

Alderminster Parish Council

Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

Wednesday 21st September 2016
Alderminster Village Hall 7.30 pm

Present: Cllr John Melville (Chairman)
Cllr Geoff Smith (Vice Chairman)
Cllr James Dignan
Cllr Karen Jones
Cllr Mark Meadows
Mrs M Norman (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

Also present: 5 members of the public

1	Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr Stuart Featherstone and accepted by the Council.
2	Declaration of interests There were no declarations of interest.
3	Questions from the public: A member of the public commented on the amount of mud left on the highway by vehicles entering and exiting the construction site on the main road. The Chairman said that the Parish Council had requested the installation of wheel washers on the site and he would discuss the matter with Barwood Homes' agent on site.
4	Minutes of the previous meetings on the 20th July and the 6th September 2016 The minutes of the meeting on the 20 th July 2016 and those of the extra ordinary meeting on the 6 th September 2016 were unanimously agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.
5	Warwickshire Rural Communities Council: Mrs Sarah Brooke-Taylor informed the Council of the work of the charity, specifically in relation to the assessment of affordable housing needs. She advised that a current housing needs survey was a requirement of the Neighbourhood Plan. The last housing needs survey undertaken by Alderminster Parish Council was completed five years ago and would not be considered current for Neighbourhood Development Plan purposes. She provided the Council with sample questionnaires and covering letters, which could be adapted if required. The Chairman thanked Mrs Brooke-Taylor for her helpful advice. It was resolved to proceed with the Neighbourhood Plan survey currently in progress, to be followed by a supplementary survey on housing needs at a later date.
6	Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting: The Chairman postponed discussion on items a), c) and d) to agenda item 9.

	<p>c) Cllr Jones made a brief report on behalf of the Parochial Church Council concerning the church clock. The PCC hoped to be able to obtain a grant from Church Care to assist with the cost of repairing the clock. Once quotes for the repair have been received, the PCC will make a formal request to the Parish Council for a contribution.</p>	
7	<p>Report from the District Councillor or County Councillor: There were no reports to be made.</p>	
8	<p>Stratford District Council Core Strategy and Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Jones presented the Council with a report on the Core Strategy which was adopted on the 11th July 2016. She explained that the Core Strategy presents a vision of how the district should look and function by 2031. There are sixteen objectives; those most applicable to Alderminster concern enhancing and protecting the character of the district; reducing the impact of climate change; flood management; protecting the environment; provision of community services; developing the local economy and commercial and residential development.</p> <p>It was noted that planning applications that accord with the policies in the Core Strategy (and, where relevant, with policies in neighbourhood plans) will be approved without delay, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.</p> <p>Alderminster has been classified as a Local Service Village 4. The category to which any given village is allocated determines the number of new homes it will be required to accommodate by 2031. Alderminster's commitment is a total of 32 new houses. The Parish Council considers that this commitment has already been fulfilled given the number of planning applications recently granted for new dwellings, as well as the development under construction on the Main Road.</p> <p>Cllr Smith provided the Council with an update on Neighbourhood Plans. These enable local communities to identify further development opportunities to meet their own particular local challenges. Stratford District Council, as the statutory Local Planning Authority, will work proactively with local communities to ensure the Neighbourhood Plan can be recommended for adoption alongside the Core Strategy. An adopted Neighbourhood Plan is, therefore, material in the process of determining planning applications for development.</p> <p>Alderminster Parish boundary has been formally approved as a Neighbourhood Plan designated area. An application has been made to Locality UK for a grant of £1,800 to cover the costs of the survey which is to be undertaken. The focus of the survey will be to obtain a clear picture of the demographic profile of residents; their local housing needs; their views on Alderminster as a place to live or work; features of the parish regarded as valuable by residents, and their use of the road infrastructure. It is anticipated that the survey will be ready for distribution in early November, and a public meeting will be held in January 2017 to disseminate the findings.</p>	
9	<p>Maintenance issues: The Council considered the outstanding maintenance issues (see Appendix A attached). The clerk had been in contact with the Highways authority regarding the backwash bridge (2), and had been informed that the responsibility for clearing the debris around the bridge lay with the riparian landowner. Although the County Council had jetted the gullies in the village, there was still a problem with the gully between Tithe Farm and Tithe Bungalow (4) which</p>	

