

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ALPHETON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 4th October 2016 AT 7.00 PM

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

Apologies; Alan Ariss,

Declarations of Interest; Trevor Rix – item about the bus shelter repairs.

The Minutes of August 2016 were signed as correct. Proposed by Trevor Rix and seconded by Maureen Lankester.

Matters Arising

Grass cutting at Bridge Street. Ean Stowe is not able to cut the grass in future, so the council is grateful to Maureen and Brian Lankester for stepping into the breach. They were thanked.

The broken gully in Bridge Street has been fixed. A site meeting with Mr Kemp, Jane Burch (SCC) and residents was held recently with works agreed to provide a ditch to take the flood water.

The council has had a request for a speed survey in Bridge Street. Mr Watkins has contacted our PCSO, and is awaiting a response. Lorries are particularly noisy as they bump over the cat's eyes. A 30mph limit would be the best option for this road or an extension of the 40mph section.

Special arrangement bus service near Stone Cottages. This problem came up again as services have been transferred to Suffolk Norse. Mr Kemp will have a word with Suffolk Norse.

Planning

Application B/16/01153 Tanglewood, Church Lane, Alpheton

Erection of single storey side extension.

This was discussed and there were no objections.

SALC information re Housing and Planning Act 2016: Neighbourhood Planning.

Highways

Suffolk County Council urge councils to report problems using the Reporting Tool on their website in the first instance before contacting Paul Gant.

Notification of a Temporary Traffic Order – Road closure U8204 Tye Green, Alpheton, from junctions with Church Lane and Bury Road for safe access to telegraph poles.

Finance

The Chairman and Clerk will be working on the budget later this month. There will be no grant forthcoming from Babergh this year. It will be discussed at the December meeting, but all councillors will have the figures well in advance of that.

The Council is tied into a three-year contract with the insurers. Had it not been, it would have been facing an increase in the premium this year. So when it comes to an end, a rise is certain. Once again a long-term arrangement will have to be looked at to see if it is cost-effective.

Remittance Advice from Babergh DC for second half of Precept £1494.50.

Claim form for recycling sent off – Glass, £75.54 and paper, £29.22. Total £104.76.

The following cheques were authorised;

| | | |
|---------|---------|--|
| No; 542 | £25.00 | Ladywell Accountancy Services |
| No; 543 | £987.70 | Mrs J Rix – Clerk’s salary (with adjustment for increase in pay) |
| No; 544 | £12.00 | Alpheton Village Hall – Hire. |
| No; 545 | £230.22 | Insurance – Business Services at CAS |

SALC has also sent the latest LAIS 1393 Precept Consultation.

With reference to the upkeep of the bus shelters – extra slates were ordered from Ruffle and Rix (Trevor and Peter Rix) some time ago with a view to re-roofing the bus shelters. This item has not yet been invoiced to the council. It was agreed that Peter Rix’s offer to pay for the slates and then invoice the council for them as and when the work was completed was the simpler solution.

District and County Reports

Mr Kemp spoke about Suffolk County Council’s reaction to the East Anglia rail franchise announcement, Suffolk Standards warning about rogue fish sellers, Devolution outcomes (including new information that more than six Districts in Norfolk had voted against the proposal), a record number of Suffolk schools passing Ofsted, and Raising the Bar Community Grant funds that are now available.

SCC report on file.

As Babergh District Councillor, Richard commented with disapproval on the proposed move from Hadleigh to Ipswich; the fact that Belle Vue in Sudbury has not yet been Listed; that the Citizen’s Advice Centre is now housed in the old Health Centre at Acton Lane and the continued divisive issue of the re-siting of the Bus Station in Sudbury.

John Nunn also pointed out that the Police no longer have a priority list of locations for speeding hot spots.

Richard and John were thanked.

Clerk’s Report and Correspondence

The Clerk and Chairman have completed a survey online ; Public Services – Your views on service delivery in Suffolk.

Notification of Adoption of Lavenham Neighbourhood Development Plan (can be viewed at www.babergh.gov.uk/lavenhamndp)

SALC AGM invitation Monday 14th November 7pm.

Local Council Award Scheme Briefings .

Community Emergency Planning Newsletter September 2016.

SALC Newsletter of the Year 2016

SALC Website of the Year 2016

SALC Introduction to Suffolk Cloud sessions.

SALC course – How Local Councils can be more Effective Online.

Commercial Property and Local Planning Guide for Parish Councils run by Holmes and Hills Solicitors, at The Mill Hotel, Sudbury 1st November.

Notification of Breast Screening Service van in Sudbury at King Fisher Leisure Centre October to December. Screening by appointments only for 50-70, over 70 may self-refer once every 3 years on 01284 713941.

Copy Clerks and Councils Direct

Parish Council Chairman’s Report

All items were dealt with under other headings.

Any Other Business

Alpheton Website. To date our village onesuffolk website has functioned free of charge. We are now, however, facing an annual fee of £50 + VAT for the website, a cost which has been supported until now by the County Council. The charge starts on November 1st.

Yesterday the councillors received an email offering an alternative arrangement. Mr Rix has looked at it and recommends we do not pursue it.

It was agreed to continue with onesuffolk, paying the new fee, if a claim for Locality Budget Funding through Mr Kemp is successful.

Flooding. Some time ago Highways dug a hole outside Doone House, but more work is needed to repair the damaged pipework, and Julie and John have been told that Highways will be carrying out more tests. The hole has been fenced off and made safe in the mean time.

Provisional dates for 2017 are February 7th, April 4th, May 23rd (AGM), August 1st, October 3rd, December 5th.

There being no further business this meeting closed at 8.10pm.

The next meeting will be December 6th at 7pm.