

Alwington Parish Council

Draft Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 16th July 2019 at the Alwington Village Hall

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

In attendance: Mr Malcolm Harris, Parish Clerk, and 6 members of the public.

Min. 10:19/20

1) Apologies: Apologies were recorded on behalf of Cllr Gordon Lester, Cllr Phil Pennington TDC, and Cllr Tony Inch DCC.

Min. 11:19/20

2) Declarations of Interests

2a) No declarations received in respect of personal interests

2b) No declarations received in respect of prejudicial interests

Min.12:19/20

3) To confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 12th March 2019

It was **resolved**, to confirm and sign the minutes as a true record. (all in favour)

3a) Matters arising from the minutes of 12th March. 2019

Min. 9: 19/20 – Contact was made with TDC Environmental Health regarding a property in Portledge Place. It was reported that an Officer had undertaken a site visit.

At this stage of the meeting, the Chair confirmed that agenda items 6 a) and 8 a) would now be discussed:

Planning application consultation request – Ref: 1/0445/2019/FULM – Erection of an agricultural building and extension to slurry pit.

Representatives provided details of the application, and then councillors were invited to ask questions. There were some questions relating to the provision of roof to cover the slurry pits. It was explained that this would follow within the next 6 months. The size of the proposed extension was clarified.

It was **resolved** that the Parish Council would confirm support for the application.

Speeding on the A39

A representative from the Portledge Estate explained that the estate currently employed 30 employees, and that numerous estate vehicles need to turn right from the A39 into the Estate. There have been regular incidents where vehicles at speed have overtaken as employees have tried to turn right. The request from the estate is that the speed limit through the Fairy Cross section be reduced to 40 mph.

It was explained that DCC had been contacted on numerous occasions on this issue, and have not to date agreed to any action.

Action Point: it was agreed to contact Cllr Tony Inch and set out the case for a request to reduce the speed limit through the Fairy Cross section of the A39 to 40 mph, and report back on progress to the next meeting.

Min.13:19/20 Correspondence and Communication

4) Correspondence and Communication

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

- Andrew Usher – email relating to A39 speeding. Cllr Gordon Lester has responded.
- TDC – Information on the new DCC Community Grants Fund – circulated to all Councillors.
- Ian Harper – email regarding the consultation process for the proposed changes to the Devon Fire & Rescue Service.
- Devon Fire & Rescue Service – details of the consultation process on the proposed changes to the Devon Fire & Rescue Service. It was agreed to send a response from the Parish Council that opposes the closure of any local Fire Stations on the basis of the impact on the local community, and the increased risk to communities in longer response times to reported incidents.

b) Website

A report on the usage was forwarded prior to the meeting by David Butterworth. The report has been circulated to all Councillors, and was discussed and notes. A vote of thanks was recorded to Julie Harper and Cllr Christine Moore for their work on updating the Village Hall section of the website,

c) County and District Council Ward Members Report

Cllr Phil Pennington – TDC- was unable to attend the meeting, but a report had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

Cllr Tony Inch – DCC- was unable to attend the meeting, but a report had been circulated to all Councillors

d) Community Safety – Cllr Sarah Bourke reported that information on local incidents will now be circulated via the Clerk, and reported as appropriate. Noted that PCSO's will not be providing any more reports to the Parish Council.

PUBLIC SESSION

The following issues were raised:

1. Parish Noticeboards

This item will be discussed at item 8 c)

2. Website – local businesses

An issue was raised about the selection process for local business information to be placed on the website. It was agreed to raise this issue with David Butterworth, and Cllr Gordon Lester, and report back at the next meeting

3. Website - details of District/County Councillors on the website.

The information relating to Parish Councillors and District and County Councillors requires updating on the website. **Action Point:** Parish Clerk to update the information on the website.

4. Website – Church/Chapel

A request was made for more information on the Church/Chapel to be placed on the website, together with a list of forthcoming events. **Action Point:** Parish Clerk to contact David Butterworth, and Cllr Gordon Lester to make them aware of the request.

5. Broadband – A request was made for another presentation to be arranged with Airband to provide a more comprehensive update. **Action Point:** Parish Clerk to discuss with Cllr Gordon Lester, and report back to the next meeting.

Min.14:19/20

5) Financial Matters:

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

The Parish Clerk reported that the balance in the Treasurers Account at the 16th July is £8,464.

b) To receive any accounts to pay

- Community First Insurance – Policy Renewal 2019/20 - £220.38 – Paid
- Abingerweb – website 5 years domain renewal – Paid.
- Devon Association of Local Councils – Councillor Training - £66 for approval.
- Parish Clerk – stationary/ink/travel expenses - £32.65 for approval.

It was **resolved** to approve all outstanding payments. (all in favour)

c) To note any income received - None received.

d) Any other financial issues.

An application has been received from the Parochial Church Council for a grant of £150 to assist with the maintenance of the Churchyard. The Parish Clerk confirmed that he had received a copy of accounts, and is happy to recommend the award of the grant.

It was **resolved** to award a grant of £150 to the Alwington Parochial Church Council. (all in favour)

Min. 15:19/20

Planning Matters:

a) New application:

Ref: 1/0045/2019/FUL – Full application for the erection of an agricultural building and extension to slurry pit – Babbacombe Farm Abbotsham Bideford. Parish Council agreed to support the application. (considered earlier in the meeting)

b) Planning decisions:

Erection of Telegraph monopole and Telecoms cabinet and fencing – Land North of Winscott Barton, Fairy Cross – application was granted permission.

Prior notification for the change of use of agricultural building to 2no dwellings under Class Q and associated operational development – Church Town Farm, fairy Cross – application was granted permission.

c) Other planning issues:

Erection of Porch Town Farm Cottage, Fairy Cross – appeal lodged.

It was **resolved** that the Parish Council confirm support for the application with the District Council.

Min.16:19/20

Maintenance & Highways

Cllr Chris Payne confirmed that work had been undertaken to clear drains in Ford and Church Park. Invoice to follow.

Cllr Christine Moore reported that the manhole cover at Portledge was still missing. Cllr Chris Payne confirmed that this had already been reported to DCC, and he would follow up with another request for action.

Min. 17:19/20 Alwington Parish Plan & other issues for action in 2018/19

a) Broadband

Cllr Sarah Bourke reported that an email had been sent to Airband requesting an update on progress. No response has been received. **Action Point:** Cllr Sarah Bourke to liaise with Cllr Gordon Lester to obtain a response and report back to the next meeting

b) Review of Parish Action Plan

The Parish Clerk reported that the Alwington Parish Plan – Action Plan was now due for review. **Action Point:** It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would begin the process of reviewing the Parish Action Plan and present a draft to the next Parish Council Meeting.

c) Parish Noticeboards

A discussion took place on the need to ensure Parish Council minutes, agenda, councillors contacts, and dates of future meetings are displayed on all 3 parish noticeboards, The Clerk agreed to produce a summary of key issues discussed at the Parish Meeting in order to save space. It was also agreed that other organisations displaying information would be contacted to discuss where existing information could be reduced in size.

It was agreed that Cllr Sarah Bourke would take responsibility for posting on the Woodtown noticeboard, and that Cllr Christine Moore would look after Fairy Cross and Ford.

d) Speeding A39

Discussed at agenda item 9:19/20

18;19/20 Other items discussed:

Cllr Brian Adams noted that the old telegraph poles at Woodtown hedge side had not been removed by BT. **Action Point:** Parish Clerk to remind BT that the poles are still awaiting removal.

Cllr Neil Rothney raised safety concerns on the use of electric cars in rural areas. Electric cars have limited engine noise and can be a problem for pedestrians. It was noted that DCC are aware of the potential safety issues, but do not expect any action for the next two years.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Future Meetings: Tuesday 10th September, 2019, Tuesday 12th November, 2019.