

<p style="text-align: center;">ALBRIGHTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING 16th June 2016 at 7.15 pm in the council meeting room</p>
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Minutes of the Albrighton Parish Council business meeting held on 16th June 2016 at 7.15 pm in the council meeting room.

PRESENT: Cllrs. P Harrison (Chairman), S Kirkland (Vice Chair), D Beechey, P Illes. M Pate, S Pledger, A Robinson, C Roseby, A Straney, P Woodman.

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

PUBLIC SESSION:

No members of the public were present.

1. APOLOGIES:

Cllrs. P Griffin (work commitments), C Hassall (holiday), S Pate (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 interest.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

- **Minutes of the Albrighton Parish Council business meeting held on 19th May 2016;**

Cllr. Beechey proposed that the minutes were a true and accurate record which was seconded by Cllr. Pledger and unanimously agreed by council.

- **Minutes of the Albrighton Parish Council planning meeting held on 2nd June 2016.**

Cllr. Pledger proposed that minutes were a true and accurate record which was seconded by Cllr. Illes and unanimously agreed by council.

4. MATTERS ARISING:

There were no matters arising.

5. RAF COSFORD REPORT:

Sqn Ldr Chris Wilson reported that the weather forecast for the forthcoming air show was encouraging and all of the arrangements were in place. He reported that following the recent Shoreham disaster regulations had been tightened which had led to changes in the arrangements for 2016. A zone under the area where aircraft performed their acrobatics had been established and it was no longer permissible for outside organisations to charge spectators in this zone to watch the display. Anomalies were bound to arise as the ruling applied to one side of the boundary line but not to the other side of the boundary. Insurance for permitted spectator areas was likely to be very high which fund raising groups would need to take into account and parking on roadside verges would also not be allowed. No part of the new spectator free zone included areas of Albrighton and the village would not be affected by the changes. These more stringent rules were not likely to be relaxed in the future and it was proposed to call a debriefing meeting in the early autumn to review the arrangements and identify improvements for 2017. Sqn Ldr Wilson also stated that the aircraft involved were subject to stringent checks to ensure that they were safe to fly and if a pilot departed from his agreed routine the officer in charge of the show would ensure that the display was abandoned and the aircraft would be made to land.

RAF Cosford apprentices had been responsible for cleaning and tidying local war graves and £500 had been made available for the purchase of tokens to celebrate the Queen's birthday. Apprentices had also been engaged to clean the benches in the village during the summer.

6. SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL REPORT:

Cllr. Pate reported that there had been a meeting at the university in Shrewsbury regarding asset management and a scheme to help with recycling where the money saved would go back to the local town or parish council. There was a £12m gap in the county budget but members were hoping to avoid some of the worst excesses after discussions with the government minister and there was the possibility of increased funding in the years to come.

7. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

- **Report from the meeting held in Ludlow on 8th June – Cllrs. Harrison and Kirkland.**

Cllrs. Harrison and Kirkland reported that they had attended meeting in Ludlow which expressed concerns over current Shropshire Council strategies and there was a call for a referendum on the matter although the costs would be very high. Despite the content of

the meeting it did not have a political slant and it had proved to be useful to hear of other council's experiences when taking on devolved assets.

There had also been discussion about the possibility of forming groups or clusters of councils who could work together with regard to devolved assets.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Library committee – Cllr S Pledger:**

The library committee report was distributed for information and noted by members.

- **Transport committee – Cllr. P Harrison:**

The transport committee report was distributed for information and noted by members.

9. FINANCE:

- **Update on the 2015/16 budget:**

The Clerk went through the outcome of the 2015/16 budget as at 31st March 2016 which showed a balance per cash book (receipts and payments) of £113,776 with £103,000 held in the council's reserves. With a precept of over £100,000 plus other grants for the Albrighton Flyer and Highways maintenance and refunds of VAT on general spending and fuel for the Flyer reserves at the beginning of the 2017/18 financial year were healthy although expenditure would be considerably increased as a result of the asset transfer of the library to the council.

There had been difficulties in establishing the new budget for 2015/17 owing to a problem in the software that needed help from RBS and ensuring that the new budgets associated with the library income and expenditure were operational. There had been extensive discussions with RBS in order to resolve the problems but the difficulties had been overcome and the income and expenditure for April and May had been satisfactorily entered and reconciled.

- **Verbal update on two further business accounts to ensure investment protection by FSCS as recommended by the internal auditor;**

The Clerk reported that with all of the council reserves being held in the one Nationwide account this was currently totalling £203,000, considerably in excess of the £75,000 protected limit guaranteed by FSCS. He recommended that two more business savings accounts should be opened each with a maximum of £75,000 invested in order to ensure council savings were properly protected, an initiative that had the support of the internal auditor.

After discussion Cllr. Pledger proposed that the clerk should be given the authority two accounts which he thought were appropriate which was seconded by Cllr. Illes and unanimously agreed by council.

- **To consider the Internal Auditors report and end of term accounts;**

The Chairman drew members' attention to the remarks on the front of the internal auditor's report which stated "The standard of administration and system of internal controls relating to the audit areas examined was considered to be of a high standard" and he congratulated the clerk for his good work in relation to the council's finances. Councillors agreed that the Finance Committee would look at the report in detail at their next meeting.

- **To consider and approve cheques for June 2016.**

Cllr. Pledger proposed that the cheques should be approved for payment which was seconded by Cllr. Woodman and unanimously agreed by council. Members also agreed that Cllr. Harrison should be added as a signatory to the TSB current account.

Cheque No	Date	Payee	Amount	VAT
4146	01.06.16	Premier Tail Lift repairs to Flyer lift	250.69	50.14
4147	01.06.16	S Pledger travel expenses 2015/16	166.80	
4148	01.06.16	Came & Co. council insurance	2006.62	174.09
4149	01.06.16	Shropshire Council purchase of existing retail stock	332.00	
4150	06.06.16	TFM Helmet and wrench	23.45	0.58
4151	13.06.16	E.ON street light repair	49.31	8.22
4152	13.06.16	BG Grounds Maint. mowing Patshull Green	84.00	14.00
4153	13.06.16	Viking, copy paper, ink cartridges	69.97	11.66
4154	13.06.16	Cash for petty cash	100.00	
4155	13.06.16	S Kirkland, travel expenses to Ludlow	28.35	
4156	15.06.16	Keith Gibson Cars, Flyer service, mower fuel	70.84	11.81
4157	15.06.16	Broxap, 3 benches and fittings	2163.60	360.60
4158	16.06.16	Ace computers, new keyboard, mouse, cables	56.94	9.49
4159	20.06.16	E.ON, maintenance contract 2016/17	1138.30	189.72
4160	20.06.16	Grant to Albrighton Fayre committee	500.00	
4161	23.06.16	S Pledger, travel expenses	31.95	
4162	27.06.16	Ace Computers, cables and reconnect printers	111.00	18.50
4163	27.06.16	T Ewins, travel expenses	8.10	
4164	29.06.16	Crucial Crew, grant for 2016	462.00	

10. TO CONSIDER AND VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING MOTION:

"In view of the fact that Albrighton Parish Council accepted a quotation for the felling of an oak tree between Worthington Drive and Loak Road that was substantially higher than others without providing clear reasons why this

quotation was to be preferred it is therefore proposed that the matter be reconsidered.”

The Chairman explained the background to the motion asking for the quotation for the felling of a tree to be reconsidered.

Cllr. Pate proposed that the work should be given to Benbow Brothers which was seconded by Cllr. Woodman and agreed by council 6 – 3 with 1 abstention.

11. TO RESPOND TO THE REPORTS ON THE SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT AND THE LEASE ON THE LIBRARY IN ORDER TO PREPARE FOR THE SIGNING OF THE TWO DOCUMENTS:

There was some concern regarding the lease concerning the User section regarding the change of use of the library building. Because the parish council office now occupies a significant part of the building it raises the question as to whether a change of use planning permission is required from Shropshire Council. Councillor Beechey proposed that the council initiate a planning application for a change of use for the library which was seconded by Cllr. Illes and agreed by council 8 – 0 with 1 abstention. Two other issues were raised in which it was agreed that the council would not ask for searches to be made. And the licence to be removed.

Cllr. Pate at this point declared that he had a personal interest in this agenda item.

Members referred to the Library Operations Manual which was mentioned in the documentation which they had not seen. Cllr. Woodman suggested that it might be useful for a small number of councillors to have a phone conference with the solicitors so that any final problems could be discussed. Cllr. Robinson proposed that such a conference should be undertaken which was seconded by Cllr. Straney and agreed by council 7 – 0 with 2 abstentions.

