

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ALPHETON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 5th April 2016 AT 7.00 PM

Present; Ken Watkins, (Chairman), Alan Ariss, Richard Barraclough, Graham Maskell, Richard Kemp, Trevor Rix and Julie Rix the Clerk.

Apologies; Maureen Lankester, and John Nunn (District Councillor)

There were no declarations of interest.

The minutes of 7th February 2016 were signed as correct. Proposed by Alan Ariss and seconded by Richard Barraclough

Matters Arising

The telephone box in Old Bury Road. No suggestions for its use have been received from the articles in the parish magazine. It was suggested that it is left until such time as the issue is raised in the future.

Traffic. We are still waiting for the SID to be deployed.

County has sent some up to date speed figures, from the first week in March. Briefly southbound the average speed is 34mph, and northbound 32mph. There are on average 4,534 traffic movements daily in each direction Monday to Friday. The majority 3-3,300 are clocked between 30-40mph.

Three years ago, (which were the figures we originally received from County), southbound average speed was 33mph, so that has gone up by one mph. Northbound was 34mph, so that has gone down by two mph. Average daily traffic movements then were 4,440 just under 100 fewer than this year.

Police

There is no crime report from the Police. We have a new Parish Liaison Officer, Laura Mansell. There will no longer be attendance at regular meetings although a police representative should attend Annual meetings. She has been informed of the date this year.

Planning

B/15/00645 - Mill House, Bridge Street, Alpheton.CO10 9BG
Change of use of part of the ground floor and external areas from dwelling house (Class C3) to use as tea rooms (within Class A1) for use only between March and December (inclusive) each year. (Retention of) As amended by agent's email dated 24 November 2015 including amended heritage statement and revised plans D1.1, D1.5 and D1.6.
This application has been refused.

B/16/00145 Tanglewood, Church Lane, Alpheton CO10 9BL
Erection of side extension.
Application considered – No Comments sent.

Highways

The bus stop repairs at the bottom of Old Bury Road. We are still waiting for the hard standing on the northbound side to be increased in size.

New chevrons have been erected on the bend at the south end of the village. One appears to be leaning slightly already.

The Bridge Street drains (foul smells from the water). Maureen Lankester has asked for this unresolved issue to be raised, and the Chairman has also had a phone call from the owners of the bed and breakfast business there who say their guests sometimes can't sit outside. Their belief is that someone's septic tank is not performing properly, and the overflow settles in a ditch between Meadow View Cottage (Maureen's) and the B&B. Mr Kemp has also been trying to get this investigated, and will now speak to Building Control at Babergh.

Finance

The Audit pack has arrived with the Notice of the Annual Review of Accounts for the year ending 31st May 2016. A sub-committee will be needed to perform an internal audit. The Clerk will attend a BDO Briefing on April 18th which should cover all aspects of producing a successful audit.

The Year End Return for the Clerk has been filed by our accountant and P60 has been issued. The half year salary is now due.

Cheques authorised;

No 472	£210.26	Babergh District Council Litter and Dog Bin Emptying .
No 473	£947.23	Clerk's half year salary
No 474	£12.00	Alpheton Village Hall – Hire for this meeting.

Monies received;

Recycling Credits of £112.06.

Clerk's correspondence

As List

Extra Correspondence; Suffolk Preservation Society offer Heritage Planning Training for Town and Parish Councils, Leaflet Dealing with Dog Fouling, Coffee Caravan AGM 5th May Blackbourne Community Centre Elmswell, SALC LAIS 1389 Broadband, Suffolk on Board timetables for buses will no longer be printed, information available online, SALC Internal Audit £88, letter to Ean Stowe enquiring after his health, Mid Suffolk Networking event 'Ending Loneliness' at Eye Community Centre 11th April 10-3, Babergh 'Open for Business Event' at the Delphi Centre 20th April 5-7pm, UK Power Networks posters and leaflets for vulnerable residents.

Chairman's Report

Her Majesty the Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations are over the weekend June 11-12. What is being considered by the Village Hall Committee is a tea party at the village hall, with people bringing cakes and sandwiches, and hopefully some games being organised for children outside. Plus the big screen showing whatever events are going on. Fairly simple,

fairly low key. This council discussed how we could support this event. A quote will be sought for a celebration cake funded by us.

County and District Reports

Mr Kemp reported that it is hoped that Babergh District Council will build 27 new council homes by the end of 2017. Council Tax has seen an increase of just over 3% which is the first increase for four years.

Mr Kemp's County reports for March and April include the disappointment that Suffolk will be left with one Magistrates Court as those at Bury St Edmunds and Lowestoft close. SCC Children's Services have achieved a 'Good' rating at Ofsted; A new delivery Model for the County's Rural Transport; and a £1bn Devolution deal announced for East Anglia.

Any Other Business

With reference to possible closure of rural village postboxes, Mr Kemp said that this was still uncertain.

Mr Maskell reported that a new telegraph pole put up near Tye Green (southern end) had been left with rubble around it.

Our South Suffolk Member for Parliament James Cartlidge will be holding a constituency surgery at Cockfield Village Hall on Friday 29th April 4.30 pm to 6.30 pm. By appointment.

Meeting Dates

The next one will be May 24th, which is the annual meeting and will be preceded by the annual parish meeting. Then August 2nd, October 4th, December 6th.

There being no further business this meeting closed at 7.45pm.