

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ALBRIGHTON PARISH COUNCIL</b> <b>MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING</b> <b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Red House</b></p>
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Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Red House.

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. D Beechey (Chair), S Pledger (Vice Chair), P Griffin, P Harrison, P Illes, S Jarvis, A Joynson, M Medlyn, M Pate.

M Ward, Clerk to the Council.

43 members of the public.

**1. Welcome and announcements by the Chairman of Albrighton Parish Council, Cllr. David Beechey.**

The Chairman welcomed members of the public and guests to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance. He stated that this was not a Council meeting but an opportunity for the public to hear about two issues of local importance, namely, important reforms to the NHS and how they would affect residents of Albrighton and the arrangements for the 2014 Cosford Air Show, and the work of the Parish Council over the last year.

**2. Apologies for absence.**

Cllrs. S Pate (ill health), A Robinson (work commitments) and Mrs Wellesby.

Each apology was accepted by the meeting.

**3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 25th April 2013 at 7.15 pm in the Red House.**

Cllr. Pate proposed that the minutes of the 2013 Annual Parish Meeting were a true and accurate record which was seconded by Cllr. Illes and agreed by the meeting.

**4. Chairman's report to the Annual Parish Meeting.**

The Chairman introduced his report which had been made available to members of the public attending the meeting. He informed residents that the report was also available on

the Council website, paper copies were available in the Council office and a copy would be printed in the next issue of the Parish Magazine.

Cllr. Beechey then introduced Dr. Caran Morton from the Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group who was going to talk about recent changes and initiatives in healthcare in the area.

**5. Presentation on recent changes and initiatives in healthcare as they affect Albrighton and district by Dr. C Morton of the Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group.**

Dr Morton thanked the council for the invitation to attend the Annual Parish Meeting of the Council. She said that she had come to talk about the reconfiguration of hospital services including community hospitals which had involved a dialogue between the public and clinicians. The discussions had identified a number of issues which the public felt were important and wanted:

- Good access;
- Good quality of service;
- Problems with the staffing in hospitals, GP's surgeries and nursing solved;
- The recognition of the importance of self-care.

Dr Morton said that the public wanted large scale change then stability within the system. It was intended to establish 43 programme boards and programme teams with reduced backup support. It was most important that there should be collaboration between the public and clinicians and the clinical vision acknowledged work around the world which commanded widespread support. Dr Morton said that urgent and emergency care was best left to single large emergency centres with supporting specialist services on site which could be at hospitals or GP's surgeries. Long term condition care is ideally based at home which involves less travel and less pressure on the hospital. Planned care included elective surgery which could be at a single unit with discharge after 48 hours. The various models needed to be tested against patients' needs and required public support and the involvement of local people.

In answers to questions Dr Morton said that there was a drive to 7 day working for GPs which could be difficult in rural areas where people have to travel significant distances to get the appropriate service. New Cross hospital is not included in the programme which will take 6 – 10 years before the reconfiguration is complete. The Albrighton surgery is dealing with NHS England with regards to a new surgery and the old cottage hospital system was commanding widespread support as the correct model with its stress on the importance of

access for friends and families to visit. The care of elderly patients also needed improvement.

The Chair thanked Dr Morton for her wide ranging and informative overview of proposed changes and emphasised that local people needed to become involved and make their views known to the authorities.

**6. Presentation on the arrangements for the 2014 Cosford Air Show by a representative of RAF Cosford.**

Wing Commander Lilly was welcomed to the meeting by the chair and asked to outline arrangements for the 2014 air show.

Wing Commander Lilly said that 60,000 people attended the air show in 2013 and as a consequence a third of a million pounds was distributed to various charities. He emphasised the excellent facilities on the base which were being used to train thousands of young people, stage the air show, help RAF Fairford and take part in competitions and ceremonial activities. This year was the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Red Arrows, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Harrier and the 65 anniversary of the Canberra. It also marked the centenary of the start of World War 1. There would be lots of ground displays and VIP services available. There were only 2 air shows during 2014, at Cosford and Waddington. The flying aircraft included the Typhoon, the Red Arrows and the Spitfire.

Traffic problems were being tackled with the help of a specialist company and 20 – 25 items had been identified to help overcome previous difficulties. There would only be 3 entrances to the base and there had been discussions with Arriva regarding train services with fares being charged at the beginning of the journey.

Wing Commander Lilly said that the long term future of Cosford looked secure with the base becoming the centre of RAF engineering. He said that abandoned cars in the village which blocked in residents required police attention and he agreed that the A464 was a particular problem with no police enforcement of no parking. There were further comments regarding a possible park and ride scheme and the amount of money that comes back to the local community which bore the brunt of the disruption on the day.

The Chair thanked Wing Commander Lilly for his informative talk and extended his good wishes for the 2014 event.

**7. Questions and comments from the public to Parish Councillors on other local matters and the work of the Parish Council during the previous year.**

A number of general comments were made concerning the lack of visible policing and the number of potholes in local roads. There was also a worry that litter was on the increase and car parking in the area of the railway station was a problem. The provision of the quarterly skip had proved unreliable which had sometimes resulted in people dumping rubbish by the roadside. There was a request for the Chair's report to be made available before the meeting so that local people could give it more consideration and Cllr. Pate said that the closure of the parish office to the public was a mistake which he would try to reverse. There was a suggestion that local issues should be discussed earlier in the meeting and concern was expressed about the centre of the village and access roads that still needed attention.

Participants held a general discussion on the Christmas lights and how the display could be improved. It was suggested that the Albrighton Traders could contribute towards the costs of more lights as they would benefit from a more impressive display that would attract more visitor to the village.

**8. Thanks and closing remarks by Cllr. David Beechey.**

Cllr. Beechey thanked everyone who had attended the meeting which had seen two very helpful presentations and he promised that the council would look carefully at all of the suggestions for improved practice in coming weeks. There being no further business Cllr. Beechey closed the meeting at 9.30 pm.

Signed.....Date.....  
Chair