

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ALPHETON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 7th October 2014 AT 7.00 PM

Present; Ken Watkins, (Chairman), Alan Ariss, John Holdway, Richard Kemp, Maureen Lankester, Graham Maskell, and Trevor Rix. Also present Julie Rix the Clerk, and District Councillor, John Nunn.

Apologies; There were none

Declarations of interest.- Trevor Rix declared an interest in the planning application at The Old Rectory as a neighbour.

The minutes of 12th August 2014 were signed as correct. Proposed by Alan Ariss, seconded by John Holdway.

Matters Arising

Both the Police and Highways have been contacted with regard to the unsuitably sited telegraph pole. Neither agency considers this a problem. Their emails will be kept on file.

As discussed at the last meeting both the Model Financial Regulations and the Code of Conduct should be adopted. It was agreed that they should both be adopted now. This was done. Proposed by Mr Watkins, seconded by Mr Ariss.

Draft Openness Guide. Basically this allows members of the public to film, record, & text while meetings are going on, provided it does not interfere with council business. The council can go into closed session if it is deemed necessary.

Bottle bank. The six months probation is now over, so this Chairman will contact the Village Hall Chairman to see if we can put in a second bottle bank.

Planning

B/14/00318/FUL Elliots Cottage, Shop Hill, Alpheton

Construction of Horse riding ménage & associated works. - No objections and subsequently passed.

B/14/00926/FUL - The Old Rectory, Old Bury Road, Alpheton.

Erection of two storey barn building, adjacent to existing barn, to provide Music Studio with first floor Library and Office; and reception of building to house bio-mass boiler, adjacent to existing double garage. All councillors (except Mr Kemp) consulted, letter with recommendations sent – see file.

Highways

The village Speedwatch team is concerned about overtaking on the main road, approaching the Old Bury Road turn, and have asked the Parish Council to sound out Highways about the possibility of small traffic islands to prevent this. Mr Kemp has forwarded the request.

Finance

The Budget. All councillors have had a copy of the proposed Budget. There is no information at the present regarding the Clerk's salary (assumed no change) or the Tax Base. The Insurance fee is down slightly and can be further improved by choosing a 3 year undertaking. This was agreed. There is no fee for the External Audit.

Cheques authorised;

No 437	£132	Alpheton & Shimplingthorne PCC – donation for magazine.
No 438	£12	Alpheton Village Hall - Hire
No 439	£209.34	Business Services @ CAS – Insurance via Community Action Suffolk

(formerly Suffolk Acre)

Clerk's Report and Correspondence

As list previously circulated.

Noted that recycling credits of £119.58 have been received, and second half of Precept - £1423.50.

SALC inform that scheduling of the Annual Parish Council Meeting in 2015 due to the elections to be held on Thursday 7th May should be as follows;

Thursday 7th May – Election.

Monday 11th May - Outgoing councillors retire and newly elected councillors take office.

11th-25th May - Annual Meeting takes place.

Extra correspondence; 'Powering up Suffolk – Community Energy Workshop' 13th November 2014 1pm-4.30pm, John Peel Centre, Stowmarket.

Notification that PCSO Jamie Fudge will be attached to our village from now on.

District Report

Richard Kemp gave his District Council Report and was thanked.

Any Other Business

The increase in commercial trading at Bridge Street was noted. The Café at Mill House has numerous signs publicising it. It is not know whether it has permission for any of this. The barn opposite is also trading, but has commercial use.

The next meeting will be Tuesday 2nd December at 7pm.

This meeting closed at 7.45pm.