

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 23<sup>rd</sup> AUGUST 2011 AT 7.00PM

Present: Ken Watkins. (Chairman), Alan Ariss, John Holdway, Maureen Lankester, Graham Maskell and Trevor Rix. Also present Julie Rix - the Clerk.  
Apologies: Richard Kemp and John Nunn.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

The minutes of the previous meeting were signed as correct. (Proposed by Maureen Lankester, seconded by Alan Ariss.)

Matters Arising

After the delay in ascertaining whether regulations or recommendations were required for the siting of the Grit Bins we will use common sense and go ahead and site them. Peter Rix will do this for the council and Mrs Lankester will advise for Bridge St and Mr Watkins for Alpheton.

The pot hole patching has taken place in Old Bury Road and generally this has been done well. There is water seeping opposite Highcroft however. This has been brought to the attention of the County Council.

Alpheton Garage have paid the invoice that was sent, but so far have not heeded our request to comply with terms of the licence in moving the cars further back from the path. Another letter will be sent.

Police

PCSO Hannah Partington was not able to attend this meeting. She has, however carried out 3 speed checks in Church Lane and found no-one driving over the 30mph. It may be that the perception of speed is distorted by the narrowness of the road and the high hedges. The volume of traffic has risen in Church Lane recently, but this is also true of Old Bury Road. It represents an increase in business and employment in the village.

Planning

New application;

1. B/11/00579/FHA  
Elliot's Cottage, Shop Hill, Alpheton CO10 9BU  
Erection of first floor extension over existing flat roof single storey extension.
2. As above – Granted.
3. B/03/00696/OUT  
Land & Buildings at Alpheton Mill, Bridge St, Alpheton  
Outline – Erection of 2 No. detached dwellings with associated garaging ( as amended by letter dated 24.07.03 and accompanying flood risk assessment from GH Bullard and Assoc. received by Local Planning Authority on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2003)  
A non-material amendment request has been received;
  1. Change of sewage treatment plant
  2. Adjustment of boundary.

( This council replied with no objections – the owners of the Mill are happy with the better sewage disposal and the adjustment of the boundary should restore it to what it was originally.)
4. B/11/00909/VOT

No 3 Aveley Lane, Alpheton CO10 9BH  
Application for Variation of time to approved planning permission  
B/11/1876/FHA – Erection of first floor rear extension and 2 storey side extension  
(existing detached garage to be demolished) Erection of detached single garage. As  
amended by Drawing No. 1878-02/pl, received on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2009.  
NB: This last application was sent for the council's comments but a subsequent letter  
says that it is for information only.)

### Highways

The SALC Babergh Area Meeting has on its agenda an item regarding the impending eviction  
of Travellers from the Dale Farm site in Essex and the possible outcome for Suffolk.

### Finance

Cheques authorised at this meeting;

No; 364	£200.00	The Lavenham Press Ltd ( Locality Budget spending on printing of 'Alpheton Hall, Diary of a Suffolk Countryman' Memoirs of Jim Mott who lived and worked in this parish)
No; 365	£21.63	Shimpling PC – 50% of expenses for Royal Wedding Celebrations Tea
No; 366	£12.00	Alpheton Village Hall Hire
No; 367	£ 294.73	Suffolk Acre Services – Annual Insurance
No; 368	£ 25.00	Suffolk Acre Ltd – Subscription.

The clerk also pointed out the funding available from 'Suffolk Acre Supports Village SOS'.  
Launched by Big Lottery Fund ( & shown on BBC) this is a £5m funding pot for ideas for new  
community enterprises that will make a lasting difference in rural communities with a  
population of less than 3000.

### Correspondence and clerk's report.

The Royal Horticultural Society – re RHS Britain in Bloom - Read more about the campaign at  
[www.rhs.org.uk/communities](http://www.rhs.org.uk/communities)

This parish is perhaps too small to enter into this scheme in a big way. It was, however,  
decided to plant up behind the village name signs. This would give a display of colour and be  
easy to keep tidy.

There has been a review of Polling Districts & Polling Places 2011, with no change for this  
parish.

The Council has received notification of the road closure of C686 Shimpling Street, between  
A134 & C685 Mill Hill, for carriageway repairs – 30 Aug – 23 Sept (0730 hrs to 1530hrs) A  
note has been put in the Parish Magazine.

Dog Bin Data. This is a scheme we have joined which creates a free app on a mobile phone for  
dog owners to help identify location of dog bins in our area.

Babergh & Mid Suffolk Budget Challenge. Babergh is collecting views of Parish & Town  
Councils on ways to reduce the budget. All councillors have seen the documents and are asked  
to give this some thought please. It is difficult to see where cuts can be made.

The Chairman read Mr Kemp's report in his absence.

The Suffolk Preservation Society write regarding a key change in planning policy. There is the  
opportunity to respond by 17<sup>th</sup> October 2011. This is a change in National Policy proposing  
economic growth through development. There is concern that this would have damaging

consequences for the environment. Mr Watkins will speak to Mr Kemp with a view to supporting this.

Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council ask for support of proposal regarding planning guidance;

*'It seeks new planning guidance to major developers urging them, as a matter of planning procedure to*

- (i) attend our meeting to answer questions about their planning application if we so wish and to*
- (ii) provide resources (if we so wish) to enable us to assess their applications – which may be over 1000 pages long – based on a professional critique of their evidence.*

*This means that no council is **required** to do anything. The proposed guidance would **enable** us to do these things if we chose to.'*

This council will support this proposal.

Do we need a Parish Plan? Should we just sit within the District Plan?

The Chairman's Report has been covered by the items above.

#### Any Other Business

2012 will see both the Olympics in London and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Mr Watkins has Spoken to Mr Rix, Chairman of Alpheton Village Hall Trustees with a view to arranging a joint community event next summer.

The Registration of Common land is still outstanding and the visit to Great Blakenham will be arranged.

This meeting closed at 7.50pm

The next meeting will be 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2011.