

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF ALDERMINSTER PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, NEW ROAD ON WEDNESDAY 16TH MARCH 2011
AT 6.45PM

PRESENT: MR.J.MELVILLE (CHAIRMAN), MR.M.MEADOWS (VICE-CHAIRMAN), DR.M.EDWARDS, MRS.M.MOODY, MR.J.HUTCHINGS, MRS.G.HUDSPITH, COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR I.SECCOMBE.

1. Apologies for absence.
MR.A.JENKINS

2. Any items from Members of the Public present at the Meeting including those items on the agenda
(There is a time limit of 3 minutes allowed for each item)
No members of the public were present.

3. Declarations of Interests.

Members are asked to declare interests in items on the Agenda in accordance with the following provisions:

(a) Statutory Model Code of Conduct for Parish Councils

(Note: Members are reminded that the Code of Conduct provides that should they have a prejudicial interest in any matter under discussion, then providing the matter is considered in public session, they are entitled, with the consent of the Chairman, to make representations and answer questions if members of the public are granted the same entitlement. Members must leave the room before the ensuing debate and vote and must not attempt to improperly influence a decision about that matter)

MRS.M.MOODY declared an interest in items 10(a) and (b), MRS.G.HUDSPITH declared an interest in items 5(c) and 10(d) MR.M.MEADOWS declared an interest in item 10(d)

4. Acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting (January 2011)

The Clerk had circulated the minutes of the previous meeting which were accepted as a true record of what had taken place. The CHAIRMAN signed the minutes book.

5. Matters Arising from the minutes of the previous meeting:

(a) Forum Update

The CHAIRMAN had attended the latest Forum meeting. The police had given their usual presentation which involved speed checks carried out in other parishes following requests. However very few prosecutions had arisen from these checks. A speed gun could cost in the region of £1000-£2000 if parishes wished to conduct their own checks. It was confirmed that New Road was a secondary route for the gritting schedule and would be done when circumstances allowed but not on a regular basis. There was a further request from the emergency services that householders ensured that their properties were easily identifiable from the road to make finding the properties easier for the emergency services. He had also attended a recent Core Strategy Workshop with MRS.G.HUDSPITH run by the District Council planning officers. He felt that it was a useful exercise but not enough time had been given.

(b) Public Notice Board

The CHAIRMAN reported that he had received one quote for £250 from Mr.G.Wood and that he would obtain a further quote.

(c) Village Hall Report - Royal Wedding celebrations

The Clerk had circulated an email from Mrs.G.Ramskill representing the Monday Evening Group Alderminster (MEGA) seeking financial assistance towards the cost of the planned celebration for the forthcoming Royal Wedding. After discussion it was proposed by MRS.M.MOODY seconded by MR.J.HUTCHINGS that the costs of the screen hire, the magician and the licence be met from Parish Council funds, to a total of £181. Members agreed this proposal.

MR.M.MEADOWS reported that recently the hall committee had bought some new crockery towards which the Parish Council had given a grant. They had also suffered flooding from a burst pipe and the insurance had covered this event.

6. Any matters from the District Councillor or County Councillor.

Councillor Seccombe informed the members that following a review at the County Council and in line with the Government policy to reduce public spending, the 6 Directors will be reduced to 3 and there will only be 17 heads of services. There will be a 60% cut in funding. MRS.M.MOODY told Councillor Seccombe that there were still problems with the small buses used by Stagecoach on the 50A route into Stratford upon Avon. Councillor Seccombe said that whilst she had done her best to get a larger bus provided, the bus company refused.

7. To receive any new planning applications

(a) 11/0033/FUL - Millenium House, Ettington Lane Change of use of pasture land to provide an all weather riding surface - no comments

(b) 10/2613/FUL - Park Hill Farm, Goldicote - first floor rear extension - no comments

(c) 11/00265/FUL - The Limes, Banbury Road, Ettington - Change of use of land to domestic curtilage - Members discussed this application at the meeting. It was thought that the fence referred to in the application was a relatively new addition and that the original bungalow that had been replaced had a small garden. These comments would be forwarded to the planning department but the Parish Council were happy to leave the decision to the officer in the case.

(d) 11/00225/FUL - Alderminster Farm complex - flood defence scheme - members discussed these plans at the meeting and fully supported this scheme.

8. To receive any results of planning applications

(a) 11/0033/FUL - Millenium House, Ettington Lane Change of use of pasture land to provide an all weather riding surface - GRANTED with conditions

9. To receive any correspondence

(a) Community Right to Challenge consultation documents (previously forwarded by email)

Members were left to complete the consultation documents individually

(b) Letter from Mrs Baylis re dog fouling (previously forwarded by email)

Members discussed this complaint and agreed that a note should be placed in Village Voices asking dog owners to be more responsible for their animals.

(c) Speedaware - Changes to the current scheme

Changes to the current speedaware scheme were being made and were outlined in a letter from the County Council. The first relied on a pole being available on which to site a flashing sign. There was also an additional cost of £250. Members agreed that due to the high costs and the fact that speed checks by the police had shown that there was no justification for spending this amount of money on this road, then the Parish Council would not participate.

The second scheme involved a portable flashing sign which could be operated by volunteers. Members agreed that in the opinion of the Parish Council members New Road was not a real problem regarding speeding traffic but would not object to the sign being used if people were prepared to volunteer to operate the scheme.

(d) HMRC - Requirement for PAYE scheme by Parish Councils

The Clerk advised members that HMRC had written to all councils advising them that they must use the PAYE scheme for all employee's salaries. The Clerk had registered the Parish Council and would be operating a PAYE from May 1st 2011. He assured members he had always paid any tax due to the authorities by means of Annual Self Assessment.

10. Passing of any accounts for payment

The following accounts were passed for payment:

- (a) Clerk's Salary February and March - £***
- (b) Clerk's expenses incurred £37.86p
- (c) Village Hall Bookings 2010 - £60
- (d) Grant to Village Hall - £234.00p

11. Closure of meeting

The CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 7.50pm

Meeting dates for 2011

18th May (PC AGM)

20th July

21st September

16th November

Signed M.Moody,
Clerk to the Parish Council