

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
ALPHETON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 30th SEPTEMBER 2013 AT 7.00 PM

Present; Ken Watkins, (Chairman), Alan Ariss, John Holdway, and Trevor Rix. Also present Julie Rix the Clerk,

Apologies; Richard Kemp, Maureen Lankester and John Nunn.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

The previous meeting's minutes were signed as correct. Proposed by Alan Ariss seconded by Trevor Rix.

Matters Arising

The caravan which was parked on the Green without permission was removed and promptly replaced by a motorbike for sale. After a word from the Chairman this was removed also. The clerk has asked Mr Kemp to investigate what the position is as regards one storage cabin still being sited on the Rose and crown car park. He has not been able to report back so far. Suffolk County Council had asked if it was possible to advertise on our website and what our rates would be. We have had no response from Lavenham and Long Melford Parish Councils who we turned to for advice.

Police

The police were not able to attend.

Planning – There were no applications

Highways

Trevor Rix had completed the latest Village Risk Assessment and several of his observations were Highway matters;
Potholes along Church lane have been done but not others around the Green. This will be reported.
The chevrons near Tallage have not been done yet, but are pending.
Road signs in Bridge St have been cleaned by Councillor Maureen Lankester, who was thanked.
The full litter bin has been emptied as schedule..
The poor state of Tye Green sign will be reported.
The grit bins will be topped up prior to winter as usual.
The post boxes are repainted in a rolling programme and will be done in due course. (Any problems of security or ease of use can be attended to immediately)
The Dog Bins are the Parish Council's responsibility. John Holdway kindly offered to repair them.
The unauthorised advert pinned to the hedge on The Green will be left to run its course as it is a promotion from E.A.D.T. which will end shortly.
The culverts in Old Bury Road will have to be watched to keep them clear. The pipe under Buxtons Drive near the road has been cleared by Peter Rix earlier in the year.

The entrance to Old Bury Road was cleared of overhanging vegetation by a resident but then this was abandoned near the bus shelter. It was eventually cleared away by others.

A Church lane resident was up a ladder trimming a hedge when the ladder was clipped by a car and she was knocked off it. She was not badly hurt and did not report it to the police. They have subsequently been told about it and also Nic Willcocks was also informed. Residents of Church

Lane are concerned by the speed at which delivery vans and taxis drive along it. We will enquire whose responsibility it is to clear the ditches at the bottom of Church lane.

Finance

Ladywell have sent the Clerk's payslip for the first half of the year, and their invoice.

NALC have sent details of a rise in Clerks' salaries. This is a 1% increase which adds £18.72 to the salary for the year. The increase will be added in the next payment.

The Clerk has also replaced her printer at a cost of £55. The council kindly offered £45 towards the cost as the majority of printing is for the Parish Council.

Cheques issued;

No; 415	£25.00	Ladywell Accountancy Services
No; 416	£927.58	Mrs J Rix – Clerk (Half Year Salary)
No; 417	£12.00	Alpheton Village Hall
No; 418	£45.00	Mrs J Rix – payment towards Printer

£1306.50 has been received from the Precept as the first half of the payment applied for.

£90.86 has been received for recycled glass.

Graham Maskell, Ean Stowe and Peter Rix have been added to our insurance cover under Employers Liability for casual work on behalf of the council.

We have some items in our policy that we do not need. The clerk will check if it will reduce premiums if they are removed.

Clerk's Report – as correspondence list.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman attended an Emergency Planning meeting and has invited Sue Hearne to speak at our November meeting (26th). It was noted that Long Melford have a defibrillator attached to the outside of the Co-Operative Supermarket. Is this something Alpheton should aspire to?

District and County Council Reports are on file.

Any Other Business

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

The next meeting will be November 26th at 7pm.