

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF ALPHETON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 24th MAY 2016 AT 7.30 PM

Present; Ken Watkins, (Chairman), Alan Ariss, Richard Barraclough, Maureen Lankester, Graham Maskell, Trevor Rix and Julie Rix the Clerk.

Election of Chairman. Nominations were asked for by Mr Watkins. Mr Watkins was proposed to stand again by Mr Barraclough seconded by Mr Ariss. He was duly elected.

Vice chair. Mr Ariss decided to stand down after many years of service, but happily will remain on the council. He was thanked for his advice, support and friendship. The Chairman nominated Maureen Lankester, who also has years of experience on the council, she agreed to stand and was duly elected.

Both Councillors completed Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms.

Apologies; Richard Kemp, (County & District Councillor) and John Nunn (District Councillor)

There was a Declaration of Interest from Mr Maskell for the item on planning.

The minutes of April 2016 were signed as correct. Proposed by Trevor Rix and seconded by Richard Barraclough

Matters Arising

Traffic. The SID was deployed last week. It does not indicate the speed of traffic but flashes up the speed limit to those going faster.

The Queen's Birthday celebration Saturday, June 11. It was agreed at the last meeting to provide a celebration cake. This has been ordered. It will cost £70 and should feed 100 people. The celebration will run from 2.30pm-4.30pm, with people bringing food to share in a buffet tea. The village hall committee has advertised it in the parish magazine.

Police

No crime report has been received from the Police. Hopefully they will resume once the new policing model has bedded in.

Planning

Application; B/15/00642/FUL/JD

Mill House, Bridge Street, Co10 9BG

Change of use from dwelling house (Class 3) to guesthouse (Class C1)

Incorporating 5 guest bedrooms together with replacement of damaged fence as amended by agent's email dated 24th November 2015 including amended heritage statement and revised plans D1.1, D1.5 and D1.6

Permission granted

Application B/15/00643/LBC/JD

Application for Listed Building consent – Erection of partition walls at first floor level on east elevation, as amended by agent's emails dated 24 November 2015 and 29th November 2015

comprising revised and additional plans, updated Heritage Statement including reports on the architectural history of the building.
Permission Granted.

Application; B/16/00570

Location Newmans Lodge, Bury Road, Alpheton CO10 9BP

Proposal; Change of use of land from farmland to domestic garden.

This was discussed after Councillor Mr Maskell had withdrawn from the meeting.

There were no objections to this proposal.

Highways

The bus stop at the bottom of Old Bury Road is still waiting for the hard standing on the northbound side to be increased in size.

Repairs have been carried out to the A134 between Alpheton and Shimpling. Bigger and better patches which hopefully will last longer. Hopefully the whole road will be re-surfaced in due course.

Finance

The Audit has been completed and the accounts internally audited by Lynn Holt. The accounts had been circulated to all the councillors and were approved at the preceding meeting.

The following cheques were authorised;

No; 475 £45.63 Mrs J Rix – Expenses

No; 476 £128.50 SALC Subscription

No; 477 £12.00 Alpheton Village Hall – Hire

No; 478 £70.00 Yvette Bowles – Cake for The Queen's 90th Birthday Party Event

No; 479 £28.00 Ms L Holt – Internal Auditor

Internal audit - A Sub-committee is needed, as discussed at the previous meeting. Two people with accounting skills, to meet with Julie occasionally to run an eye over the parish accounts. Mrs Lankester and Mr Barraclough agreed to do this.

New pay scales for local council clerks have been agreed. For the current financial year, the Clerk's hourly rate goes up from 9.207p per hour to 9.299p per hour, a 1% increase which equates to just over £19 per annum. This is backdated to April. For 2017-18 there is a further increase to 9.392p per hour. This was agreed. The Clerk will notify Ladywell Accountancy.

Clerk's Report and Correspondence

Community Action for Suffolk – Membership renewal acknowledgment; Course 'Introduction to Safeguarding Vulnerable People' (Passed to Village Hall Committee.) Notification that in future membership will be free (saving £30).

Home Start AGM 15th July 1.30pm at Nedging Hall, Nedging Tye.

Open for Business Survey online at www.babergh.gov.uk/OpenBusinessSurvey

Revised CIL Regulations

NJC Salary Payscales 2016-18

Parish Council Chairman's Report

East Bergholt parish council has proposed forming a Babergh Alliance of parish and town councils, to meet once a month on a rotating location basis. The idea is that councils can share information, particularly that from Babergh, work together to highlight issues of mutual concern, and the alliance can provide advice and support. Cockfield Parish Council's response is that they are always very happy to share knowledge, experience and expertise with other councils but can see no benefit in another layer of meetings, nor the need for such an organisation. Councillors will continue to work through established channels and, thereby, continue to deal with any concerns directly with Babergh District Council, its officers and the relevant District Councillor.

We have Richard Kemp and John Nunn, plus SALC, so this council agrees with the Cockfield response.

Any Other Business

Ean Stowe is waiting for an operation on his ankle and is therefore unable to cut the grass at Bridge Street. Maureen and Brian Lankester have kindly been trimming the grass in the meantime. They will carry on until Ean is able to do it and were invited to invoice the council accordingly.

Future meeting dates are August 2, October 4, December 6.

There being no further business this meeting closed at 8.05pm.

The next meeting will be August 2 at 7pm.

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