

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ALPHETON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 3rd February 2015 AT 7.00 PM

Present; Ken Watkins, (Chairman), Alan Ariss, John Holdway, Maureen Lankester, Graham Maskell and also present John Nunn (District Councillor).

Apologies; Richard Kemp, Trevor Rix and Julie Rix the Clerk.

There were no declarations of interest.

The minutes of 2nd December 2014 were signed as correct. Proposed by Graham Maskell and seconded by Maureen Lankester.

Matters Arising

Flooding: Highways sent a team out to sort of the Old Bury Road problem. But instead of checking the blockage between White Gables and No 1 The Glebe, they dug out some of the ditches. They made a mess outside Lynwold, which was not the problem area. Highways have been advised that they were looking in the wrong place, so we await developments, and the next spell of heavy rain.

Regarding problems with the river at Bridge Street - Richard not present to report, but Maureen says trees and debris have been cleared, so she will be keeping an eye on it.

Planning

No applications received.

Highways

The Chairman went with Richard Beattie Swan to look at all the road signs which have been knocked down in recent weeks. Highways have ordered replacements for those that cannot be propped up again, so once again we wait. He also checked with the police about removal of car parts following crashes. Apparently if they are on the road, Highways should clear them. If you have the misfortune to have a bit of wrecked car land in your garden, you have to get rid of it.

Police

No police present at this meeting. Crime reports sent however. There have been some burglaries and damage to cars in neighbouring villages. Two crimes in Alpheton ; one burglary and one of damage to a Police car whilst just passing through.

Finance

The Budget was formally approved (proposed by Alan Ariss, seconded by John Holdway). We have had acknowledgement of our Precept upon the local authority – Babergh which is £2847. This represents an increase of 11pence for a band D property.

Clerk's Report & Correspondence

Item 1 – considered to be a break down in communication between neighbours and has been referred by them to Babergh.

Item 16 – Suffolk County Council's backlog of minor works – pothole in Bury Road has been done.

Chairman's Report

In the absence of the Clerk the Chairman reported a telephone she (the Clerk) had received from a resident in Bridge Street in which he felt that he had been insulted by the way a member of staff at Babergh DC had spoken to him concerning Refuse Collections. The Clerk had suggested contacting Richard Kemp in the first instance. He was not present to speak about this.

District Councillor's Report

John Nunn spoke about the District Councillor's Report concerning Chilton Woods, Lonely Neighbours, Primary school Places, Healthy Diets and the Warm Home Project. He will be attending a meeting to discuss a Sudbury Bypass and will report this at the next parish meeting. He was thanked.

Any Other Business

Elections are being held this year on Thursday 7th May. Councillor John Holdway announced his intention to stand down. Nomination forms will be available and the Chairman will put an article in the Parish Magazine. He hoped that all remaining Councillors would stand again.

It was noted that explosives testing would be taking place on the airfield on Wednesday 18th February and that part of the road on the airfield would be closed.

There being no further business this meeting closed at 7.35pm

The next meeting will be Tuesday 7th April at 7pm.