

Alderminster Parish Council

Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council

Wednesday 30th September 2020

Remote Zoom Meeting 6.00 pm

Present: Cllr Karen Jones (Chairman)

Cllr John Melville

Cllr Mark Meadows

Cllr Michael White

Mrs M Norman (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

Also present: Cllr Izzi Seccombe and Cllr Penny-Anne O'Donnell

1	Apologies: There were no apologies for absence.
2	Declaration of interests Cllr Meadows declared an interest in respect of item 8. Cllr O'Donnell declared an interest in respect of the same item. She advised the Council that she would request another District Councillor to take her place at any meeting where a planning application submitted by Rosconn was to be discussed.
3	Questions from the public: There were no questions from members of the public.
4	Minutes of the previous meetings: The minutes of the meeting of the 27 th July 2020 were unanimously agreed as an accurate record. These would be signed by the Chairman at a later date.
5	Councillor resignation: The Council noted with regret the resignation of Cllr James Dignan. The Chairman thanked Cllr Dignan for the years of service he had provided for the residents of Goldicote. The statutory notice concerning his resignation had been posted and the Clerk would advise the Council when they were free to co-opt.
6	Councillor co-option: It was unanimously resolved to co-opt Mrs Lesley Casley to fill one of the vacant seats on the Parish Council. Cllr Casley signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form in the presence of the Clerk and Council.
7	Old Tramway revived: Dr. Andy Fincham made a presentation outlining plans to revive the old tramway between Stratford-on-Avon and Shipston-on-Stour as a cycling route. A Community Interest Company had been established with the aim of providing safe access for cyclists and avoid the necessity

of using the busy A3400. Once complete, the cycle path would contribute to the National Cycle Path Network (Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy 2020). It would provide an environmentally friendly way for visitors and locals to explore both towns, and contribute to the local economy through enhanced tourism opportunities. The group is soliciting the support of Parish Councils along the route to help extend their influence and network. The Minister for Cycling (currently the MP for Daventry) has a £2billion budget to which County Councils can apply for funding. At the moment, the Old Tramway project is in its very early stages, concentrating on establishing ownership of the land through which the old tram line passed. Alderminster is one of the most complicated sections of the route, as the line originally crossed the A3400.

The Chairman offered to act as a liaison between the Old Tramway group and the Parish Council. All Councillors were eager to support the project. Cllr Seccombe also offered the assistance of the County Council in providing background information.

Cllr White joined the meeting at 6.30 pm.

8 Proposed self/custom build development land off Shipston Road, Alderminster:

Mr Daniel Hatcher, Planning Director of Rosconn, outlined Rosconn's plans to submit a planning application for 15 self build/custom built houses on land at the back of The Old Stour housing development. He explained that Stratford District Council's Site Allocation Plan had been delayed and was not now expected to be adopted until 2022. Because of this there was an unmet need in the district for sites for self or custom built houses. Rosconn had decided to take advantage of the opportunity to bring their proposed site forward now. An outline planning application for 15 houses would be submitted shortly. Mr Hatcher asked for the Parish Council's views on the Draft Design Code (see Appendix A attached).

Following the presentation, it was agreed that the Council would submit a list of questions to Rosconn regarding infrastructure, site management, provision of suitable arrangements for surface water runoff, and marketing strategy. These responses would be considered alongside the outline planning application and made available to members of the public.

9 District and County Councillors' reports:

Cllr Seccombe was concerned about the rise in infection rates of the Covid 19 virus. The track and tracing system, however, was now working better than before.

Cllr Seccombe also advised the Council about proposed Local Government reforms. The County and District Councils were exploring the possibility of amalgamation in order to make savings. The proposals were for either a single unitary authority to cover the whole of Warwickshire, or two separate unitary authorities for the north and south of the county. Cllr Seccombe preferred the single option as greater savings could be made. Discussions were still at an early stage and full consultations would take place once the proposals were finalised.

Cllr O'Donnell said that grants to the value of £33 million had been made by central government to 2,500 businesses in the Stratford area. All District Councils were suffering financially as a result of Covid 19 but Stratford District Council was in the worst financial situation as a result of its loss of tourism revenue. Nevertheless, the District Council was still doing all in its power to assist its staff and residents.

10	<p>Chairman’s report:</p> <p>The Chairman said that since the last meeting in July, she and the Clerk had attended two briefing sessions. The first was Planning Reform: Current consultations on change to the current planning system. One of the critical points to emerge from this session was the real demand for new homes. In addition, the Government believes that the current planning system is too slow and too consultative. The White Paper indicates a key change in the planning system, namely, automatic permission to build in a defined “growth” area. This open consultation closes on the 29th October should anyone want to contribute to the development of these reforms. Anyone wishing to receive the charts from the briefing session was asked to contact the clerk.</p> <p>The Chairman and Clerk had attended and contributed to Stratford District Council’s briefing on its preferred options for the Site Allocations Plan. If approved by the full Council on the 19th October, it will be open to public consultation. The plan proposes a development of self build homes east of Skylark Road, Alderminster.</p> <p>The Parish Council has actively participated through this Site Allocation Plan consultation process and it should aim to continue to participate in the planning process to ensure any development in the village addresses infrastructure issues, and benefits the wider community.</p>	
11	<p>Planning applications:</p> <p>There were no planning applications to be noted.</p>	
12	<p>Accounts for payments and finance matters:</p> <p>The following payments were approved and authorised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Clerk’s salary - £** ii) HMRC (income tax) - £** iii) Parish Online (digital mapping) - £60.00 iv) Grant to Alderminster Village Hall - £5,000.00 <p>The supporting documentation would be signed by the Chairman and another Councillor in accordance with the agreed amendments to the Financial Regulations.</p>	
13	<p>Correspondence:</p> <p>Letters of thanks had been received from the Parochial Church Council and Alderminster Village Hall for the grants awarded by the Parish Council.</p>	
14	<p>Councillors’ reports and items for future agenda:</p> <p>Estimates for window boxes; estimates from contractors to clear debris from backwash bridge; communications from Alderminster Traffic and Speed group.</p>	
15	<p>Close of meeting: The meeting closed at 7.55 pm</p>	

Appendix A Presentation documents Rosconn



3348 Alderminster
Design Code Jan 20.p



3348-02C Plot Layout
Plan.pdf



3348-03C Parameters
Plan.pdf

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