

ALPHETON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 25 JANUARY 2024 IN ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL AT 7.00PM

Present: Cllrs M Gray (Chair), G Baker, K Jacobs, R Kemp, J Moore, J Nunn, Tim Rix and District Councillor E Malvisi. Also present: Mary Luton-Woodburn, Parish Clerk.

1. To receive apologies for absence PC Steve Conghlan apologized for being unable to join the meeting for Agenda item 5.
2. Declarations of Interest None
3. To approve Minutes of the meeting of 30 November 2023 The minutes were approved. Proposed, Cllr Kemp, Seconded, Cllr Baker.
4. Public Forum. No members of the public present.
5. To receive a briefing and Q and A discussion with PC Steve Coughlan See apology at item 1.
6. To consider any new planning matters and report on any decisions No planning matters or decisions.
7. To receive the Parish Clerk's report The Parish Clerk reported that it was expected that the memorial plaques for Lavenham airfield will be installed at the annual remembrance event on 26th May.
 - (i) The Council approved the payment of all items on the schedule of payments. Proposed Cllr Baker, Seconded Cllr Jacobs.

Alpheton Village Hall hire 25 Jan meeting	£ 20.00	<i>LGA 1972 s.111</i>
Total expenditure	£ 20.00	

 - (ii) to approve the budget and precept for April 2024-Mar 2025. The Parish Council resolved to approve the revised budget and precept request. Proposed, Cllr Nunn, Seconded, Cllr Gray.
 - (iii) to agree and sign the precept form for the forthcoming year April 2024-Mar 2025. Proposed, Cllr Nunn, Seconded, Cllr Gray.
 - (iv) to approve the cost and appointment of the internal auditors - Heelis and Lodge for the year end 31 March 2024 at a cost of £130. The Parish Council approved the appointment of David Crimin of Heelis and Lodge for the internal audit. Proposed, Cllr Jacobs, Seconded, Cllr Baker.
8. To receive District and County Councillors' Reports Cllr Kemp's report was noted. Cllr Nunn will forward his report following the meeting.
9. To receive an update on
 - (i) SCC Highways response regarding the overgrown grass and brambles at the ditch/drain along Church Lane. Cllr Gray reported that SCC stated that this doesn't warrant action at this time although Highways would continue to monitor.
 - (ii) update on LMPC Emergency Plan Group. Cllr Gray reported that Locality Award funding from Cllr Nunn and Malvisi had provided sandbags which would be available to Alpheton. There were several other helpful measures in the Emergency Plan and the Parish Council will have an agenda item at the next meeting to discuss these in more detail at the April meeting.
 - (iii) SCC responses to the road sign reports. The SCC Highways response that the road signs on the A134 pointing to the Village Hall and By Road had been corrected was incorrect; the direction

Signed

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sign to Church Lane covered in grass and brambles was dismissed. SCC Highways reported that they no longer cut back vegetation around directional signs. Cllr Kemp offered to write to SCC Officer M Fox about the direction signs and the dangerous overhanging branches on the A134.

10. To receive an update on the moving of the SID devices Cllr Moore reported that the Sudbury Town Wardens were unable to download the data from the devices and so reluctant to move them to different sites. Cllr Moore asked Cllr Rix to see if there were any software updates needed to enable the downloading, perhaps with the help of former Cllr, Trevor Rix.
11. To receive an update on the revising of Parish Council website Cllr Rix has put some further changes in place with more still to come. The Parish Council dates and papers have been added and updated. Cllr Rix will contact Rev Matthew Lawson to arrange the village newsletter to be uploaded to the website.
12. To receive an update on the purchase of sandbags for Alpheton, Bridge Street See item 9ii above. Councillor Nunn and Malvisi were thanked for their Locality Award funding.
13. To consider a project to erect village 'gates' using CIL monies and potential grants Cllr Gray updated the Parish Council on the elements needed, different design options and revised likely costs of the proposed gates, their installation and the need for traffic management costs to be included in the total project costs. Cllr Nunn has made £250 available from his Locality Award budget, Cllr Malvisi £750 and Cllr Kemp will confirm if up to £2,000 will be available from his Local Highways Award budget. Councillor Kemp proposed that the Parish Council go ahead with the project based on a maximum cost of £9,000. It is possible that the traffic management costs will be additional. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Gray and approved by the Parish Council.
14. Date and time of next Parish Council meeting:

Thursday 11 April 2024 at 7pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

Signed

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