

Alwington Parish Council

Draft Minutes of a remote meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 12th May, 2020.

Present: Cllrs Gordon Lester (Chair), Sarah Bourke, Christine Moore, Neil Rothney and Brian Adams

Also present: Mr Malcolm Harris – Parish Clerk

Min.01 :20/21

Apologies: Apologies for the meeting were received from Cllrs Tony Inch and Phil Pennington

Min 02:20/21

Declarations of Interests

2a) No declarations were received in respect of personal interests

2b) No declarations were received in respect of prejudicial interests

Min.03:20/21

To confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 18th February, 2020.

It was **resolved**, to confirm and sign the minutes as a true record, and will be duly signed by the Chairman.

There were no matters arising.

Min.04:20/21 Correspondence and Communication

a) Correspondence was received in respect of the following matters:

- DCC (Devon County Council) – Various briefings/updates re COVID – 19 – circulated to all Cllrs.
- TDC – (Torridge District Council) – as above – circulated to all Cllrs.
- DALC (Devon Association of Local Councils) – as above – circulated to all Cllrs.
- Rupert Hawley – relating to the possibility of providing a permissive access to the coastal path via the Portledge Estate.

Cllr Gordon Lester contacted Rupert Hawley on the 25th April and explained the following:

"The short answer is that there is no permissive right of way across the estate - we've checked as part of the work on an updated Parish Plan.

Access was originally provided in 1967 on the back of the Torrey Canyon disaster to assist with seabird rescue mandated by government.

Susan Pine Coffin told me they maintained this on an a “grace and favour” basis such as an event held at the Portledge Hotel.

As this is in the gift of the land owner it lapsed when the land was sold to the Mike and Sally Cannon in 1997.

Mr Andy Usher, the former Estate Manager, highlighted the importance of complete privacy for, the current owners, Mr and Mrs Buckingham, like Mr and Mrs Cannon.

I cannot see any reason why the owners will change their position."

b) Website

Requested that a vote of thanks be recorded for Dave Butterworth for the work on the development of the website, and the posting of updates on the COVID – 19 situation. The next review of the site will take place in November.

c) District/County Council Reports

There are no reports from the County or District Councillors for this meeting.

However, regular updates on COVID -19 and other issues have been provided by both the County Council and the District Council

PUBLIC SESSION – there were no questions forwarded to the Parish Clerk prior to the remote meeting.

Min05:20/21

5) Financial Matters:

a) To receive an update on the current financial position:

The current balance in the Treasurers account less the commitments up to the 10th, May 2020 is £7,809.

b) To receive any accounts to pay

- Parish Clerk – salary April – June - £507.36

It was **resolved** to approve the above for payment.

c) To note any income received.

None received.

d) Any other financial issues.

None for discussion.

Min.06:20/21

Planning Matters:

a) To receive any applications for consideration

Planning application ref: 1/0318/2020/FUH – Two Storey rear extension to dwelling with associated work – High Park Lodge, Littleham, Bideford.

No comments to be made on the application.

b) To note any permissions granted.

Planning application ref: 1/0190/2020/FUL – Erection of porch – Town Farm Cottage, Fairy Cross, Bideford.

Application granted permission.

Min.07:20/21

Maintenance & Highways

It was reported that DCC had carried out various surveys in the Parish for future work to include potholes. Other works will be planned and implemented after the end of the lockdown period.

Min.08:20/21

Alwington Parish Plan & other issues for action in 2020/21

Alwington Parish Plan Working Group

Given the current impact of COVID – 19 it was agreed that the work on the Parish Plan Review would be delayed for one year.

Certificate of Exemption - Annual Audit

It was **resolved** that the chairman duly sign and approved the Certificate of Exemption for the External Audit for 2019/20.

Vote of thanks

Cllr Gordon Lester acknowledged:

“ the recent hard work of all Councillors and the Area Coordinators (listed on the website) amongst many others during our response to Covid – 19 to help and assist neighbours across the Parish”

Future meetings: agenda items

An agenda item for the next Parish Meeting will include the co-option of a new Councillor. Subject to receiving a short C.V and co-option requested, it is proposed to nominate Alison Browning as a Councillor of Alwington Parish Council.

Future Meeting:

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday 28th July 2020, in the Alwington Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm. The Parish Council will investigate the possibility of holding the meeting in the main hall in order to provide space for social distancing. Updates will be provided via the website and Parish noticeboards.

Signature _____ (Chairman) Date _____