

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF  
ALPHETON PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2013 AT 7.00 PM

Apologies; There were none.

Present; Ken Watkins, Chairman, Alan Ariss, John Holdway, Maureen Lankester , Graham Maskell and Trevor Rix. Also present Julie Rix the Clerk,

Apologies; Richard Kemp

There were no Declarations of Interest.

The previous meeting's minutes were signed as correct. Proposed by Graham Maskell seconded by John Holdway.

Matters Arising - there were none.

Police

The police were not able to attend. The Chairman had received a complaint about parking by the garage, opposite the bus shelter which he asked PCSO Partington to take a look at. Recently there seem to have been fewer cars there.

There have also been instances of selling from the edge of Tye Green – a caravan and a motorbike. The caravan was moved quite quickly but the motorbike has been parked on the corner of the Green recently.

There is also a statue/model of a man tethered to the sign on the edge of the Green. This is wearing a hard hat and a high visibility vest. There were no objections to this remaining providing the vehicles are moved.

Graffiti has been drawn on the inside of the bus shelter near the garage. It may be possible to sand it off the wood.

Planning

The Rose and Crown. Planning permission for the storage units and fencing was granted, along with the annexe flue and internal wall in the main building. The property is still on Sworder's Lavenham office website and on Rightmove. The owners don't have to do anything immediately. It is thought that they have three years in which to act.

One of the portacabins has been removed but the other has merely been relocated in the car park. Babergh will be asked if the instruction to the owners to 'remove' should mean move off site entirely.

Highways

The clerk has reported the potholes to Suffolk County Council and had an official acknowledgement. Her other report about the missing chevrons near Tallage corner has not had a response as yet. Mrs Lankester reported that a bend sign situated near Rowhedge Cottage corner in Aveley lane is overgrown with vegetation and cannot be read. Also bushes have been trimmed between the bridges along Aveley lane but that the trimmings have not been cleared away.

The Old Bury Road sign was seen knocked over flat last week, but before it could be reported Mr Beattie-Swann has put it upright and also cut back the grass obscuring the sign on the opposite side of the road. He was thanked.

There are two more defective signs to report; both Byway signs. One near the village hall which is rotten and leaning over; the other near Meadowview Cottage in Bridge Street.

### Finance

The Locality Budget Funding has been received for the notice Board - £346.80 and it has been delivered and is ready to put up. A cheque for £346.80 has been issued to Realise Futures for their invoice.

Suffolk County Council have asked if it possible to advertise on our website and what our rates are. We will enquire what Lavenham and Long Melford Parish Councils do.

### Cheques issued;

No; 413	£346.80	Realise Futures ( Notice Board
No; 414	£12.00	Alpheton Village hall – Hire

Clerk's Report – as correspondence list.

### Chairman's Report

It is suggested that all communities have an emergency plan for the parish. The relevant documents have been circulated. The Chairman did ask if Suffolk County Council were meeting any other parish councils to discuss possible plans, with a view to going along. But they appear not to be so he has asked them to talk to us at our November meeting. They have agreed to do so and, unlike parish plans, we don't have to pay anything. Jane Burch or Sue Herne will come to the meeting.

Parish plans. We continue to get emails from Community Action Suffolk asking if we are intending to adopt a parish plan. Lavenham has started on the road to this by publishing a Neighbourhood Plan – It is still felt that we are too small, and a Parish Plan is too costly, so would rather pursue the idea of a questionnaire asking people in the parish what they like/do not like, about it and what changes/improvements they would hope for. The Chairman has had a look at a number of parish consultations on line, and will distil something from them over the next few weeks.

District and County Council Reports are on file. It looks as though the Broadband rollout is going to be delayed.

### Any Other Business

The Bus shelter at the end of Old Bury Road has a climbing rose behind it. It was cut back during work to the shelter, and Mr Ariss asked if he could put up a free standing trellis to support it. Agreed.

The request for blackboards on the bus shelters to advertise Village Hall events was refused due to the likelihood of graffiti.

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

The next meeting will be September 24<sup>th</sup>.