

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ALPHETON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 12th August 2014 AT 7.00 PM

Present; Ken Watkins, (Chairman), Alan Ariss, John Holdway, Maureen Lankester, and Trevor Rix. Also present Julie Rix the Clerk, and District Councillor, John Nunn.

Apologies; Graham Maskell, Richard Kemp and PCSO Hemmett.

There were no declarations of interest.

The minutes of 27th May 2014 were signed as correct. Proposed by Trevor Rix, seconded by Maureen Lankester.

Matters Arising

Bus Stop works – these have been approved and ordered but not yet programmed. (There are 90 bus stop improvements pending, countywide)

The first Speedwatch meeting will take place on 13th August. 6-7 people are keen to join. The Chairman will attend.

It has proved very difficult to contact Openreach with regard to the telegraph pole's unsuitable location. There is no identification on the pole. The chairman has contacted our PCSO for her help.

Bottle bank – the bank is now emptied every 3 weeks which has helped. The Chairman of the Village Hall Trustees has said that he will review the situation in 6 months time with regard to having a second bank. Glass from Alpheton Barns is being taken elsewhere.

The Lay by mobile café sign has been moved to Clapstile Corner.

The railings at Bridge Street by Chad Brook which were broken following a car accident have been repaired.

Finance

Model Financial Regulations. The Chairman had emailed everyone with the draft proposal from NALC. We are obliged to update our financial regulations to comply with government legislation. The draft proposal more than covers what we need, but if we adopt it, then all our financial actions are covered.

The Audit has been concluded and all is satisfactory. All pages in the loose leaf Minute Book should be initialled in addition to being numbered. There is no fee required this year.

The membership receipt for Community Action Suffolk has been received.

Ladywell Accountancy has sent the Clark's half year salary slip and an invoice for completing our payroll.

The remainder of the Locality Budget has also been received (£153.20) which is earmarked for roof shingles for the bus shelters. Alpheton garage have paid the licence fee (£925).

Cheques authorised;

No 433	£12	Alpheton Village hall Hire.
No 434	£25	Ladywell Accountancy
No 435	£936.94	Mrs J Rix - ½ year salary
No 436	£54.05	Mrs J Rix - ½ year expenses

Clerk's Report and Correspondence

SALC recommend that the new Code of Conduct should be adopted as soon as possible. The Chairman will look into it. The Draft Openness Guide also needs consideration, (filming and reporting at meetings). PCSO Siobhan Hemmett was unable to attend, but had sent a Crime Report; two crimes had occurred from 1st April to 4th August compared to five last year over the same period. It included a warning that neighbouring villages have had outbuildings broken into and garden tools taken.

John Nunn gave his District Council Report and was thanked.

Any Other Business

Trevor Rix suggested that the use of recycled material shingles should be investigated. John Nunn suggested that Alpheton could join with Long Melford in making an Emergency Plan.

The Risk Assessment inspection book is missing, the inspection is now overdue.

The next meeting will be 7th October at 7pm. This meeting will need to include budget preparations.

This meeting closed at 7.32pm.