addressed the meeting and told members that he had been liaising with the Safety Camera Partnership and had managed to get motor bike speed checks instigated.

A member of the public asked if the speeding on the old A458 at Halfway House could be looked at, and the problem with the Biffa car at Wigmore Lane still appears to be an issue, so PC Cookson was asked

- c. **Website:** There was one advertiser still to pay for this year said The Clerk, and the names and addresses would be added back on as stated earlier.

- d. **Other:** The Clerk told members that the Halfway House Inn was up for sale and the Parish Council had been asked if it wished to take any action as it was listed as a Community Asset; members agreed that no action should be taken.

The Clerk also told members that the Footpaths Officer P Roberts had resigned, and that he and The Chair had written to thank him for his service.

On the Wattlesborough Playground, various items of improvement had been raised in the annual report, and The Clerk and Mr Parry agreed to work up some proposals as soon as possible.

The Clerk reported that the Planning position on the use of the Fish restaurant at Halfway House for retail sales was that no further permission was required. (Since the meeting this activity is reported to have stopped) However, he would check the alcohol license position. Finally, The Clerk was asked to write to the insurance company about the annual Alberbury display on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**1477 CORRESPONDENCE** The Clerk had received notification of a review of BT pay phones and it was confirmed that there are none left in the parish. He also told members about the Better Councillor courses available through SALC. He had also received a request from former Councillor David Roberts as to whether this Council could precept for improvements to Rodney's Pillar, and he had already said that this would be difficult as it was not in the parish.

**1478 FINANCE** From the July meeting: The Clerks Salary and expenses £272, the Village Hall hire £15 and the insurance renewal at £577.38: and from this meeting, the Clerk's salary £272, the ROSPA inspection £90.60, the annual grant for Wattlesborough Show £100, ground maintenance at Wattlesborough £309.60 and the Village Hall hire £12, were proposed for acceptance by Mr Griffiths and seconded by Mr Parry. Mr Tomlins stated that The Clerk's salary had been incorrectly rounded up and should have been £271.58. The Clerk said that he would correct this, and he also pointed out that he had not charged full expenses in the past and this would also now be corrected. The accounts payable were then approved, with one abstention. The Clerk had circulated a year to date cash position which was judged satisfactory. The Clerk said that there might be sufficient cash later in the year to consider another VAS installation or similar.

**1479 PLANNING** Three matters were discussed and there were no matters arising.

The meeting closed at 22.30

**1480 DATE OF NEXT MEETING** October 21<sup>st</sup> at Alberbury, 8 pm

Signed: Chairman

Clerk

Date: