

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 23rd NOVEMBER 2010 AT 7.00PM

Present: Ken Watkins. (Chairman), Alan Ariss, John Holdway, Richard Kemp, Graham Maskell and Trevor Rix,
Also present Julie Rix, the Clerk.
Apologies; Maureen Lankester, John Brand and PCSO Partington.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting were signed as correct. (Proposed by Richard Kemp and seconded by Alan Ariss.)

Matters Arising

The trees for the Community Orchard will be delivered in early December. We will liaise with Margaret Taylor over the planting date.

We have a new Webmaster for the Alpheton Website – Richard Wallace. The August minutes can now be sent to him.

Old Bury Road surface is getting worse. The owner of the vehicles left outside Thatched Acre, on the road has said that he is selling one of the vehicles and in the new year intends to make a further parking place on his property. The council will write to Suffolk County Council about the road surface again and ask for various abandoned road signs to be collected.

Seven grit boxes will be ordered from Glasdon Products. Grit has already been delivered and left in heaps although the clerk had to ask for some to be left in Aveley lane near the council houses slope as it had been missed.

Still little response (six so far) to the email tree.

There has been a temporary reprieve to the courts closure.

Police

PCSO Partington was unable to attend. The Crime Report was a nil return except for the theft of lead from the Village hall roof.

Alpheton Garage

The cars for sale are being parked rather too far forward.

Highways

Speeding figures for the village showed a marked increase in tickets issued; 34 tickets in June, 134 in July and 267 in August.

A resident in Church lane has complained about speeds in that location. Mr Kemp offered to ask SCC if repeater 30mph signs could be added here.

Chairman's Report.

The Chairman and three councillors have attended two meetings at Babergh recently and found them to be very useful and informative.

Clerk's Report & Correspondence

Land Registry – documents received.

Finance

The Budget was presented for perusal. The Clerk's salary has been revised in accordance with National Salary Scales. An underpayment for last year is to be authorised at this meeting. The forthcoming Parish Elections in 2011 must be budgeted for and could cost up to £800. All these expenses would make a rather steep increase in the precept and correspondingly on the resident via their Council Tax. It was decided that an increase of 5% was all that could be justified with any extra taken from reserves. £2613.00 will be the Precept required from Babergh DC in that case. (Notes for this to be lodged with the minutes)

Cheques authorised at this meeting;

No; 343	£25.00	Suffolk Acre - subscription
No; 344	£302.72	Suffolk Acre – Insurance
No; 345	£12.00	Alpheton Village hall – Hire
No; 346	£20.54	K. Watkins – Chairman's Expenses
No; 347	£75.00	Eans Garden Services – grass cutting
No; 348	£132.00	Alpheton PCC – magazine donation
No; 349	£219.64	J Rix – Underpayment of Salary

Any Other Business

There will be a Christmas Tree on the Green as last year and a ceremony to remember those no longer with us. The Parish Council supported this last year by funding the refreshments. It was agreed to do the same for this year.

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

The next meeting will be Tuesday 25th January 2011 at 7pm.