

ALVELEY AND ROMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 6th November 2018 in the Arden Centre Alveley commencing at 7.45pm, preceded by an Open Forum at 7.30pm.

102. PRESENT

Cllr. Mr. K. R. Stanton, Cllr. Ms. P. M. Barker, Cllr. Mrs. J.M. Hall, Cllr. Miss I. D. Jakeman, Cllr. Mr. R. J. Narburgh, Cllr. Mr. C. D. Noble, Cllr. Mrs. S. L. Potter, Cllr. Mr. B. A. Punchard and Cllr. Mr. F.D. Voysey

103. IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. D. H. Rawlinson (Clerk), Cllr. Mrs. T. Woodward (Shropshire Councillor)

104. OPEN FORUM

1. Four electors were present and the meeting was addressed briefly by two with an interest in planning application 18/04697/ADV and two with an interest in planning application 18/04641/FUL.
2. Cllr. Miss Jakeman reported a complaint by a resident of Whittall Close (off Greenway Avenue) about the light from the nearby street lamp, following the installation of a new LED lantern. The possibility of redirecting the lamp was raised and the Chairman and Clerk undertook to investigate.
3. Cllr. Miss Jakeman noted that white gateways had been erected on the A442 at either end of Shatterford village and suggested that Alveley should follow suit. Cllr. Mrs. Woodward advised that Shropshire Council Highways would need to be consulted and agreed to forward further information to the Clerk.

105. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

It **was resolved** to accept apology for absence from Cllr. Mrs. A. Preece (personal).

The Chairman informed the meeting that Cllr. Mr. D. Preece had resigned from the Parish Council with immediate effect.

106. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Cllr. Mrs. S.L. Potter declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 12 (Environmental Maintenance).

107. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 2ND OCTOBER 2018

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd October 2018 were a true and accurate record.

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108. MINUTES OF THE STREET LIGHTING COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 2018.

It was **agreed** to receive the minutes of the Street Lighting Committee held on Tuesday 25th September 2018.

109 TO CONSIDER PARISH MATTERS

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders to allow Cllr. Mrs. Woodward to contribute.

1. Highways - condition of road surfaces – there were no written reports.
Cllr. Mrs. Woodward referred to the drainage problem in Daddlebrook Road and voiced continuing disappointment with the response from Shropshire Council Highways to her repeated representations regarding this problem, which had first been reported eighteen months ago. She had now brought the situation to the attention of senior officers and had requested that it be 'escalated' further. Parish Councillors shared her disappointment and concern, and **instructed** the Clerk to write to the Portfolio Holder for Highways and Transport to formally request urgent remedial action before winter sets in.
2. Public rights of way – the Chairman advised that Paul Thompson, the Footpaths and Rights of Way Officer, would be invited to the next monthly meeting to give his regular briefing as part of the Open Forum.
3. Environmental matters
 - (a) It was noted that, in other areas, winter grit bins are numbered and carry a sign which reminds residents that the grit is not for private use. Cllr. Voysey suggested that the Parish Council should commission and purchase its own signs. Cllr. Mrs. Woodward advised the Clerk to access the Shropshire Council website for further information.
 - (b) The meeting reviewed a number of current issues regarding overgrown hedgerows and overhanging trees.
4. Romsley Matters - none
5. Matters brought to the attention of the Council not requiring a decision – the future arrangements for the Silent Soldier statue were discussed and the consensus was that it should remain in situ for the time being.

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110. TO RECEIVE DETAILS OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS

1. Planning Applications received from Shropshire Council.

18/04571/PMBPA Application for prior approval under Part 3, Class Q of the Town & Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 for the change of use from agricultural to residential use, The Old Mill, Shropshire Farm, Fenn Green, Alveley, WV15 6HY.

It was **agreed** to recommend approval.

18/04590/FUL Erection of canopy porch and disabled entrance door, Royal Oak, Alveley, WV15 6LL.

It was **agreed** to recommend approval.

18/04641/FUL Remodelling and extension of bungalow; erection of double garage/store and double carport following removal of stable block, High Leasowe, Romsley Lane, Romsley, WV15 6HW.

It was **agreed** to recommend approval.

18/04697/ADV Siting of 0.90m x 0.75m x 2mm acrylic plastic sign, Stables at Applecross House, Alveley, WV15 6NB.

It was **agreed** to recommend approval.

2. Planning Applications received since the Agenda closed – none received.

3. Planning Decisions received from Shropshire Council

16/05142/OUT Dudmaston Stud, Tuckhill, Six Ashes, WV15 6EW, Outline application for the erection of a dwelling (to include access)

Parish Council recommendation – Neutral; Decision – Grant Permission

4. Planning Decisions received from Shropshire Council since the Agenda closed – none received.

5. Other planning matters - none

111. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders to allow Cllr. Mrs. Woodward to speak.

1. Cllr. Mrs. Woodward reported the outcome of her discussions with Shropshire Council officers regarding the possible creation of a new section of footpath along the A442 between Dog Kennel Lane (minute 086 of 2nd October 2018 refers). A number of engineering issues had been identified, in particular the narrow width of the existing verge. In addition, it would be difficult for

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Shropshire Council to prioritise funding from their diminishing budgets to fund the capital cost of a new footpath. This information was noted and Cllr. Mrs. Woodward was thanked for her efforts.

2. Cllr. Mrs. Woodward drew the attention of Parish Councillors to the report to Cabinet on the options arising from the Shropshire Local Plan review, which would be presented on 7th November, and could be accessed on the Shropshire Council website.
112. BRIDGNORTH AND SHIFNAL AREA COMMITTEE 17TH OCTOBER 2018 – the briefing note by Mr. D. Preece was received.
 113. REMEMBRANCE SERVICE AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH, ALVELEY, SUNDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2018 – the Chairman requested those attending to meet at 10.15am. Cllr. Voysey advised that there would also be a ceremony in the Village Hall at 3.30pm to which all were invited.
 114. CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR PARISH NEWSLETTER – it was **agreed** that the next newsletter should be published at the end of January 2019. There would be a much reduced number of printed copies, possibly no more than 100 and these would be available from the Surgery, the Convenience Store, the Old Chapel, the Arden Centre and the Church. Topics would include the Local Plan Review and winter grit bins, and the content would be discussed further at the next meeting.
 115. ENVIRONMENTAL MAINTENANCE – Cllr. Mrs. Potter remained in the room for this item but took no part in the discussion or vote.
 1. Grass cutting of Recreation Ground – the possibility of the Parish Council taking over the recreational grass cutting and strimming of the whole of the Recreation Ground, not just the Play Area, had been raised at the previous meeting, as an alternative to annual applications for grant support from the Alveley Recreation Association (minute 093.3 refers). Cllr. Ms. Barker confirmed that the Recreation Association had been consulted and appeared content with this idea. Cllr. Voysey spoke in favour of the status quo, with a plea that the Parish Council should be more consistent in its level of financial support from one year to the next. The Chairman favoured the new approach which he considered would save money for the Parish Council and would avoid the need for an annual grant submission.

After further discussion, he **proposed** that the Parish Council should extend the contract for maintenance of the Parish Council Play Area to include the whole of the Recreation Ground, with cutting and strimming continuing to be required twice per month during the summer season. This proposal was seconded and the motion was carried by 8 votes to 1.

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2. Reletting of contracts for maintenance of Closed Churchyard, Pound and Jubilee Bank and maintenance of Recreation Ground and Play Area – the Clerk was authorised to retender for these contract from April 2019, with guidance and support from Cllr. Ms. Barker, Cllr. Voysey and, subject to her agreement, Cllr. Mrs. Preece.

116. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING – there was discussion about how best to engage the local community in drawing up a Neighbourhood Plan (Light) and the advantage of having such a Plan or at least a Neighbourhood Design Statement was pointed out. A number of ideas were put forward but the majority view was that the matter should be deferred until Spring 2019.

117. TO RECEIVE A FINANCIAL REPORT.

1. Invoices for Approval and Cheques for Signature

The Clerk tabled an updated schedule of invoices/direct payments. This was **approved** and Councillors Ms. Barker and Mrs. Hall were instructed to sign the invoices, cheques and schedule.

2. Deposits and Bank Balances at 30th September 2018/ Bank Reconciliation at 30th September 2018 – these were **noted**.

3. Monitoring of 2018/19 Budget

- (i) The Clerk presented a statement showing expenditure against budget for the first six months of the current financial year to 30th September 2018. He advised that, after allowing for VAT to be reclaimed and street lighting capital expenditure, net payments were 43% of the approved budget.
- (ii) He also reported that, taking account of invoices pending and an order still to be completed, total estimated street lighting capital payments in the current year will total £49,096, which is just within the budget available. Including grants and carry forwards.
- (iii) Members were informed that energy savings from LED lanterns are now starting to feed through so that, during October, credit notes totalling £722 (excluding VAT) had been received from SSE. Adjusted expenditure on street lighting electricity in the first half-year was therefore 45% of the approved budget.
- (iv) The Council **noted** the budget situation at 30th September 2018.
- (v) It was also **agreed** to change the date of the Annual Finance meeting from 11th December 2018 to 22nd January 2019.

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4. Internal Audit 2018/19

The Council **approved** the appointment of SDH Audit Services as the Council's internal auditor for the 2018/19 financial year.

118. SEVERN VALLEY COUNTRY PARK – REQUEST FOR GRANT SUPPORT IN 2019.

1. Councillors considered an email from the Country Parks and Heritage Sites Manager of Shropshire Council, which sought a grant of £4,000 from the Parish Council in 2019/20 to support the Severn Valley Country Park (SVCP).
2. The Chairman, as one of the Parish Council representatives on the SVCP Steering Group, reminded the meeting that, in agreeing to a grant of £4,000 in 2018/19, Alveley and Romsley Parish Council had made no ongoing commitment. He voiced concern about the financial pressures which the Parish Council would face in the next financial year.
3. After further discussion it was **agreed** nem con not to provide financial support to the Severn Valley Country Park in the next financial year and the Clerk was instructed to advise Shropshire Council accordingly.

119. SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT AGENDA.

Briefing by Paul Thompson, Footpaths Officer (as part of Open Forum)
Vacancy for Parish Councillor
Parish Council newsletter
White Village Gateways for Alveley
Clerk's Salary

120. TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Alveley and Romsley Parish Council will be the monthly Parish meeting on Tuesday 4th December 2018, preceded by an Open Forum, at 7.30pm in the Arden Centre Alveley.

The meeting closed at 9.06pm.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance.