



**ALBRIGHTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
19th January 2017 at 7.15 pm in the council meeting room**

Minutes of the Albrighton Parish Council business meeting held on Thursday, 19th January, 2017 at 7.15 pm in the council meeting room.

PRESENT: Cllrs. P Harrison (Chairman), S Kirkland (Vice Chair), D Beechey, C Hassall, L Howat, P Illes, S Pledger, A Straney.

In attendance: M Ward, Clerk to Albrighton Parish Council.

PUBLIC SESSION.

No members of the public were present.

1. APOLOGIES:

Cllrs. P Griffin (family commitments), M Pate (illness), A Robinson (travel problems), C Roseby (work commitments), P Woodman (ill health).

Each apology was accepted by the council.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

To receive declarations under consideration on this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

There were no declarations of interests.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

- **Minutes of the Albrighton Parish Council business meeting 15th December 2016:**

Cllr Beechey proposed that the minutes were a true and accurate record which was seconded by Cllr. Pledger and approved by council 6 – 0 with 1 abstention.

- **Minutes of the Albrighton Parish Council planning meeting 5th January 2017:**

Cllr. Illes stated that he did not make a report on planning application 16/05584/FUL on page 2 of the minutes and it was Cllr. Beechey who was responsible for leading the discussion.

Members agreed and Cllr. Pledger proposed that with this one amendment the minutes were a true and accurate record. Cllr. Kirkland seconded the proposal which was unanimously agreed by the council.

4. MATTERS ARISING.

The clerk reported that the visitor's book was now in operation. Cllr. Pledger said that it would be useful to know how many of the visits were related to Shropshire Council matters and the clerk said that he would pass on this information to all councillors.

5. TO REVIEW ACTION POINTS ALBRIGHTON PARISH COUNCIL:

- **Albrighton Parish Council business meeting – 15th December, 2016:**

There were no outstanding action points from the meeting on 15th December, 2016.

- **Albrighton Parish Council planning meeting – 5th January, 2017:**

There were no outstanding action points from the meeting on 5th January, 2017.

6. RAF COSFORD REPORT – report by Sqn Ldr Chris Wilson.

Sqn Ldr Wilson was not in attendance and there was no RAF Cosford report.

7. SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL REPORT – report by Cllr. M Pate.

Because of illness Cllr. Pate was not in attendance and there was no Shropshire Council report.

8. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS.

Cllr. Illes said that the Footpaths Committee wished to establish a new right of way which would have statutory protection and would run from Beamish Lane to Shaw Lane. The application had to be made by the parish council. Members discussed the possibility of making the proposed new footpath a cycle way and agreed that Shropshire Council would need to be involved in the discussions from an early stage.

Cllr. Illes proposed that the clerk should contact Shropshire Council planning office to seek the establishment of a new right of way/cycle path from Beamish Lane to Shaw Lane. The motion was seconded by Cllr. Pledger and agreed by council 7 – 0 with 1 abstention.

Cllr. Illes informed members that the Red House committee had agreed to rename the main hall the Sue Pate Memorial Lounge and he asked that the council should also commemorate Cllr. Pate's hard work on behalf of the community and the council.

Cllr. Kirkland proposed that the new Cockspur Hawthorn tree to be planted on the village green by the bus stop in the High Street should carry a plaque dedicating the tree to the memory of Cllr. S Pate. The motion was seconded by Cllr. Illes and agreed by council 6 – 0 with 2 abstentions.

Cllr. Illes raised the issue of the new bench to be placed at the Melville Club with the help of a grant from RAF Cosford. Members discussed the issue of ownership if the bench was to be bought by the council and the VAT reclaimed and councillors agreed that the best solution to this problem was to forward a cheque for £350 to the Melville Club for them to purchase their own bench.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Library Committee – report enclosed:**

Cllr Pledger proposed that this item should be moved to the end of the meeting and discussed in confidential session. The motion was seconded by Cllr. Straney and unanimously agreed by the council.

- **Personnel Committee – grievance and disciplinary procedures enclosed:**

Cllr. Pledger proposed that this item should be moved to the end of the meeting and discussed in confidential session. The motion was seconded by Cllr. Kirkland and unanimously agreed by the council.

