

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON
29TH JANUARY 2013 AT 7.PM

Apologies: Richard Kemp, PSCO Hannah Partington.

Present: Ken Watkins, (Chairman), Alan Ariss, John Holdway, Maureen Lankaster, and Trevor Rix. Also present Julie Rix the clerk.

Declarations of Interest: There were none.

Minutes: The minutes of 27th November 2012 and 4th January 2013 were signed as correct, proposed by Trevor Rix and seconded by John Holdway.

Matters Arising – Extraordinary Meeting 4th January 2013

Several members of the public had attended and excellent points had been raised. These points had been sent to Babergh District Council. This application has since been withdrawn.

It will be necessary to write to Babergh about the continued presence of the storage cabins.

A brochure produced by Sworders Estate agents listed the Annexe as ‘Holiday Accommodation’, this has been brought to the attention of Babergh DC (as this is not how it was described in the planning permission,) who will contact the owners.

Matters Arising – Meeting November 27th 2012

The flooding along Old Bury Road has largely been reduced. The chippings left after tree pruning have not been cleared up however.

The Precept has been applied for at the same amount as the previous year. There may be a change to the present system. By reducing the number of people (the tax base) who pay full council tax, households could end up paying more even if the District and Parish council do not increase our overall charges (i.e. precept)

The Government intends to give a grant to District Councils to compensate parishes in their area for the amount equivalent to the additional sum that households will be charged owing to changes. This would allow councils to consider lowering their precept demands whilst being compensated by the grant so that they still receive the full amount of income required for local needs. This grant is, however, discretionary. This will mean another shortfall to be made up by reserves.

Three of our Community Award candidates have been successful; The Coffee Pot ladies; Richard Beattie-Swann; Paddy Trevelyan. The Chairman and John Holdway will accompany them to the Awards Presentation Evening.

County are planning extensive new signage along A134 and at our recommendation they will be also checking speeds and the state of the road surface.

A cheque has been received and banked from Alpheton garage for the Licence.

It will be necessary to write to them in advance of sending the next invoice to inform them of a small increase from Easter. We will also offer them the chance to pay online. If they wish.

The council will apply to Richard Kemp for his Locality Budget Funding. It was agreed to purchase a new Notice Board for Bridge street (a quote for a single module – 4xA4 sheets- with a door and lock from recycled material from Whitehouse Enterprises in Ipswich is £336.00 Inc V.A.T.) We will apply for £500 and use the remaining £164 to purchase shingles for the Bus shelter roofs. Peter Rix is happy to speak to Heather Schram whose husband made the present board and to John and Ken Talbot whose mother is commemorated as Post mistress by a small brass plaque.

Finance;

Two cheques authorised;

No;402 Alpheton Village hall – hall Hire 04/01/13

No;403 Alpheton Village hall – hall Hire 29/01/13

Licence fee of £899.90 has been paid by Alpheton garage.

Correspondence & Clerk's report

Extra correspondence received as emails;

To view presentation on meeting to consider the Honours System use this link

<http://salc.onesuffolk.net/news/honors-presentation>

From Suffolk Acre a link to have a say as a service user of Norfolk & Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust <http://www.nwmhft.nhs.uk/en/Radical-Pathway-Redesign/PRP-carers-focus-group>

Info from SALC regarding farmers using red diesel in vehicles snow clearing

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/news/2013/01/18/red-diesel-rules/>

Copy Suffolk Acre Update Winter 2012/Spring2013.

Appeal for funding support from Age Uk.

Chairman's Report

The chairman had attended Babergh's Annual Parish Liaison meeting where some topics were the ongoing financial problems; Community Engagement; the restructuring and re-titled departments at Babergh following their merger.

Richard Kemp's Reports for January and February were read and he was thanked.

The minutes that have been approved will be posted on the website and a copy of the Extraordinary meeting on 4th January will be emailed to Mr Gray at the Rose and Crown as requested.

The provisional dates for future meetings are;

March 26th, May 28th (AGM), July 30th, September 24th, November 26th.

There being no further business this meeting closed at 8.00pm.