	<p>was not performing properly. The repairs to the potholes on the corner of Campden Lawns and New Road (1) were not satisfactory and needed to be redone. The clerk was asked to pursue these and other listed issues and notify the County Council accordingly.</p>	
10	<p>Village Voices: It was resolved to donate £100 to Village Voices to assist with their production costs.</p>	
11	<p>Local Council Charter: Consideration of this item was deferred to a later date.</p>	
12	<p>Unity Bank: It was resolved not to proceed with the transfer of the Council's bank account from HSBC to the Unity Bank. The clerk was asked to obtain a fresh bank mandate from HSBC for signing at the next meeting.</p>	
13	<p>Public Open Space: The Chairman confirmed that the s106 agreement between Barwood Homes and Stratford District Council had been signed.</p>	
14	<p>Interim planning application policy: After discussion it was resolved that the Parish Council would object in principle to any planning applications for new houses submitted in the next twelve months. The Council had concerns about the scale and pace of developments in Alderminster and did not consider that further development in the village was appropriate until the Neighbourhood Plan was in place.</p>	
15	<p>Speed gun: The proposal to share the cost of a speed gun with neighbouring villages was withdrawn, as Ettington had decided to proceed independently. The clerk advised the Council that Quinton Parish Council was willing to lend its speed gun to Alderminster, if the PC was prepared to defray the calibration costs. The Council expressed its interest in accepting this offer and agreed to consider it further at the next meeting.</p>	
16	<p>Planning applications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 16/02327/FUL (amended) Land to the north of Shipston Road: construction of one four bed dwelling and garage together with formation of new vehicular access. It was resolved to object to this application. b) 16/02478/FUL The Old Rectory: proposed erection of single and two storey rear extensions and detached carport to front. It was noted that this application had not yet been validated. c) 16/02834/DDT Combe Farm Goldicote: felling of oak tree. Noted for information. <p>To receive any results of planning applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 16/01408/FUL Allersmead House: permission granted for retrospective application for outbuilding as constructed with a ground floor gymnasium and use of the first floor of the building as holiday accommodation. b) 16/01783/FUL 20 Old Road: permission granted for installation of external wall insulation to rear elevation of dwelling. 	
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Dates for planning application meetings:

It was agreed that dates would be set for fortnightly planning meetings.

Accounts for payments and finance matters:

The following payments were approved and authorised:

- i) Clerk's salary August £***
- ii) HMRC £** (income tax on clerk's salary)
- iii) SLCC £41.00 (part subscription to Society of Local Council Clerks)
- iv) WALC £156.00 (annual subscription).

The clerk presented the Council with a budget report, showing expenditure incurred since the beginning of the financial year.

The external auditor certificate and report was presented to the Council. It was noted that in the opinion of the auditors the information in the annual return was in accordance with proper practices and no matters had come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met. Other matters not affecting their opinion were duly noted.

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Correspondence:

None

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Councillors' reports and items for future agenda:

None

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Close of meeting:

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

Date of next meeting Wednesday 2nd November 2016

Appendix A

MAINTENANCE LIST FOR 21ST SEPTEMBER 2016

1. Potholes on Campden Lawns/New Road.
2. Erosion at backwash bridge.
3. 30mph signs obscured.
4. Gully jetting – between Tithe Farm and Tithe bungalow completed. Other areas?
5. Maintenance of trees planted by PC at bottom of church car park.
6. New Road sign by Hill Farm missing.
7. White bridge requires painting.
8. HGV traffic on New Road.
9. Pruning of trees and shrubs at entrance to Campden Lawns

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