- **Transport Committee.**

Cllr. Illes reported that the Transport Committee had reviewed a paper on the replacement of the existing vehicle including possible leasing arrangements. The committee was agreed that an arrangement with Furrows of Telford or Motor Mistress was the best way forward and a number of questions had been suggested which should be put to both organisations to help clarify the position. Cllr. Illes asked members to submit any further question directly to him that individual members felt need adding to the list. Once answers had been obtained he would make a formal presentation to Albrighton and Donington with Boscobel Councils to establish the best way forward. Cllr. Illes was thanked again by members for all of his hard work relating to the replacement of the Flyer vehicle.

An out of hours booking form had been produced and amended which would be distributed to any organisation wishing to book the Flyer in the evening or at weekends.

10. FINANCE:

- **Accounts for the end of the third quarter (December 2016):**

The clerk presented a report on the council's finances at the end of the third quarter, 31st December 2016. At the end of the quarter the council's five accounts were in balance as follows:

Account	Balance	Date
TSB current account	£5,044.23	31 st December 2016
Nationwide Business Saver account	£59,175.00	31 st December 2016
Petty cash account	£20.62	31 st December 2016
Cambridge Building Society account	£75,000.00	31 st December 2016
Beverley Building Society account	£16,000.00	31 st December 2016

The total reserves at the end of the third quarter were £155,239.85 with unrepresented payments totalling £230.52 making a final balance of £155,009.33.

Cllr. Straney raised the issue of the cost of maintaining and running the library and the difficulties of establishing the costs which were often shared between the library and the council office. Members agreed that this was a matter that the Finance Committee could investigate and report back to council.

Cllr. Pledger proposed that the accounts up to 31st December 2016 should be approved by council which was seconded by Cllr. Kirkland and agreed by council 7 – 1.

- **To consider and approve cheques for January 2017:**

Cllr. Kirkland proposed that the cheques for January 2017 should be approved for payment which was seconded by Cllr. Beechey and agreed by council 7 – 0 with 1 abstention.

Cheque no.	Date	Payee	Amount	VAT
4255	04.01.17	UK Safety Management, PAC testing	281.51	31.51
4256	09.01.17	St. Mary's Church, churchyard maint. grant	1,500.00	
4257	12.01.17	Keith Gibson, Flyer service/repair	135.80	22.63
4258	16.01.17	Turnock, 2 nd Christmas lights payment	4160.40	693.40
4259	18.01.17	Viking, copy paper, lever arch files	62.77	10.46
4260	18.01.17	Cash, for petty cash account	100.00	
4261	25.01.17	Printerland, two toner cartridges	141.60	23.60
4262	25.01.17	Melville Club, grant for bench	349.00	
4263	30.01.17	M Whitehouse, repairs to water system/toilets	908.40	151.40
4264	31.01.17	Ace Computers, software support	45.00	7.50

11. TO REVIEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS IN 2016 AND POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS FOR THE FUTURE.

Cllr. Illes reported that the budget for the Christmas lights totalling £7,000 had been sufficient to cover the costs in the first year of working with Turnock of Walsall once VAT had been reclaimed. The extra grant from RAF Cosford had also been much appreciated and had helped to purchase new tree lights which had been enjoyed by the community. Members agreed that the service from Turnock had been excellent with all deadlines met, although an upstairs window had been broken in Station Road which Turnock would replace.

Members discussed the possibility of more lights down the two ends of the High Street if future budgets allowed.

12. FURTHER DISCUSSION AND UPDATE ON THE PROPOSED PURCHASE OF VILLAGE PLANTERS.

Following the review of the terms and conditions of Plantscape which had been circulated to councillors Cllr. Pledger reported that there was no cancellation charge for the ending of a contract and there would be no refund if planters had to be removed earlier than previously agreed. The Plantscape proposal is for one year although a three-year contract is available. The total budget for the proposed scheme amounted to £1,174 and if plant towers were added to the specification it would rise to £1,934, both amounts comfortably within the £5,000 budget for 2016/17.

Cllr. Kirkland proposed that the council should proceed with the scheme as outlined which was seconded by Cllr. Illes and agreed by council 6 – 2.

Cllr. Pledger agreed to contact Plantscape and place the order.

13. TO FURTHER DISCUSS THE ISSUE OF COUNCIL STORAGE AND THE POSSIBLE USE OF THE FORMER PUBLIC TOILETS IN THE CROWN CAR PARK.

The clerk reminded members that no response had been made to the offer of the use of the former public toilets for council storage and there were no alternative garages that were available to rent. Cllr. Hassall also reminded members that there had been an offer to make space available for council use at a property on the A41. Cllr. Pledger favoured the use of the former toilets because of their excellent position in the centre of the village and Cllr. Kirkland raised the possibility of using an external contractor to maintain all of the grassed areas which could have significant savings. Cllr. Beechey also raised the possibility of space being made available at a local garage.

Cllr. Kirkland proposed that before a decision was made an estimate for the maintenance of all grassed areas should be obtained from a local contractor and Marston's should be approached regarding the possibility of a three-year contract at a reduced rate. Cllr. Pledger seconded the motion which was unanimously agreed by council.

14. UPDATE ON THE ALBRIGHTON STATION RAMP MEETING HELD ON 11TH JANUARY 2017.

Cllr. Harrison reported that there had been a short meeting of the ramp committee but there had been no progress regarding any major issue connected to the ramp development.

The paperwork associated with the project had been submitted to the council's insurers but no response had been received to date.

15. ANY FURTHER ISSUES ARISING FROM THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ANESCO SOLAR POWER PROJECT ADJACENT TO THE A41.

Cllr. Hassall reported that the electrical work associated with the solar power development adjacent to the A41 was under way. Members agreed that Anesco should be invited to a meeting of the council to discuss the possibility of becoming involved with local projects concerned with the swimming pool and providing solar panels on the roof of the library.

The clerk was asked to write to Anesco and invite them to a council meeting to discuss funding possibilities.

16. UPDATE AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS WITH REGARD TO THE ALBRIGHTON SCHOOL SWIMMING POOL.

Cllr. Pledger stated that a number of groups were involved with the proposed development of the Albrighton Primary School swimming pool but the council was only involved with the original group that had been established more than a year ago, by Cllr. Pate. The next meeting of this group was due to take place on 10th February.

17. DRAFT RESPONSE TO THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION REGARDING THE SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL BUS STRATEGY.

Cllr. Harrison summarised the responses that the small group of councillors had made at an earlier meeting which members considered. Cllr. Harrison was asked to add comments regarding the fact that there were no direct bus services to hospitals for the residents of Albrighton which did not apply to other local centres such as Perton and Shifnal.

Cllr. Illes proposed that with this addition the response should be sent to Shropshire Council by Cllr. Harrison which was seconded by Cllr. Pledger and unanimously agreed by council.

18. SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA OF THE ALBRIGHTON PARISH COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING TO BE HELD ON 16TH FEBRUARY 2017.

Councillors suggested the following items for inclusion on the agenda of the Albrighton Parish Council business meeting to be held on Thursday 16th February, 2017 at 7.15 pm in the council meeting room:

- Further discussion on the use of solar panels;
- The possibility of a new bye law with regard to advertising panels;
- Car parking;
- Representation on the Team Shifnal/Albrighton group;
- Identification of library costs.

Members also suggested that the transfer/sale of the land in front of the Red House should be discussed at the planning meeting on 2nd February, 2017, at 7.15 pm in the council meeting room.

19. CORRESPONDENCE:

For action:

- **RAF COSFORD – REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE/REPRESENTATION:**

Councillors agreed that a nil return should be sent to RAF Cosford with regard for assistance and representation in 2017.

- **SALC – INVITATION TO THE BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDEN PARTY ON 23RD MAY 2017:**

Councillors agreed that Cllr. Harrison as Chairman of Albrighton Parish Council should be nominated for attendance at the Buckingham Palace garden party on 23rd May, 2017.

- **ALBRIGHTON CHURCHES TOGETHER – REQUEST FOR USE OF THE VILLAGE GREEN:**

Cllr. Kirkland proposed that the Albrighton Churches Together should be given permission to use the village green in May/June 2017 subject to them making good any damage and clearing up any mess. The motion was seconded by Cllr. Pledger and unanimously agreed by council.

20. DATES AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETING:

- **Albrighton Parish Council planning meeting 2nd February 2017 at 7.15 pm in the council meeting room.**
- **Albrighton Parish Council business meeting 16th February 2017 at 7.15 pm in the council meeting room.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.03 pm.

Signed Date
Chairman