

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ALPHETON PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 4<sup>th</sup> August 2015 AT 7.00 PM

Present; Ken Watkins, (Chairman), Alan Ariss, Richard Barraclough, Maureen Lankester, Graham Maskell, and Julie Rix the Clerk. Also present John Nunn (District Councillor), and two members of the public.

Apologies; Richard Kemp, and Trevor Rix.

There were no declarations of interest.

The minutes of 12<sup>th</sup> May 2015 were signed as correct. Proposed by Maureen Lankester and seconded by Alan Ariss.

Matters Arising

The bus stop opposite the bottom of Old Bury Road - Highways finally has a budget for upgrading of just under £6,000 and work is expected to be carried out in the next three months. Thanks to Richard Kemp for reminding Highways about this issue on a regular basis.

The telephone box in Old Bury Road was agreed in principle to be purchased for £1. Concerns were raised that the lean indicated a safety hazard, which the chairman raised with BT. Their commercial field officer has inspected it, and concedes the box is leaning, but in his opinion this is not dangerous. K6 boxes stand on a two-foot concrete base.

If we do go ahead with the purchase, BT supply a free painting kit, which includes their approved red paint.

The chairman suggested deferring a decision after checking with our public liability insurers.

Police

It seems that there is no longer any chance of a police presence at meetings. A crime report was sent however. There are two crimes recorded, one a sex assault.

The meeting was adjourned for public discussion.

Mr & Mrs Reynolds of Fir Tree Cottage, Bury Road had come to ask if the council could help with their complaint concerning traffic along A134. They have been residents since 1997 and since that time have noticed an increase in traffic volume, speed and weight of lorries. They noted that it was 15 years since the last Traffic Management Survey. Mr Nunn asked Mr Reynolds to write to him. We will ask Suffolk County Council if we can have a mobile Speed Display Unit.

Planning

B/15/00642/FUL and B/15/00643/LBC

Mill House, Bridge Street, Alpheton

Application for Building Consent (and Listed consent) – Change of use of building from dwelling house (Class C3) to guesthouse (Class C1) incorporating 5 guest bedrooms together with replacement of damaged fence.

Also at Mill House - B/15/00645/FUL

Change of use of part of the ground floor and external areas from dwelling house (Class C) to use as tea rooms (within Class A1) for use only between March and December (inclusive) each year. (Retention of)

This is a retrospective planning application as most of the work has been carried out. It is largely internal – putting en suites in the bedrooms for their B&B business, and making the dining room larger, upgrading toilet facilities on the ground floor. They have also turned the garden into a parking space for six cars, and will be putting up a new sign. This council has no objections.

B/14/00926/FUL - The Old Rectory, Old Bury Road, Alpheton.

Erection of two storey barn building, adjacent to existing barn, to provide Music Studio with first floor Library and Office; and reception of building to house bio-mass boiler, adjacent to existing double garage. All councillors (except Mr Kemp) consulted, letter with recommendations sent. This was discussed in the October 2014 meeting. We did not object to the original plan, but made a number of observations, and a letter was sent. These are revised plans. There are no further planning issues however. A copy of the original response to this planning application will be sent.

B/15/00374/FHA – Tweenbridges Application Granted.

#### Highways

An email was received from Graham Bonson of Shimpling on behalf of a resident at Stone Cottages. She had been in the habit of catching a bus at the end of her lane. The bus company have said that this cannot continue. Richard Kemp had been informed and Simon Barnet, Senior Infrastructure Officer, Passenger Transport at Suffolk County Council has responded. This issue is being looked into by the operations team.

The chairman had a complaint that there were potential trip hazards on the verges of some houses in The Glebe. In the deeds he has it is clear that householders were supposed to leave an area down by the road clear of obstructions as the land was council-owned. We have asked County to clarify the position as over the 60-odd years since construction trees have been planted, amongst other things. Mr Kemp has written to say it is one metre from the highway.

#### Finance

The Audit may be returned with a qualification. The Internal Risk Assessment was not minuted. All finances are correct however.

Cheques authorised;

No; 452	£84.00	Peter G Rix – Repairs to Notice Boards and painting window frames
No; 453	£12.00	Alpheton Village Hall Hire 13/05/15
No; 454	£21.00	L. Holt – Internal Auditor
No; 455	£10.00	Sudbury Town Council – Course fees
No; 456	£30.00	Community Action Suffolk Subscription
No; 457	£87.00	Babergh DC - Election expenses
No; 458	£12.00	Alpheton Village hall – Hire 04/08/15

#### Correspondence and Clerk's Report

Community Action Suffolk questionnaire. Deadline is 30<sup>th</sup> September.  
Suffolk Association of Local Councils Clerk's survey to complete.

Chairman's Report – All items already dealt with.

#### District and County Reports

Richard Kemp had sent his June and August Reports and John Nunn presented his report. Both were thanked.

#### Any Other Business;

The Village hall Committee are happy to allow two bottle banks on a concrete base. We will enquire if square based banks could be provided.

Mr Kemp's Locality Budget Funding will be applied for repairs to Alpheton Village Hall.

There being no further business this meeting closed at 7.45pm.

The next meeting will be 6<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm.