

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ALPHETON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 1st August 2017 AT 7.00 PM

Present; Ken Watkins, (Chairman), Maureen Lankester, Richard Barraclough, Richard Kemp, Graham Maskell, John Nunn (District Councillor) and Julie Rix the Clerk.

Mr Watkins welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies; Trevor Rix, Maureen Lankester.

Declaration of Interest : There were none.

The minutes of 23rd May 2017 were signed as correct. Proposed by Richard Barraclough and seconded by Graham Maskell.

Matters Arising

The directional road sign at Bridge Street which was retrieved from the river has not yet been re-instated.

The missing chevron on the bend at Clapstile corner has been replaced. The missing 30mph sign at the southern end of the village has been re-instated.

Planning

B/17/01122 Elms Farm Barn, Old Bury Road, Alpheton CO10 9BU
Erection of glazed link/boot room between main house and building
Deadline was 12th July. After consultation, comment from this council was 'No objections'.

B/17/00527 Jadan House, Church Lane, Alpheton CO10 9BL
Erection of single storey rear extension – permission granted

Babergh's Planning team now charge for pre-application advice.

Highways

The Clerk has signed up to a Roadworks Alert from roadworks.org to receive weekly emails concerning traffic restrictions and roadworks starting within the next week.(Circulated to all councillors.)

Finance

BDO LLP write to inform the council that they intend to issue a Qualified Audit. The reason being that the Financial Risk Assessment (which was in place,) was not signed at the prescribed meeting but at the one after. It has no bearing on the validity of the accounts themselves which are correct.

The following cheques were authorised;

No; 563 £12.00 Alpheton Village Hall - Hire

No; 564 £60.00 Brian Lankester – Grass cutting at Bridge Street.

A claim for refund of V.A.T. of £50.04 has been received.

Clerk's Report and Correspondence

There has been a large quantity of correspondence regarding the Electoral Review of Babergh District Council.

Merchant Navy Day is 3rd September 2017.

District and County Council's Reports

Mr Kemp had sent his June, July and August SCC full reports, and also an extra August report. He said that there has been much debate over the large allowance increases to the Leader and Cabinet members, with all other members confined to a 1% increase. He felt that conformity over all to 1% would allow the savings to benefit the taxpayers. Parking is an issue at the Ipswich offices and can only get worse.

For the District Council he said that the council will vote on the Boundary Review Proposals, reducing the number of councillors for the 2019 elections from the present 43 to 31. The new Draft District Plan has been published. He was thanked (Reports on file).

Any Other Business

Following the death of councillor Alan Ariss it is proposed to have a memorial to him and his late wife Christine in the form of a brass plate to be displayed in the village hall. It will have their names and dates on with 'Always at the Heart of the Community' inscribed on it. The Village Hall Chairman has agreed to this and also his son Robert.

Alan looked after the Community Orchard which was planted in memory of past Chairman, Edwin Taylor. The clerk will enquire if someone else can take on this role.

The next meeting will be October 3rd 2017 at 7pm. Richard Barraclough gave his apologies for this meeting.

The meeting after that will be December 5th 2017.

There being no further business this meeting closed at 7.40pm.