Alderminster Parish Council

Annual meeting of the Parish Council

Wednesday 17th May 2023 Alderminster Village Hall 7.30 pm

Present: Cllr Lesley Casley

Cllr David Curtis Cllr Karen Jones Cllr Mark Meadows Cllr John Melville

Mrs M Norman (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

Also present: Cllr Izzi Seccombe, Cllr Dominic Skinner and four members of the public.

1 | Election of Chairman:

Cllr Karen Jones was unanimously elected as Chairman of the Parish Council.

2 Apologies:

There were no apologies for absence.

3 **Declaration of interests:**

Cllr Meadows declared an interest in relation to item 13 iii).

4 Declaration of acceptance of office:

The Chairman and Councillors all signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the clerk.

5 Minutes of the previous meetings:

The minutes of the meeting of the 15th March 2023 were unanimously agreed as an accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.

6 **General Power of Competence**:

It was unanimously agreed and resolved that the Parish Council met the criteria for eligibility to exercise the General Power of Competence as defined under s1(1) of the Localism Act 2011, namely, that a) the Council has a CiLCA qualified clerk and b) that the number of elected Councillors at the last ordinary election equalled two thirds of its total number of Councillors.

7

Annual Governance and Accountability Return Part 2:

- a) The Council received and approved the internal auditor's report.
- b) The Council approved the Annual Governance Statement which was signed by the Chairman.
- c) The Council approved the Accounting Statements which were signed by the Chairman.

d) The Council certified that it was exempt from submitting an Annual Governance and Accountability Return to the external auditor.

It was noted that all the above documents, together with the Notice of Public Rights and publication of unaudited Annual Governance and Accountability Return would be posted on the Parish Council's website by the 1st July 2023.

County Councillor's report:

As Cllr Seccombe had been unable to attend the earlier Parish Meeting, the Chairman invited her to make a report at this juncture. Cllr Seccombe said that since Covid, the County Council had been attempting to help and support people in their return to normality. One of the initiatives the Council was supporting was to enable people to make a fresh start. To this end, the Council was promoting apprenticeships and skill change classes.

Warwickshire County Council has a fairly large property portfolio consisting mainly of school and office buildings which are now surplus to requirement. Working in conjunction with a local property developer, the Council is providing affordable housing on these sites, most of which are in town centres. A start up project has begun in Nuneaton . The County Council and the developer, Countryside, have just won a national award for their partnership. Ofsted has made an interim visit to the Children's home in Stratford and emphasised how impressed they were with the work being done.

Warwickshire County Council is supporting several Food banks throughout the county and is also providing some needy families with vouchers. Micro sites offering support and warm hubs have also been set up.

The County Councillor's Grant fund is now open. Applications can be submitted up until the 18th June 2023.

8 Insurance:

It was unanimously resolved to renew the Council's insurance with Zurich Insurers at the cost of £300 per annum.

9 **Notice board**:

It was agreed to allocate the sum of £500 to purchase a new Parish Council notice board.

10 Any matters from the Chairman:

The Chairman had no matters to report.

11 Review of Financial Regulations:

The Council reviewed their Financial Regulations and agreed that no amendments were necessary.

12 Review of Standing Orders:

The Council reviewed their Standing Orders and agreed that no amendments were necessary.

13 | Planning applications:

The following planning applications were noted:

- i) 23/00768/FUL Old Worcester House, Alderminster: proposed carport. No representation was made to this application.
- ii) 23/00867/FUL The Lodge, Goldicote: proposed single storey rear extension. No representation was made to this application.
- iii) APP/J3720/W/22/3310085: appeal against Stratford District Council's refusal of planning permission for application 22/3310085/OUT for the construction of up

to 17 self build/custom build houses. It was agreed to lodge a further objection to this appeal.

The results of the following planning applications were noted:

- i) 22/03370/FUL Hill Farm, Alderminster: permission granted for change of use from agricultural land to domestic garden and conversion of agricultural barn into a dwelling, including provision of a detached garage and associated development.
- ii) 22/03492/FUL Holly Barn, Goldicote: permission granted for double storey extension to front of existing dwelling with 2 bay carport adjacent. Construction of remotely located 3 bay garage with room over.
- iii) 23/00768/FUL Old Worcester House, Alderminster: permission refused for carport.

14 Accounts for payments and finance matters:

The following payments were approved and authorised:

- i) WALC (annual subscription) £205.00
- ii) HSBC (bank charges) £8.00
- iii) Clerk's salary (March) £**
- iv) Keepitpersonal (Coronation mugs) £304.99
- v) Clearview (bus shelter cleaning) £100.00
- vi) HMRC (income tax) £**
- vii) HSBC (bank charges) £8.00
- viii) Clerk's salary (April) £**
- ix) HMRC (income tax) £**
- x) Mrs A Derry (internal audit) £75.00
- xi) Evergreen Trees (flowers for planters) £367.20
- xii) Stratford District Council (bin emptying) £159.60

The supporting documentation was signed by the Chairman.

15 | Correspondence:

The clerk had received a Freedom of Information request from a resident asking for copies of correspondence in relation to the culvert beside the main road.

16 | Councillors' reports and items for future agenda:

Community recruitment drive for vacancies on Parish Council and other community projects. Consider undertaking a Neighbourhood Plan. Appoint a PC representative on the Village Hall Management Committee.

17 Dates of forthcoming meetings:

The following dates were set for forthcoming meetings:

10th July 2023

11th September 2023

13th November 2023

8th January 2024

11th March 2024

13th May 2024

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

