

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ALPHETON PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014 AT 7.00 PM

Present; Ken Watkins, (Chairman), Alan Ariss, John Holdway, Maureen Lankester, Richard Kemp, John Nunn, and PCSO Siobhan Hemmett.

Also present Julie Rix the Clerk.

Apologies; Trevor Rix. There were no declarations of interest.

There was also one member of the public.

The minutes of February 4<sup>th</sup> 2014 were signed as correct. Proposed by Alan Ariss. and seconded by John Holdway.

Matters Arising;

Alterations to the Bus Stop on A134 are still pending due to demand for works. The revised Precept application has resulted in a 2% increase to the Council Tax Bills. There is no sign of any repairs to the pot holes around the Green.

Police

PCSO Siobhan Hemmett was present but had also sent a Report in advance of this meeting. She was welcomed. Up to date speeding figures were requested and she will see to this. A recent spot check with the camera resulted in one motorist ticketed and another offered a course.

A resident has offered to run a Speedwatch initiative in the village ( please see Chairman's Report below). It would cost £2,500 to buy the speed 'gun' so perhaps this council could borrow or lease one from a neighbouring parish. Mr Munn said that he would mention our request to the Chair of Long Melford parish. He was thanked.

Planning

B/14/00159/TPO/DP - Reduction of Crown of Horse Chestnut tree, Woodhall, The Tye, Alpheton, approval granted.

A recent accident at Bridge Street resulted in a car landing in Chad Brook. The safety of road surface South of that spot has been called into question.

Finance

Cheque authorised;

No; 427        £12.00        Alpheton Village Hall – Hire

£116.96 of Recycling credits has been received.

Clerk's Financial Year End returns have been filed and P60 received.

We have received a note about new financial regulations from Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC) and the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) – Repeal of s 150(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 – allowing councils to review their financial control systems. This is , in part, to allow internet banking, amongst other things. This council will continue to issue cheques with two signatures, as at present. The regulations will need to be studied carefully to make sure that we comply, but one adjustment that will need to be made will be to authorize any works in writing.

### Correspondence and Clerk's Report

The Audit pack has arrived, and the completion date is 21<sup>st</sup> May 2014.

Community Roadshow at Stutton Village Hall, Manningtree Road, Stutton Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May.  
Book by calling 01449 724654.

Link to Register of Electors.

Babergh & Mid Suffolk Newsletter

SALC – New Policy Consultation – Proposal to use a Legislative Reform Order to make it easier to create a Town or Parish Council.

Suffolk County Council news release – Year of Opportunities for bus services in Suffolk  
Alpheton History Recorder – post still vacant.

Babergh Core Strategy and Policies (2011-2031 Local Plan Document : Adoption

Whitehouse Furniture now known as Realise Futures Eco Furniture

SALC Traini8ng Courses

Invitation to join a Rural Sounding Board

### Chairman's Report

The Safer Neighbourhood team held a meeting here a couple of weeks ago. Speeding was an issue that almost everyone raised. We have had the van here a couple of times recently, and one of the officers has also been out with the gun.

The Chairman has been approached by Julie Moss, at Doone House, offering to run a Speedwatch scheme. The Chairman has asked the Community policing team for information on this to be forwarded to her, with a copy to the parish council. There will be some cost involved, we should consider offering some financial support. Julie is willing to fundraise, and recruit members, so if anyone is interested, then please contact her.

### District and County Council Report.(On File.)

Richard reported that it was a matter of Public knowledge that investigations within the Planning Department at Babergh District Council were being made due to irregularities.

### Any Other Business

Mr Nunn noticed that there is a Milestone leaning towards the main road at Bridge Street. It is in fact in Long Melford's parish, and they have just restored another one near Rodbridge Corner. This may need the same attention.

The dates for future meetings had been made at the February meeting so the Annual Meetings will be May 27<sup>th</sup> 2014 at 7pm.

This meeting closed at 7.35pm