

ALVINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 26th July 2016

Present: Councillor N Ashley (Chairman)
Councillor I Gleeson
Councillor A Graves
Councillor R Wahlberg

Apologies: Mr Philip Hewitt-Brown

In Attendance: Councillor D McNally
Councillor D Buckley
PC Richard Precious

Clerk: Mrs S McFarland

The Chairman declared the meeting open and extended a warm welcome to everyone present and in particular to PC Precious Community Beat Manager for Louth Rural and Wolds.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr Hewitt Brown who was unable to attend through ill health. Councillor Ashley indicated that he had that day received an E mail from Mr Hewitt Brown informing him that in view of his health he would not be able to take on the role of treasurer after all. Consideration will therefore need to be given to finding a suitable replacement as soon as possible.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th May 2016, having been circulated prior to the meeting were read, approved, proposed by Councillor Graves and Seconded by Councillor Wahlberg and signed by the chairman as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING

Road Condition:- There have been further pot holes reported – outside Anvil on Yarburgh Road. The Clerk will file a report with the County Council and residents are encouraged to report this and other pot holes via the internet too. There have been other reports made in regard to the verges which have since been cut. Councillor McNally informed the meeting that the verges would be cut less frequently in future as part of the Council's plan to reduce costs.

Queens 90th Birthday Celebrations:- these went extremely well and the Chairman extended his congratulations to everyone involved.

Planning Applications: - The application made for the erection of a building to store farm equipment on land East of The Chestnuts has been approved since the last meeting. An application has also been submitted for the construction of a riding arena at Lock Farm Lock Road. On the basis that the Environment Agency has considered the proposed plan and does not consider it presents a risk of flooding despite it's proximity to the Canal no objections were raised by any member of the Parish Council in relation to this application.

TREASURER'S REPORT

With the Treasurer being absent no formal Treasurers Report could be given. However Councillor Gleeson was able to report that given no payments had been made or received since the last meeting she anticipated the bank balance remained unchanged at £2905.89.

CORRESPONDENCE

**See attached

Consultation on Draft Local Plan – See separate item below.

Code of Conduct Training – The event was attended by Councillor Wahlberg and Mrs McFarland Clerk who found the evening informative.

Invitation to Forum Meeting 26.9.16 – Councillor Wahlberg, Gleeson and Graves all indicated a wish to attend this. They will each arrange directly which talks they wish to attend.

Transparency Code – Our Web Site Page www.alvinghamvillage.co.uk/organisations/parish-council/ has now been considered by Russell Moore at Lincs CC who indicated that this is acceptable for the purpose of compliance with the transparency code. We do need to include a couple of other pieces of information and he was able to offer guidance on these. The Clerk will ensure that this information is passed on to Miss Catherine Shaw who manages the website for upload prior to the next meeting. The Council extended their thanks to Miss Shaw for her assistance with this matter.

FOOTWAY LIGHTING

Our response to the proposal was submitted within the time frame allowed indicating that we did not want the lights switching off but did not feel able to take on the cost or responsibility of running and maintaining the lights. Our response has been acknowledged by ELDC. We now await their decision.

DISTRICT PLAN

The consultation on the Draft Local Plan was discussed at length. Essentially as Alvingham has just enough points to be classified as a 'medium sided village' it would be impossible to increase our point score significantly to enable qualification as a 'large village'. Councillors Buckley and McNally were able to offer their advice on the likely impact of the proposal on the village. It seems likely that planning will be severely restricted with perhaps only the possibility of applications under the 'single plot exemption' being successful. We are invited to respond to the Draft Local Plan by 8th August. It was agreed that The Clerk would formulate a response indicating that the proposal to stop development will adversely affect local services.

OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS

Village Meeting – Councillor Ashley reported that the village meeting held to discuss the recent increase in crime especially burglaries of outbuildings in the area was well attended. He had been asked if the Parish Council would fund the cost of a sign to be displayed on one of the entrances to the village advising that the area operated a neighbourhood watch type scheme. The cost of the sign is £50. On the basis that the Village Hall and Social Club will also fund the cost of a sign each it was agreed that the Parish Council would meet the cost of one sign.

Also arising from the village meeting Community Beat Manager Richard Precious had been invited to attend tonight's meeting to provide an update on criminal activity in the area. He was able to confirm that there had not been too many problems since May and that there are no concerns for the safety of residents or their property. Operation Ardwolf which has been introduced as a result of an increase in rural burglaries has been very successful and it was understood that the suspected perpetrator of many of these burglaries has been apprehended and is now subject to a strict curfew. PC Precious confirmed that he and/or his colleagues would be visiting the village regularly and urged residents to report any anti-social behaviour, suspicious activities or vehicles to the police. The Council extended their thanks to PC Precious for attending and providing an update. It is hoped he will be able to attend future meetings to keep the Council abreast of all developments.

NEXT MEETING- Tuesday 27th September 2016 at 7.30pm

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.10pm