

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF ALDERMINSTER PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, NEW ROAD, ON WEDNESDAY 21ST JANUARY
2009 AT 7.30PM

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

1. Apologies for absence.

MR. J.HUTCHINGS, MR. A.JENKINS

2. Declarations of Interests.

(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 12 (a & b)

3. Any items from Members of the Public present at the Meeting including those items on the agenda

No members of the public were present.

4. Acceptance of the minutes of the previous meetings (November and December 2008)

The Clerk had circulated both sets of minutes 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) Flood Defence Grants update

The Clerk reported that the Alderminster Farm Bund project had produced receipts for work completed on the project and had been paid their share of the grant. No communication had been received from either of the other two projects.

(b) Bridge over the River Stour

Dr.EDWARDS reported that there had been delays caused by the weather and that the bridge was now scheduled for completion in February.

(c) Community Forum

Mr. MELVILLE had attended the last meeting of the Forum and had raised the following items:

Ragwort, Bus stop at the Wimpstone Turn, Grass cutting and Fly tipping. He reported that WCC do have a systematic programme for Ragwort spraying although due to budgetary restrictions some areas do go untreated. WCC would look at the safety concerns he raised with the bus stop. Other villages were also concerned at the standard of grass cutting although no remedy was offered by the District Council. Finally none of the agencies were aware of the increase in fly tipping and asked for details of where this was occurring. The next meeting would be in Quinton Village Hall on 26th February and Mr. MELVILLE agreed to attend. Councillor Seccombe said it was intended to have

the 'Bulldog Bash' on the agenda for the meeting.

(d) Parish Survey/Pro-active Parish Council

Members discussed the possibility of producing a village 'survey' and it was agreed that a leaflet drop around the village would be made in an attempt to encourage villagers to come forward to take an active part in the project.

(e) Bus stop at Wimpstone Turn

A letter had been sent to the WCC asking for the area to be looked at in the light of the concerns raised by Mr. MELVILLE and a reply had been received which indicated that nothing would be done to alter the layout. WCC had agreed to repaint the 'BUS STOP' signage on the road surface at this point.

(f) Tidy Village

Members discussed this item and agreed it would probably form part of the survey.

(g) Defibrillator

The CHAIRMAN said that a public meeting would be called to gauge interest once the lighter nights arrived in the hope that this would generate more interest from villagers.

6. New Matters

(a) Damaged Grit box in New Road

The Clerk reported that the grit box had been written off in a recent accident but the offending vehicle had driven off from the scene and the owner was unknown. He had arranged for a replacement. A telephone consultation with members had resulted in the agreement to purchase a high visibility yellow bin. Mr. MEADOWS had kindly agreed to take delivery and to place it in New Road. He also spoke of the efforts taken to get the WCC to either put this road on the gritting schedule or to take some steps to improve road safety on this road, but for various reasons the WCC refused these requests.

Several accidents had occurred on the road during this particular cold period.

(b) Damaged footway on A3400/Pot Hole

Mrs. HUDSPITH had reported a pothole in the village which had been passed on to WCC for attention

(c) Interactive sign not working

Dr. EDWARDS had reported one of the interactive signs not working which had also been reported to WCC for attention.

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

County Councillor Seccombe began her reports by talking about the problems both Authorities had this year in setting their budgets due to the present adverse economic climate. She also advised members that the Judicial Review into the proposed new Eco-Town at the former army camp at Long Marston was due on 22/1/2009 and 23/1/2009. She also gave details of an idea raised by the Chairman of Preston on Stour PC to open up the old tramway as a cycle route. This was just in the 'idea' stage at the present time but she had been asked by that PC to obtain the support of Alderminster PC.

8. To receive any new planning applications

(a) 08/3223/FUL Eversley, Alderminster -two storey rear extension.

Members considered the plans and no objections were raised

9. To receive any results of planning applications

(a) 08/02588/FUL - Farriers, Goldicote Court - erection of shed/workshop/studio - GRANTED

10. To receive any correspondence

(a) Consultation Document from SDC re Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act
The Clerk read the correspondence to members who agreed that it was not a viable proposition for Alderminster Parish Council. The cost to the parish in implementing the procedures far outweighed the benefits that would be gained. The Clerk would let the SDC know the Parish Councillors' views.

(b) Recycling and Refuse alterations from SDC were noted

The Clerk would ask if someone from SDC would attend the Annual Assembly in March.

(c) Cycle Way along A3400 suggestion from Preston on Stour PC.

Councillor Seccombe had given details of this idea which was supported by the members.

(d) Emergency Planning Workshop - SDC - February 18th 7pm -9 pm was noted

(e) Consultation from Communities and Local Government re Publicity by Local Authorities.

The Clerk was delegated to give any reply on behalf of the Parish Council

(f) Climate Change Partnership offer of meeting with Parish Council was noted

Members asked the Clerk to arrange the attendance of someone from the Partnership to attend the Annual Assembly

11. To set the Annual Precept for 2009/10

The Clerk had circulated a draft budget which members discussed. It was resolved that the the precept should remain at the same level as the previous year at £5000.

12. Passing of any accounts for payment

(a) Clerk's Salary December 2008 and January 2009 £400.75p

(b) Clerk's expenses incurred £37.36p

(c) Alderminster Farm Management Bund Scheme Account - £2560

13. Closure of meeting

Date of Next Meeting

18th March 2009 (6.45pm PC meeting 8.00pm Annual Assembly)

20th May 2009 (AGM)

15th July 2009

16th September 2009

18th November 2009