

**MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF ALDERMINSTER PARISH
COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, ALDERMINSTER ON WEDNESDAY
21ST MAY 2008 AT 7.30PM**

PRESENT: MRS.M.V.MOODY (CHAIRMAN), MR.J.HUTCHINGS (VICE-CHAIRMAN), DR.M.EDWARDS, MR.A.JENKINS, COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR I.SECCOMBE AND TWO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

1. Apologies for absence.

None received

2. 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

Members are reminded that the code of conduct provides that should they have a prejudicial interest in any matter under discussion they should withdraw from the room and not seek improperly to influence a decision about that matter.

Mrs.M.V.Moody declared an interest in items 12(a&b)

Mr.A.Jenkins declared an interest in items 7(a&b)

At this point the CHAIRMAN asked if any member of the public wished to address the meeting. There was no response.

3. Vacancies for Parish Councillors.

There are currently three vacancies for Parish Councillors and the Clerk explained that the members could now co-opt to fill these vacancies.

The following proposals to fill these vacancies were made:

Mr.A.Jenkins, seconded by Dr.M.Edwards proposed Mrs.G.Hudspith

Mr.J.Hutchings, seconded by Mr.A.J, proposed Mr.M.Meadows

Mr.A.Jenkins, seconded by Dr.M.Edwards, proposed Mr.J.Melville

There were no other proposals and on a single vote all three were co-opted to the Parish Council.

Mrs.G.Hudspith and Mr.M.Meadows were present and took their seats in the meeting.

4. Acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting (March 2008 & AGM May 2008)

The Clerk had circulated the minutes which were accepted by those present as a true record of what had taken place at both meetings. The CHAIRMAN signed the minutes book.

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

(a) Bridge over the River Stour – Update

Dr. M.Edwards gave the members a brief resume of the progress to date regarding the issuing of the Compulsory Purchase Order by the County Council. Councillor I.Seccombe also gave the members a resume of the calls and correspondence she had received from the owners of the land, Mr.J.Maples MP, the Alscot Park Estate and Mr.Martin Fry of the County Council. She advised members that it was not a permanent purchase of all the land involved. No other alternative designs had been forthcoming to date from any interested party.

(b) Bus User Group

There had been no meeting.

(c) Highway Matters

Members discussed the poor state of the C72 and the fact that some time ago the County Council had it earmarked for some repairs but these had never been carried out. Councillor Seccombe undertook to find out when this work was likely to be started.

(d) Computer project

The Clerk reported that the website was now fully operational and could be accessed via www.alderminster-pc.gov.uk

Following the recent survey, as no members of the public requested computer access in the village hall, it was agreed that Mrs.G.Hudspith would have the second computer on indefinite loan as long as she remained a parish councillor.

(e) Overgrown hedge in Village next to Cover Point

The Clerk reported that he had taken the matter up with Mrs.Emma Holman-West from Alscot Park Estate and she had agreed to look at the area.

(f) Fouling by dogs

The CHAIRMAN said that since the light nights had arrived the number of complaints had appeared to reduce. She said that she had received a supply of 'no fouling' signs that residents could place outside their premises if they felt that they had a particular problem.

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

Councillor Seccombe spoke of the proposed new ECO-TOWN for the former army camp at Long Marston and the efforts of local people to prevent this from happening. She said that a group of people had formed an 'opposition group' called 'BARD' which was funded through donations. Stratford on Avon District Council and Wychavon District Council had both come out against the proposals and John Maples MP was also against the scheme. She said that it would be useful if someone in Alderminster could distribute information on behalf of BARD. A note would be placed in Village Voices to see if anyone could assist in this way. She also gave members information regarding the illegal traveller camp on the A429 near to Shipston on Stour.

7. To receive any new planning applications

(a) 08/00051/FUL - Nut Tree Barn - amendment to previously submitted plans

(b)08/00104/LBC - Nut Tree Barn - amendment to previously submitted plans

Response sent: The Parish Councillors have considered the amended plans but cannot see that these have altered the situation in any significant way. The raising of the roof would change the original character of these old farm buildings. The Councillors object on the grounds that it would be against policy to allow these changes.

The members endorsed these comments

(c) 08/00914/LBC - Ettington Park Hotel - re-instatement of the fire damaged leisure area etc.

Response sent: no comments

The members endorsed these comments

8. To receive any results of planning applications

(a) None received to date of meeting

9. To receive any correspondence

(a) Parish and Town Council Induction Day - Alderminster Village Hall Saturday 13th September 2008 from 10am until 4pm. was noted

- (b) Stratford District Public Realm Grant Scheme was noted
- (c) Stratford District Flood Defence Assistance Grants was noted - Mr.A.Jenkins spoke of the efforts of the residents of Alderminster Farm site to build a bund to prevent further flood damage in the future. He would investigate the grant scheme to see if it would fund some of this project.
- (d) Stratford District Administration of the Code of Conduct was noted
- (e) Stratford District Refuse & recycling information was noted

10. To Review the Internal Audit

The Clerk explained that members have to review the Internal Audit procedures of the Parish Council. Members reviewed the system of payments and receipts and were satisfied that the the Internal Audit procedures are satisfactory. They asked the Clerk to thank Janine Bluteau for carrying out the internal audit this year.

11. Presentation of Annual Accounts 2007/2008

The Clerk produced the accounts for the approval of the members following the internal audit. Members accepted the accounts and authorised the CHAIRMAN to sign the Annual Governance Statement on their behalf.

12. Passing of any accounts for payment

- (a) Clerk's Salary April and May - £350.69p
- (b) Clerk's expenses incurred £14.73p
- (c) WALC Annual Subscriptions £131
- (d) Allianz Cornhill Annual Insurance Premium £438.79p
- (e) Stratford District Council - Computer project -£1098.92p
- (f) Stratford District Council - Training Course £30
- (g) Stratford District Council - Election 2008 costs - £100

13. Closure of meeting

Meeting dates for 2008:-

16th July 2008

17th September 2008

19th November 2008

There being no further business the CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 9.45pm