

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

Held at Alberbury Village Hall on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Present: D Parry (Chair), R Kynaston, R Davies, Mrs. S Evans, Mrs J Wilson, Mrs K Stokes, M Davies, C Bourne, R T Hughes, Cllr. E Potter, and 2 members of the public

Apologies: None

**1672 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** Minutes 1662 to 1671 of the Annual General Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022 were corrected in three places and then proposed for acceptance by Mrs Wilson, seconded by M Davis, and approved unanimously

**1673 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** None

**1674 NEW COUNCILLOR** Having been co-opted to the position of Councillor, Mr R T Hughes made his Declaration to The Clerk and submitted his Pecuniary Interests form.

**1675 CLERK'S REPORT** The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had received substantial profits from the Platinum Jubilee events, see later; he had also received last years VAT rebate of £1800 approx., and confirmation of exemption from External Audit.

**1676 UNITARY COUNCILLORS REPORT** Cllr. Potter thanked all the organisers for the Jubilee events, particularly the Beacon Event, and was pleased to see how they had brought the communities together.

He reported on data coming from the 2021 Census which showed Shropshire's population now at 323,000, a 5.7% increase since the last census, but still only one resident per hectare on average, compared with an average of 4.5 per hectare in England. There had been a rise of 7.6% in the number of households, but of more concern was the approx. 30% increase in ten years in people over 65, now 82,000 in total. He also spoke about local housing schemes with priority to Shropshire residents and with various options including Rent to Buy, Shared Ownership, Self-Build etc.

### **1677 PARISH MATTERS**

- a. **Highways** The proposed road markings at Wigmore Lane were discussed again and it was noted that the current plan is to put double yellow lines across the top of the junction with the loop, and round the opposite bends. This had been agreed with David Gradwell at Shropshire Council and was now waiting for the re-surfacing works, expected after April 2023.  
The hedge from the A458 to Bradgate at Cardeston, is seriously overgrown. The Clerk is to write to the owners and suggest a suitable contractor to do the works, C Bourne will provide more information.  
The defective road outside Ms. Leighton's house in Alberbury has still not been fixed, The Clerk to chase.  
Mrs Wilson noted that there had been no progress about the damaged stile in Loton Park. Mr Potter informed the meeting that there had been some resistance on this matter from the Loton Estate, and he would now escalate the matter.
- b. **Policing:** No report
- c. **Platinum Jubilee Events:** Mr Kynaston said that the phenomenal success was down to an excellent team of volunteers and about £2000 had been raised; additionally, The Clerk said that he could recover VAT as well on top of this. On a motion from Mrs Evans, seconded Mrs Stokes, it was decided to give £1100 to Pancreatic Cancer Research via the Young Farmers, who had done so much to make

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the events work, £100 to each Village Hall (who had not charged for most of the events) and £100 to the Scouts who had also been a great help (nem con).

- d. **Children's Playground Wattlesborough:** The annual report had not been received yet. The Chair said that the usual safety related works had been carried out and The Clerk informed members that he had the repair of the entry gate in hand.
- e. **Other:** Mrs Stokes told members that a group of residents were looking at developing the Village Green at Wattlesborough into more of a garden, and they needed to know what permissions etc were required. The Clerk said that this Council were the leaseholders, Shropshire Council were the owners, and he would write to Estates to explore the options for Change of Use. There would then be the issue of who would look after the land in the future.
- Mr Bourne reported that the bench outside the Church at Cardeston had been reported as needing attention, and he offered to come back with more information on its current condition. (Subsequent to the meeting, the bench appears to be suffering from rot, and replacement will likely be the best course of action)
- The current arrangements for grass cutting in Alberbury were discussed, as there was currently no parish councillor keeping an eye on this since Mr Griffiths had died. Mr R Hughes volunteered to do this, and The Clerk will facilitate contacts.
- Finally, The Clerk asked the meeting if another vehicle speeds report would be a good idea, and he was asked to do this for the next meeting.

**1678 FINANCE** The Clerks Salary and expenses £299.16, Border Lawncare £19, Village Hall hire £15, BHIB Insurance £477.65, Shropshire Council election expenses £100, J Maguire sign restoration £500, and the amounts referred to in 1677©, were proposed for payment by Mr Kynaston, seconded Mr Hughes, and approved unanimously.

The Clerk had pre-circulated the Annual Accounts summary, but it appeared that these had some unforeseen inaccuracies, and these would be corrected ready for The Chair to sign, after re-circulation by The Clerk. They would then go to the Internal Auditor.

**1679 PLANNING** Mr and Mrs Fairbanks were present to give more details on 22/02175/OUT, which is an agricultural worker's dwelling intended for their retirement. After they had left the meeting, Councillors decided to support this application as Mr Fairbanks had been farming there for 45 years and had had a recent spell of poor health (Proposed C Bourne, seconded M Davies, all in favour). It was also decided to support the Listed Building application 22/02788 at Loton Park for internal alterations at Ms. Leighton's property (Same proposers, nem con)

**1680 DATE OF NEXT MEETING** 5<sup>th</sup> September at Wattlesborough Village Hall, 8 pm

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm

Signed: Chairman

Clerk

Date: