

# ALVELEY AND ROMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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Dear Councillor:

You are hereby summoned to attend a **Meeting of the Parish Council of Alveley and Romsley** to be held on **Tuesday, March 2023 at Pavilion, Daddlebrook Road, Alveley** which will commence at 19.45 pm preceded by an open forum at 19.30 p.m. in order to conduct the following business enclosed on the agenda below. The Press and public are welcome to attend.

Signed:



Date: 01.03.2023

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## AGENDA

### **135/22 Chairman's Welcome, Announcements and Open Forum**

This is a Public Meeting, and the press and public are welcome to attend and are invited to address the Council.

### **136/22 Present, apologies or absent.**

### **137/22 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary or any other Interests or requests for Dispensations**

Declaration of any disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter to be discussed at the meeting and which is not included in the register of interests. Members are reminded that they are required to leave the room during the discussion and voting on matters in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, whether or not the interest is entered in the register of members interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer.

### **138/22 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of February 2023.**

### **139/22 Parish Matters**

- (i) Website – to view the website and decide whether to activate it or make changes.
- (ii) Quiet Lanes Initiative – to receive a verbal update.
- (iii) Play area CCTV – to receive a verbal update.
- (iv) Closed Churchyard – to receive a verbal update.
- (v) Village Planters – to receive a verbal update.

### **140/22 REPORT FROM SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR**

Discuss action to deal with prolonged absence of our ward councillor.

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## 141/22 TO RECEIVE DETAILS OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS

Planning Applications received – to make recommendations to Shropshire Council

Reference	23/00208/FUL
DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED:	Erection of a replacement dwelling and installation of package treatment plant.
Location:	High Leasowe, Romsley Lane, Romsley, Bridgnorth, Shropshire.
OS Reference:	378456 - 282407
Applicant:	Mr And Mrs Gatehouse
(Please find further information in Appendix Three)	

Reference	23/00745/CPL
Alternative Reference	PP-11956177
Application Validated	Wed 22 Feb 2023
Address	Onions Cottage 102 Alveley Bridgnorth Shropshire WV15 6LR
Status	Pending Consideration
Appeal Status	Unknown
Appeal Decision	Not Available

a) Planning Applications received since the agenda closed and council is to make recommendations to Shropshire Council

b) Planning Decisions received from Shropshire Council

<b>Reference:</b>	22/03792/FUL (validated: 24/08/2022)
<b>Address:</b>	New Barns Farm, Alveley, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV15 6HH
<b>Proposal:</b>	Erection of single storey side extension and rear porch
<b>Decision:</b>	Grant Permission

<b>Reference:</b>	22/05672/FUL
<b>Address:</b>	The Tithe Barn Hall Close Farm Alveley Bridgnorth Shropshire WV15 6NG
<b>Proposal:</b>	Removal of existing glazed wall section and replacement with new oak frame glazed wall section, erection of independent internal oak frame raised platform with new staircase and creation of new doorway to create first floor access to raised platform and obscure existing glazing in opposite existing glazed wall section
<b>Decision:</b>	Grant Permission

<b>Reference:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Proposal:</b>	
<b>Decision:</b>	

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- c) Planning Decisions received from Shropshire Council since the Agenda closed

## To note

- i. Other planning matters for information only – to note:

A planning enforcement case has been received but cannot be included in the agenda as it is confidential.

**142/22 Severn Valley Country Park Report and Review** (Appendix Two) – to review the information in the report.

**143/22 Risk Assessment** – to review the risk assessment updates.

## **144/22 Forward Plan 23/24**

- (i) Forward Plan - to remove items resolved or no longer relevant and add new projects.
- (ii) Discuss projects for community improvement.

## **145/22 FINANCIAL REPORTS – attached in appendix three.**

- (i) Financial Report.

**146/22 ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS** – to enable councillors to bring items to discuss for future meetings.

**147/22 Community Recognition Awards** – to receive a verbal update and discuss further action.

**147/22 Confidential item** - Chairman of Staffing to report on the Clerk's 6-month review.

## **148/22 To Confirm the date of the next meeting.**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be a monthly meeting to be held on Tuesday 4th April 2023 in the Pavilion, Daddlebrook Road, Alveley, commencing at 7.30 pm, to include an Open Forum.

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## **Appendix One** - (Draft Minutes)

### **Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> of February 2023 in the Pavilion, Daddlebrook Road, Alveley, including an Open Forum, commencing at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllr M Haddon, Cllr P Barker, Cllr I Jakeman, Cllr C Brown, Cllr C Taylor, Cllr J Taylor, Cllr S Potter, Cllr P Whale and Cllr V Voysey.

**In Attendance:** Clerk - Mrs C Martin

#### **119/22 Chairman's Welcome, Announcements and Open Forum**

No members of the public were present, the council proceeded with the meeting.

#### **120/22 Present, apologies or absent.**

Apologies have been received from Cllr R Narburgh.

#### **121/22 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary or any other Interests or requests for Dispensations**

Cllr Potter declared a pecuniary interest in item 132/22 and will took no part.

#### **122/22 To approve the Minutes of the of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023.**

The Council reviewed the minutes. Cllr Jakeman proposed to accept the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023, the motion was seconded by Cllr Whale, and agreed by the Council unanimously.

#### **123/22 Parish Matters**

(i) Refurbishment of parking area at Cooks Cross

The Clerk told Cllrs that she and the Chairman had met on site with MJP Groundworks who had promised to provide a quote within the current week. Star Tarmacking had rescheduled their visit also for the current week. There had been no response from Kier so other contractors were being approached.

(ii) Website

The Clerk told Cllrs that there were still several pages to be created for the new website but it would be ready for presentation and approval fairly soon.

#### **124/22 REPORT FROM SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR**

Cllr Lynch was not in attendance at this meeting.

#### **125/22 TO RECEIVE DETAILS OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS**

22/05673/LBC – The Council agreed unanimously that they had no objections to this application subject to the conditions.

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23/00208/FUL – After lengthy discussion Cllr Barker proposed, seconded by Cllr Jakeman, that the Council does not object but does have concerns over the increased size of the development. Cllrs agreed unanimously.

23/00242/OHL – The Council discussed the application and does not have any objections to the planning application. Proposed by Cllr Barker and seconded by Cllr J Taylor Cllrs agreed unanimously that they had no objection.

a) Planning Applications received since the agenda closed for Council to make recommendations to Shropshire Council

None received.

b) Planning Decisions received from Shropshire Council

22/03792/FUL – The Council noted the decision.

22/04931/FUL – The Council noted the decision.

22/03792/FUL – The Council noted the decision.

22/04822/FUL – The Council noted the decision.

22/04771/DIS – The Council noted the decision.

c) Planning Decisions received from Shropshire Council since the agenda closed

None received.

## **To note**

i. Other planning matters for information only – to note:

A planning enforcement case has been received but cannot be included in the agenda as it is confidential. Press and public were excluded and Council went into confidential session. Cllrs noted information in respect of the enforcement case. Council then resumed formal session.

## **126/22 Training and Development**

Cllrs discussed the Training and Development Plan. Cllr Jakeman seconded by Cllr Barker proposed accepting the plan. Council agreed unanimously.

## **127/22 Community Award Scheme**

The Chairman had previously brought the Community Award scheme to the attention of Cllrs via email. For those who hadn't joined the email discussion she outlined the basic idea and how other Councils presented it. The response was very positive and it was decided that a trial event would be included at the Annual Parish meeting. Cllrs Brown and Voysey were given delegated authority to supervise the project which was proposed by Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr Barker and accepted unanimously.

## **128/22 Village Planters**

Cllrs briefly discussed maintenance of the Village planters and it was agreed that 3 Cllrs would be responsible for overall upkeep and for finding volunteers for future help.

## **129/22 Planter Plaque**

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Cllr Barker asked Council to consider an inscribed sandstone plaque for the memorial planter as this could be securely fixed and less attractive for theft. Cllr Haddon was tasked with organising the project with a budget of £200.00. Proposed by Cllr Barker and seconded by Cllr Jakeman this was agreed unanimously.

## **130/22 Coronation Picnic**

After a short discussion the Council agreed in principle to a donation towards the Coronation picnic. The ARA treasurer will be asked to forward invoices of relevant expenses to the Clerk, after the event, for Cllrs to decide on an amount.

## **131/22 CCTV**

Cllr Dowson told Cllrs that no final conclusion had been reached in respect of this project but the working group would meet to prepare a formal report as soon as possible.

## **132/22 FINANCIAL REPORTS – attached in appendix One**

### **(i) Financial Report**

The financial report was reviewed by the Council including the schedule of payments. Cllr Jakeman proposed to accept the schedule of payments alongside the financial report, this motion was seconded by Cllr Brown and agreed unanimously by the Council. Cllrs Jakeman and Brown reviewed the schedule of payments to the receipts/invoices alongside the bank reconciliation and confirmed to the Council that they are correct.

### **(ii) January Finance meeting recap**

The Chairman summarised the main points/outcomes from the financial meeting held in January for the councillors who were unable to attend the previous meeting. Given the concerns which the Council is likely to face from both internal and external auditors the RFO has asked that prior to the next meeting Cllrs will have looked at the Forward Plan for 23/24 and formed suggestions for items which should be added or removed. They should also have suggestions for initiatives or projects for the immediate reduction of funds.

### **Minutes:**

The minutes of the January Finance meeting were reviewed and Cllr Barker proposed that they were an accurate record of the meeting, this was seconded by Cllr Brown and the minutes were accepted unanimously by the Council.

## **133/22 ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

Forward Plan

Projects & Initiatives

Neighbourhood Plan

## **134/22 To Confirm the date of the next meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be a monthly meeting to be held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 in the Pavilion, Daddlebrook Road, Alveley, commencing at 7.30 pm, to include an Open Forum.

**Meeting closed at 21.06.**

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## **Appendix Two**

### **Severn Valley Country Park Management 2022/2023**

#### **Report for Alveley Parish Council**

Report date; Feb 2023

#### **Introduction:**

More important progress has been made this year with management of Severn Valley Country Park. Alveley Parish Council have kindly agreed to support the park during the current financial year with a contribution of £1500.

All funds are ring-fenced for management works at the park. This report outlines other key achievements made possible thanks to the support of the parish council. Shropshire Council would like to thank the parish councillors for their ongoing support.

The park has once again been awarded the Green Flag this year. This highlights the quality of this prestigious public open space.

#### **Spoil heap conservation:**

Of all the habitats within Severn Valley Country Park, wildflower grassland is one of the most important and it requires careful management with an annual cut and collection of arisings. Because of the nutrient-poor status of much of the underlying soil at the park, the grassland that develops is rich in wildflowers such as orchids, ox-eye daisy and birds foot trefoil. These kind of habitats are rare across the wider countryside. Larger meadows are cut by a local farmer for hay. The smaller areas are cut by staff and volunteers using the park tractor or mower. A viewpoint that was cut through the trees on the spoil heap several years ago is now developing as a very rich site for wildflowers. Over the last few years, the ride has been home to a growing selection of rare butterflies including marbled whites and dingy skippers. A stunning moth called a 6 belted clearwing was also recorded in Summer 2022 (photo below);



To aid management of the ride, over the last 2 years the tree stumps have been removed by a mechanical stump grinder. Previously volunteers had been brush-cutting the ride which was a slow process and very hard work!



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Ride at Severn Valley Country Park;



## **Reducing carbon output:**

We all have a role to play in reducing our carbon outputs. This year the team at the park have taken delivery of an electric Polaris utility vehicle. Because of the solar panels on the roof of the Visitor Centre, the park generates green energy to charge the new vehicle.

Staff and volunteers have also been trialling the production of bio-char. Due to the nature of management work, a lot of brash and woody arisings are generated each year on the park. Previously a lot of this has been burnt on bonfires meaning that the carbon was released into the atmosphere. Bio-char production involves burning woodland arisings in a kiln. The bio-char that is produced is a type of charcoal. This has value as a soil conditioner. The carbon is therefore returned to the soil.

## **Ash dieback:**

Ash dieback is a tree disease that is currently sweeping through the UK. Unfortunately the Severn Valley is becoming a bit of a hotspot for the disease. Visitors to the park may have seen ash trees in Hall Close Coppice with orange spots on. These are trees that have been marked to be felled as they have dieback. Ash trees that are affected become very brittle and dangerous to climb, making felling them a specialist job for contractors. The works planned for this March will total around £4000.

## **Events and school visits:**

2022 saw the return of the Severn Valley Trail Run. Entrants came from across Shropshire and further afield. It was to see runners from both Alveley and Highley in the starting line-up. The event raised money for managing the park. Park Run is a weekly timed 5km run around the park. It is organised by volunteers and is another great example of the local community helping to get involved at Severn Valley Country Park and shape the future of this vital public space.

As well as the running event, this year we have delivered a varied programme of public events for all ages. Since February 2022, a number of workshops have been held with two local craft societies. The Highley Girls and the Alveley Chapel Crafters have been working with textile artist Georgia Jacobs to create textiles that tell the story of the first 30 years at Severn Valley Country Park. Over Summer 2022, the wonderful artwork that was created was displayed in the Visitor Centre.

The image below shows a textile reproduction of the coal mine;



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## Management plan:

The 5 year management plan for the park expires at the end of the financial year. Over the course of 2023, a new document will be compiled that outlines plans for the future.

## Volunteering:

The volunteer group continues to grow. Recent recruits include more Alveley residents of all ages. The work that the volunteers undertake represents a vital resource. Severn Valley Supporters Group also work hard to raise funds to help with management of the park. They are currently raising funds to try and renovate the wetland and reed beds

## Challenges:

With the cost of materials and contractor work increasing, managing the habitats and infrastructure of Severn Valley Country Park is increasingly challenging. The team at the park are working hard to boost income to help pay for essential tasks

## Conclusion:

Shropshire Council would like to formally thank the members of Alveley PC for their kind support. The partnership approach means that continual improvements can be made to Severn Valley Country Park. The bond between the local community and the park are also being strengthened all the time.

Our request, once again, is that the parish council consider a financial contribution for financial year 2022/23.

The site manager would be happy to attend any parish council meetings (remote or otherwise) if needed.