

MINUTES OF ALPHETON ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 27th MAY 2014 AT 7.20 PM

Apologies; There were none.

Present; Ken Watkins, Chairman, Alan Ariss, John Holdway, Richard Kemp, Maureen Lankester, Graham Maskell and Trevor Rix. Also present Julie Rix the Clerk, and one member of the public.

The Chairman, Ken Watkins stood down and Alan Ariss nominated Ken for Chairman for the coming year, seconded by Maureen Lankester. There were no other nominations and this was carried.

Ken nominated Alan as Vice Chair, seconded by Trevor Rix and again there were no further nominations and this was also carried.

The Declaration of Acceptance of Office form was signed.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. The previous Annual Meeting's minutes were signed as correct. Proposed by John Holdway seconded by Maureen Lankester

Matters Arising

Improvements had been asked for the bus stop opposite the bottom of Old Bury Road. It's currently just a small concrete base and the parents and children who use it are concerned that it is dangerous with out more distance from the road and some kind of barrier. Last time this council met costings and design were in process at County Highways. This council has given approval for works to be done. Richard Kemp will see if any progress has been made.

The revised Precept went into Babergh. £2847 will be the Precept, and £88 as Babergh's grant, (down from their original figure of £207.)

Potholes at the Green are still unfilled and some are deep. There has been no news on fixing these from SCC. Richard will enquire.

The speeding results from 4th January to 2nd April 2014 in Alpheton have recorded a total of 100 offences. The highest number of these are consistently on Saturdays and Sundays.

Julie Moss has had seven people willing to volunteer to help with Speedwatch. It is hoped that they will be able to share resources with Long Melford parish.

A telegraph pole has been put up outside no3 Bury Road on the small patch of grass between the main road and the old road. In the opinion of this council it is in a dangerous position in that if a vehicle takes the bend too fast it is in direct line. No permission or advice was sought on siting from this council. The clerk will investigate.

The Village hall Committee is reluctant to have another bottle bank on the hall land. This is a pity as the revenue from this goes into the Parish Council's budget and directly affects the amount of charge on residents through their Council Tax. The Chairman will speak to them again. The clerk will ask if the bank can be emptied fortnightly. (At present monthly)

The meeting was then adjourned for questions/comments from the floor. Mr Barraclough remarked that the Mobile café's sign on the bend opposite the Green was distracting. The Chairman will have a chat with the Garage who is running it.

Mr Maskell remarked on the long line of reflector posts near the Lawshall turning. Was this necessary?

Mr Kemp's May report contained information on the Suffolk Walking Festival;; SCC's Empowering Parents initiative (encouraging parents to get behind their children's education); Suffolk Families Information service; the fact that that 900 pupils were excluded from schools in Suffolk over a four year period for assaulting an adult; comments from a Sudbury Steering Group Meeting about funding for traffic improvements in Sudbury being wasted; Sudbury drops the 20mph zone idea; and Lavenham's redundant telephone box becoming a Wi-fi hot spot. (Report on File)
Mr Kemp was thanked.

Mr Kemp will look into the issues raised; pot holes, reflectors, bus stop, also the damage to both sides of Chad Brook where vehicles have left the road and broken the bridges. He mentioned that an anti slip surface should be put down in Bridge Street also.

Clerk's Report and Correspondence
As Correspondence list.

There being no further business this meeting closed at 7.45pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be August 5th at 7pm.