

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

Held at Alberbury Village Hall on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Present: K Evans (Chairman), R Griffiths, M Tomlins, Mrs K Stokes, P Siese, C Bourne, D Parry, Mrs J Wilson, R Kynaston, Clr. D Roberts and 22 members of the public

Apologies: PC Summerfield and M Mead (Shropshire Council)

**1278 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** Minutes 1268 to 1277 of the Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016 were amended in two places; the length of the village speed limit in Alberbury should have read 0.9 miles, and the progress on footpath works on the A458 was added. The minutes were then proposed for acceptance by R Griffiths, seconded by D Parry, and approved unanimously

**1279 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** Mrs Stokes, Mr Evans and Mr Siese recorded a personal interest in the Olderscot (Mr & Mrs Davies) application and all councillors knew the applicant at Whiston Farm (Mr and Mrs Challinor)

**1280 LOCAL COUNCILLOR REPORT** Councillor Roberts told members that Shropshire Council was in election mode currently, so little of a substantive nature would now happen before May 2017, except for the decision on moving the swimming baths in Shrewsbury and a new car parking strategy. He observed that the planning applications he has seen recently were becoming more contentious generally.

The Chair noted that Clr. Roberts had had a recent bereavement in his family and the Clerk was asked to send a suitable letter.

### **1281 PARISH MATTERS**

- a. **Highways:** The Clerk reported no progress in the speed limit correspondence concerning Alberbury and would write again. He observed that the invitation to drive at the national speed limit just as the Alberbury village sign was reached, travelling from Wales, appeared to be contradictory.  
It was noted that there was currently the remains of a trailer and a fridge 'fly dumped' on the A458 near Woollaston. Also the rut alongside the same road, opposite the Castle Country Club, remains dangerous.
- b. **Police:** No addition to the previously circulated Police Activity e mail, but The Clerk reported again that the owner of the Halfway House Stores appeared to have had no information from the police about the investigation of the attempted robbery there recently.
- c. **Website:** The Clerk and member of the public Mr Carlyle had made further improvements and the stage had been reached where some of the site architecture needed to be changed. Mr Carlyle was preparing a document to send to the IT specialist and the Clerk said that he had allowed for some further fees in that regard. Mrs Stokes reported that the website does not appear to display properly on I-phones, which will be checked.
- d. **Defibrillators:** The Clerk told members that he had applied for two British Heart Foundation grants and was waiting to see the result, but he and Mr Parry had also obtained prices for buying them direct without a grant.

**1282 CORRESPONDENCE** The Clerk read out a letter from the Police Commissioner promising increased rural policing next year, and also a request for financial assistance from the Air Ambulance; it was agreed nem con, on a motion proposed by Mrs Wilson and seconded by Mrs Stokes, to send that charity £100 donation.

Members also asked that any Planning replies sent from the Parish be copied to them in future.

**1283 PARISH PLAN** Nothing to report

**1284 FINANCE** The Clerks Salary and expenses £312.40, the Village Hall hire £12, and the upkeep at Wattlesborough Playing field (rec'd Dec) £255 were proposed for payment by Mr Kynaston, seconded by Mr Siese, and agreed unanimously.

The Clerk then tabled an ytd financial statement for 2016/17, and there were no queries. This currently shows a slightly improved reserves position at the year end. He then discussed the previously circulated Budget recommendation for 2017/18 and recommended no increase in precept. Mr Kynaston then proposed, and Mrs Wilson seconded, that the precept remain at £7000 and this was agreed unanimously

**1285 PLANNING** There were two matters discussed. The proposed caravan storage at Cardeston was supported by members, (proposed Mrs Wilson, seconded D Parry) with the proviso that the Clerk request improved landscaping.

The change of use of farm buildings at Stanford Farm, to allow for events to be staged, caused much discussion. The Clerk said that since the original application had been lodged, the Shropshire Council Case Officer had asked for more information and would now determine the application in early March. As neither the members of the public or the Parish Council had seen this new information he had suggested that the matter be given a preliminary hearing but would then be re-visited at the February meeting, and this was agreed. The Clerk also reminded the public that the Parish Council were only consultees and any decision on the application would be taken by Shropshire Council.

A number of members of the public then spoke in opposition to the plans, stating that the local roads were not suitable for increased traffic, and there would be an increased danger to cyclists, pedestrians (including school children), dog walkers and horses amongst others. The increased noise from the events would be very stressful to local residents and upset the rural idyll that they all enjoyed. The community of Stanford, said one resident, was very small, so the number of objectors present at this meeting was a very high percentage of the total living there.

The applicant's agent addressed the meeting saying that additional information being uploaded to the Planning portal would allay some of these fears. In particular, noise and traffic surveys were being undertaken and the number of events would be capped at 13 per year, 200 maximum people at each. This application did not deal with a rumoured 1000 person festival that residents were said to have heard about. He said that the applicant could actually hold more events than 13 without applying for planning permission.

A member of the public supported the application, he said that this was a borderline farm business of only 60 acres and was not viable without diversification.

Three councillors gave advice to the objectors; Mr Bourne and Mr Parry said that the best way to show the scale and numbers of objections was for each objector to load their comments onto the Planning Portal, and Mr Siese concurred, saying that alternatives like petitions were a waste of time.

The matter will be discussed again at the next meeting.

**1286 DATE OF NEXT MEETING** 20<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30 pm. Further meeting dates are displayed on the website

Signed: Chairman

Clerk

Date: