

ALVELEY AND ROMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 3rd March 2020 in the Arden Centre Alveley, including an Open Forum, commencing at 7.30pm

180. PRESENT

Cllr. Ms. P. M. Barker (Chairman), Cllr. Miss I. D. Jakeman, Cllr. Mr. R. J. Narburgh, Cllr. Mr. C. D. Noble, Cllr. Mrs. A. Preece, Cllr. Mrs. S. L. Potter, Cllr. Mr. B.A. Punchard and Cllr. Mr. F. D. Voysey.

181. IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. D. H. Rawlinson (Clerk), Cllr. Mrs. T. Woodward (Shropshire Councillor) and two representatives of Alveley Community First Responders.

182. OPEN FORUM

The representatives of Alveley Community First Responders reported growing concerns within the Village about criminal activities, including theft from homes and vehicles, and the consequential damage and distress. They suggested that the Community wanted heightened security, accepting that a rapid Police response to reports of crime could not be guaranteed. They were aware of previous discussions within the Parish Council regarding CCTV and Smartwater, but considered that the problem should be looked at again, with options such as Neighbourhood Watch being reconsidered as practical ways of deterring crime and anti-social behaviour. They were confident that members of the Community were prepared to get involved.

183. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

It **was resolved** to accept apologies for absence from Cllr. Mrs. J. M. Hall (personal) and Cllr. Mr. K. R. Stanton (personal)

184. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None.

185. MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 4TH FEBRUARY 2020

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 4th February 2020 were a true and accurate record.

186. PARISH MATTERS.

1. Alveley Annual Parish Meeting – the Chairman expressed concern that the decision under minute 168 (a) of the previous meeting to hold the Annual Parish meeting in advance of the next monthly meeting, would not encourage attendance or facilitate proper discussion of current issues, such as crime

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prevention. She therefore proposed that the Annual Parish meeting be moved to Thursday 23rd April 2020 at 7.30 pm in the Pavilion, and this was **agreed**.

2. Hampton Loade Bus Shelter – the Clerk confirmed that the Bus Shelter had been vandalised on Sunday 16th February. He advised that two panes of toughened glass had been shattered, and that Mr. David Preece had now agreed to replace these with Perspex, at no cost to the Parish Council. It was **agreed** that the Clerk should thank Mr. Preece, on the Council's behalf, for his generous assistance.
3. Environment – it was noted that hedge cutting was proceeding well. Concerns were reiterated about potholes at the end of Greenway Avenue.
4. Romsley – Cllr. Mrs. Potter reported that the road sign at the bottom of Sham Lane had been knocked over. She also referred to potholes in Sham Lane and Beacon Lane. She advised that the possibility of supplying the defibrillator with mains electricity was being explored, using grant funding from the Severn Trent Community Fund to cover installation costs.
Cllr. Narburgh referred to the overgrown hedging at Crossways Cottage and advised that no-one has been in residence for some time. He indicated that the surviving relatives of the former resident lived in Kingswinford. It was **agreed** that the Clerk would send the standard polite letter, suitably adapted, to the Kingswinford address.
5. Other matters – the latest information and advice on Coronavirus was discussed and the Clerk confirmed that this had been posted on the Parish Council website. The Chairman reported some outstanding maintenance issues at the Play Area and confirmed that a local businessman has offered to deal with them.

187. PARKING, TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IN ALVELEY
(Chairman suspended Standing Orders to allow Cllr. Mrs. Woodward to speak)

The Clerk's briefing note was received. There was some debate over the merit of increasing the extent of double yellow lines around the Village. However, Cllr. Mrs. Woodward advised that she receives many complaints about parking, and that the proposed new restrictions at the end of Bridge Road, and at Alveley were necessary. Cllr. Mrs. Preece suggested prior consultation with the landlord of the Three Horseshoes.

188. VACANCY FOR PARISH COUNCILLOR

The Clerk's report was received and the Parish Council **agreed** the proposed process and timetable for co-option which should culminate at the next Parish Council monthly meeting on 7th April 2020.

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189. TO RECEIVE DETAILS OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS.

1. Planning Applications received from Shropshire Council – to make recommendations or to note.

20/00377/FUL Erection of single-storey extension to the front, side and rear; conversion of existing garage to living accommodation and erection of a single, detached garage/store, 2 The Lea, Alveley, WV15 6PS.

The Clerk reminded the meeting that this item had been deferred from 4th February (minute 172.2 refers). After discussion, it was proposed by Cllr. Voysey and seconded by Cllr. Jakeman that the application should be opposed on the grounds that the proposed extension is inappropriate in scale and design, and that part of it would be too close to the highway. This motion was **carried** unanimously.

20/00546/TPO Crown reduction by 15/20% of 1no Walnut protected by the Salop County Council (Alveley) TPO (ref BR/TPO/13), Beech Trees , The Woodlands, Alveley, WV15 6LQ - the application was noted.

20/00584/FUL Erection of first floor side extension, 44 Daddlebrook Road, Alveley, WV15 6PU - after a brief discussion it was **agreed** to support the application.

2. Planning Applications received since the Agenda closed – none.
3. Planning Decisions received from Shropshire Council – none.
4. Planning Decisions received from Shropshire Council since the Agenda closed -

Proposed Barn Conversions at The Hadleys, Alveley Shropshire:

20/00378/AMP Amendments to planning permission 19/03781/FUL to include amendment to approved parking and landscaping lay-out, modification of condition 8 to allow for cast iron effect external gutters and pipework, amendments to approved elevations - plots 1 and 2 - remove rooflights and update elevations.

20/00339/DIS Discharge of conditions 3 (external materials), 4 (joinery), 5 (roof windows), 7 (landscaping), 10 (bat boxes), 11 (bird Boxes) and 12 (lighting) on planning permission 19/03781/FUL

Parish Council recommendations – Approve, Decision – Approve.

5. Other planning matters - none.

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190. RUBBISH AND LITTER COLLECTION.

Cllr. Jakeman suggested that the Parish Council should consider organising an annual litter-pick, along the lines of the 'Great British Spring Clean' initiative sponsored by the Daily Mail and other agencies. This initiative covers the period mid-March to mid-April. She reported a large volume of rubbish around Alveley, especially along Dog Kennel Lane. Cllr. Mrs. Potter referred to the annual litter-pick in Romsley which is well supported by residents. Some Parish Councillors were not confident that an annual village-wide event would be successful and suggested that Parish Councillors should lead regular litter-picks in different parts of the Village and that the Parish Council should facilitate this by acquiring a limited supply of litter-picking equipment. After further discussion, it was **resolved** to instruct the Clerk to investigate this option and report back to the next monthly meeting.

191. PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER.

The meeting was reminded that the deadline for articles to be submitted to Cllr. Noble is 15th March.

192. ALVELEY CONSERVATION AREA

The Clerk's report was considered but it was agreed that the information provided did not give a clear indication of how the existing Conservation Area might be expanded. After discussion, the Chairman undertook to consult Alveley Historical Society, so that a clear proposition could be referred informally in the first instance to Shropshire Council's Conservation Officer.

193. REPORT FROM SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR

(Chairman suspended Standing Orders to allow Councillor Mrs. Woodward to speak)

Cllr. Mrs. Woodward referred to the flooding caused by recent storms. She confirmed that it had been necessary to devote all the resources of local emergency and public services, including Shropshire Council, to deal with these problems. This had necessarily curtailed work on other priorities, such as pot holes. She advised that sediment from the flooding has blocked many of the gullies in the area.

In relation to current highway priorities, including Tuck Hill, Cllr. Mrs. Woodward advised that she will soon be meeting Shropshire Council's recently appointed highways consultant, and will be urging for more priority to be given to the needs of rural areas.

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194. FINANCIAL REPORT.

1. Periodic Examination of Accounts to February 2020.

The Chairman, in lieu of the Vice-chairman, and Cllr. Mrs. Preece reported that, in accordance with minute 175.1 of 4th February 2020, they had examined the quarterly accounts from November 2019 to February 2020 and had found no discrepancies.

2. Bank reconciliation to 29th February 2020.

The reconciliation statement was **noted**.

3. Invoices for Approval and Cheques for Signature.

An updated schedule was circulated and the Council **resolved** to approve the schedule of invoices/direct payments and to instruct Cllrs. Narburgh and Mrs. Potter to sign the invoices, cheques and schedule.

The Council also **agreed** to a request from the Clerk to waive Financial Regulation 6.6 in respect of future invoices which relate to the 2019/20 financial year, so that invoices can be approved and cheques signed by two Councillors before the end of the financial year and in advance of the next monthly meeting on 7th April 2020.

195. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Vacancy for Parish Councillor
Footpaths and Rights of Way Officer
Rubbish and litter collection
Climate emergency

196. TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

The next monthly meeting of Alveley and Romsley Parish Council will be on Tuesday 7th April 2020 commencing at 7.45pm preceded by an Open Forum at 7.30pm in the Arden Centre Alveley.

197. FOOTPATHS AND RIGHTS OF WAY OFFICER

The Clerk reported that, as a result of discussions with Shropshire Council since the agenda was circulated, there were no longer any confidential matters to be considered. The Chairman determined that discussion regarding the future approach should be deferred until the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 20.55.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance.