

## Alwington Parish Council

### **Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Alwington Village Hall on Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> January , 2022, commencing at 7.00pm.**

**Present:** Cllrs Gordon Lester (Chair), Neil Rothney, Alison Browning, Christine Moore and Brian Adams.

**In attendance :** Mr Malcolm Harris – Parish Clerk, Cllr Phil Pennington TDC, and 4 members of the public.

#### **1. Min.33 :21/22**

**Apologies :** Received from Councillor Sarah Bourke.

#### **2. Min 34:21/22**

##### **Declarations of Interests**

2a) Cllr Sarah Bourke registered a personal interest for agenda item 6 a) Planning consultation request – Ref: 1/0020/2022/OUT.

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

#### **3.Min.35:21/22**

**To confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2021.**

Proposed by: Cllr Brian Adams, and seconded by Cllr Alison Browning, that the minutes be approved as a true record.

It was **resolved**, to confirm and sign the minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup>, December, 2021 as a true record, and were duly signed by the Chairman. (all in favour)

All matters arising covered in the agenda.

#### **4.Min 36:21/22**

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

- Devon County Council – various COVID updates - noted
- Devon Association of Local Councils – various newsletters/updates – noted.
- Mr Watt – Complaint relating to work at Hockeridge Farm – Investigated by Cllrs Sarah Bourke and Cllr Neil Rothney – response sent to Mt Watt.

## **b) Website**

Cllr Gordon Lester reported that the website was receiving on average 3 users per day viewing 10 pages. 90% of the users were viewing the Parish Council section, local attractions and events. **Action Point** : Cllr Alison Browning agreed to update the website with contents from the newsletter.

## **c) County/District Council Reports**

Cllr Phil Pennington TDC reported on the following:

- COVID continues to impact on services
- Refuse collection – issues around rubbish collection and items blowing in the wind. It is helpful if residents secure their rubbish prior to collections, and that Drivers and operators take more when loading rubbish.
- Council Tax setting. 2% increase likely on Band D. Maximum increase to avoid a referendum is £5.
- Advised that any users of leisure facilities check that facilities are open, prior to travel.
- Planning Section is currently very busy, and this may impact on the turnaround for planning applications.
- Advised that applications are invited for Councilors grants. Applications close on the 31<sup>st</sup> May.

## **d) Community Safety:**

There were no matters to report.

**PUBLIC SESSION -at the discretion of the Chairman, any members of the public may speak between agenda items 4 and 5.**

No questions were raised by the public. The Chairman agreed to allow public participation under agenda item 6 a) planning application Ref: 1/0020/2022/OUT – proposal for 3 dwellings at Land to The North East of Council Cottages, Fairy Cross.

## **5. Min 37:21/22 Financial Matters:**

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

The Parish Clerk reported a balance of £11,273 in the Treasurers account. Payments to follow for Clerks salary, and purchase of Planters. Predicted balance at 31/03/22 - £9,135.

### **b) To receive any accounts to pay:**

Dave Butterworth – Abinger Web - Temporary Web hosting. £29.50. To be paid by BACS.

It was **resolved** approve payment of the above item.

**c) To note any income received:**

None received.

**d) Any other financial issues:**

**Small Grant Applications:**

Applications received from CAB, ND Records Office, and Abbotsham Pre -School.

It was agreed to defer grant applications from ND Records Office, and Abbotsham Pre - School until April 2022.

It was **resolved** to approve the award of a grant of £100 to the CAB.

**6. Min 38:21/22 Planning Matters:**

**a) To receive any applications for consideration**

**Ref: 1/1133/2021/REMM/1/1266/2021/REMM – Application for reserve matters for details of 274 dwellings – Land to the South of Clovelly Road, Bideford.**

**Action Point:** It was agreed that the Clerk would resubmit the Parish Councils response in respect of this application. The Clerk to ensure the response is posted on the TDC planning portal.

**Ref: 1/0020/2022/OUT – Outline application for 3no dwellings with all matters reserved except access – Land to the North East of Council Cottages, Fairy Cross, Bideford.**

Discussion was opened initially to Councilor's. Cllr Alison Browning reported that contact had been made with the Case Officer that new build was not permitted in the Parish. The Planning Officer made reference to planning policy DM 24 which sets out the criteria for permitted development in rural settlements.

Councilors were concerned that this proposed development:

1. is speculative;
2. that the impact of the development would change the character of the rural parish; and
3. that the Parish does not provide the infrastructure for housing development despite assertions to the contrary in the applications Design and Access statement.

The discussion was then opened to the public. A number of parishioners voiced their concerns over any significant housing development in a rural settlement, and the impact on the Parish. They were also concerned that allowing this housing development would open the flood gates to more applications to develop land for housing.

**Action Points:** It was agreed the Parish Council would coordinate a response to the application, and may seek professional advice in respect of the wording of the response.

It was agreed that Cllr Alison Browning would contact the Case Officer at TDC to seek an extension to the deadline for response. This has now been actioned and the deadline for a response has been agreed as the 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2022. Cllr Gordon Lester agreed to coordinate responses, and circulate the final draft to all Cllrs.

It was also agreed That Cllr Brain Adams would contact Cllr Bob Hicks at TDC, to discuss the application, and seek his views on the wording and structure of the Parish Council response.

**Ref: 1/008/2022/FUL – Proposed extension to the front and side of the property – 19, Portledge Place, Fairy Cross, Bideford.**

The Parish Council has no comments on the application.

**b) To note any permissions granted.**

**Ref: 1/1226/2020/FUL – Erection of residential detached garage – Land adjacent to Ford Farm Cottage, Fairy Cross, Bideford.**

The application was granted permission.

**Ref: 1/1197/2021/FUL – Erection of residential detached garage and car port – Church Town Farm, Fairy Cross, Bideford.**

The application was granted permission.

**c) To note any refusals advised.**

None received for this meeting.

**Any other planning matters arising.**

There were no outstanding matters.

#### **7.Min:39/21/22 Review of Parish Council Policies**

The Clerk reported that the key change to policies in 2021/22, had been the revision and new guidance for public participation in the public session. Standing Orders have been adjusted. In addition, Financial Regulation have been amended to include a procedure for online banking.

**Action Point:** The Clerk will forward a full list of all policies to all Cllrs.

## **8. Min.40:21/22**

### **Maintenance & Highways**

Cllr Gordon Lester circulated a copy of the amended submission to HATOC relating to the proposed introduction of a 20-mph speed limit on the lane from Fairy Cross Hill to Yeo Vale.

**Action Point:** Cllr Gordon Lester to forward the proposal to Cllr Phil Pennington, who will arrange to forward the document to TDC Cllrs that sit on the HATOC committee.

It was agreed to add an agenda item to the next Parish Meeting 20's Plenty for Us Campaign – to introduce a 20-mph speed limit as normal in residential streets and rural Village roads.

Potholes – Cllrs Neil Rothney and Brian Adams had toured the Parish to highlight potholes meet the criteria for priority repairs by DCC Highways. Thanks were passed onto both for the work.

**Action Point:** The Clerk to forward the list to DCC Highways.

Cllr Christine Moore reported that there are now two drain covers causing a noise nuisance, one on the A39 junction opposite main entrance to Portledge Place, and other the A39 further up the Hill towards Clovelly, and third just down from this drain cover,

**Action Point:** The Clerk to report to DCC Highways.

## **9. Min.41:21/22**

### **Alwington Parish Plan & other issues for action in 2021/22**

Cllr Gordon Lester reported that it is now an appropriate time to consider the process for the review of the Alwington Parish Plan. It was agreed that all Cllrs would read the current plan, and the revised Action Plan with a view to a discussion at the next Parish Meeting in March.

#### **Bus Shelter – Maintenance.**

The Clerk reported that a site visit had taken place with the Chairman to draw up a specification of works for the Bus Shelters.

**Action Point:** The Clerk to draw up a schedule of works and circulate to all Cllrs, with a view to inviting quotations for the work.

#### **Planters**

The Clerk confirmed that two Planters would be ordered for use in the early Spring. It was agreed that the Clerk would liaise with Cllr Christine Moore to organise delivery arrangements, and discuss materials for the filling of the Planters.

**Airband – Update**

Cllr Gordon Lester reported that work is ongoing in the Parish, with an expected completion date of the end of March 2022. There are concerns that the timescale may slip. Cllr Neil Rothney raised an issue over the lack of communication with households. It was agreed to report this back to Airband.

**Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations**

Cllr Alison Browning reported that it is planned to hold a Community Lunch on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June. Further details to follow.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 8.43 pm.

**The next meeting of the Parish Council, will take place on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 at 7.00pm. Venue – Alwington Village Hall.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ (Chairman) Date \_\_\_\_\_