12. TO REVIEW AND CONFIRM THE DRAFT LIST OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES, WORKING PARTIES AND NON-COUNCIL BODIES WITH COUNCIL REPRESENTATION:

Members agreed the final version of the list of committees, working parties and non-council bodies with council representation. They agreed that if an organisation had not met for a year it should be removed from the list of bodies with council representation.

13. TO CONSIDER ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CHRISTMAS DINNER AT THE SUGGESTED VENUE OF THE SHREWSBURY ARMS:

Councillors agreed to act on Cllr. Kirkland’s recommendation that the council Christmas dinner should be at the Shrewsbury Arms on 8th December. Cllr. Kirkland agreed to make the initial booking.

14. REPORT ON THE OPTIONS FACING THE SWIMMING CLUB AND PLANS FOR THE FUTURE MANAGEMENT OF THE FACILITY:

Cllr. Woodman went through the background relating to the suggestions for the future management of the swimming pool at Albrighton Primary School and the two options that had been identified by Chris Edwards of Shropshire Council. There had since been some reservations expressed and it was now clear that a further meeting was needed between all of the parties involved. The council position was that some kind of trust was needed with heavy council involvement and Cllr. Woodman proposed that a meeting to discuss this possibility should be arranged as soon as possible. Cllr. Robinson seconded the proposal which was unanimously approved by the council and the clerk was asked to contact all involved and request a meeting.

15. TO CONSIDER THE PROBLEMS CAUSED BY A LARGE TREE IN A HOUSING ASSOCIATION PROPERTY IN CHARLES AVENUE:

Cllr. Kirkland reported that the property in Charles Avenue which had a large tree in the garden which was causing problems for the neighbours was now empty and it would be an ideal time to get it managed or even removed. The clerk was asked to contact Star Housing to suggest that the tree be removed and report back to council at the next meeting.

16. TO CONSIDER THE REPORTED CANCELLATION OF THE 8 AND 8A BUS SERVICE THROUGH ALBRIGHTON AND ANY ACTION THAT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE FOR ALBRIGHTON PARISH COUNCIL TO TAKE.

Members expressed the view that there was considerable concern over the loss of the 8 and 8A bus service between Wolverhampton and Telford. Cllr. Pledger proposed that the clerk should write to Arriva and ask for a public meeting if the service is to close at the end of July which was seconded by Cllr. Straney and unanimously agreed by council.

17. TO RECEIVE A REPORT BY CLLR. BEECHEY ON THE WORK OF THE ALBRIGHTON RELIEF IN NEED CHARITY RAISED AT AN EARLIER MEETING:

The report, which was for information only, was received and noted by council.

18. TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM THE ORGANISERS OF THE ALBRIGHTON WITH DONINGTON FAYRE FOR THE £500 ALLOCATED UNDER THE 2016/17 PRECEPT:

Members were unanimously of the view that the £500 in the budget set aside for the Summer Fayre should be paid immediately.

19. TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM CLLR. BEECHEY FOR A DONATION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CARE AND SHARE GROUP IN ALBRIGHTON:

Cllr. Beechey outlined the background to the request for a donation which had already received £200 from Donington with Boscobel Parish Council and £500 from Star Housing. The local patients Group had declined to make funding available. Cllr. Kirkland proposed that the request be referred to the grants committee which was seconded by Cllr. Illes and agreed 6 – 4 by council.

20. COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CHAIN FOR THE CHAIR OF COUNCIL'S CHAIN OF OFFICE AS REQUESTED AT THE MEETING ON 19TH MAY 2016:

After discussion about replacing the current halter with a chain members agreed that it should be done. Cllr. Pate suggested that the clerk contact the council insurance company and ask them to fund the cost of the cheapest chain which was unanimously agreed by members.

21. TO DECIDE ON THE LOCATION IN ALBRIGHTON OF THREE BENCHES DELIVERED ON 15TH JUNE.

Members agreed that one of the benches should be placed at the junction of Shaw Lane and the High Street and another at the junction of Manor Farm Road and Cross Road. Suggestions for the siting of the third bench were asked to be forwarded to the clerk within seven days. It was agreed that a plaque would be placed on each bench relating to the great war and the Queen's diamond Jubilee and 90th birthday.

22. ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA FOR THE ALBRIGHTON PARISH COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING ON 21ST JULY 2016

The following items were requested for the council business meeting agenda on 21st July;

- Christmas lights 2016
- Moles at Clockmills
- Swimming Pool report.

23. CORRESPONDENCE

For Information:

- **Severn Trent Water – new water retail company called Water Plus:**

Received and noted.

For action:

- **Request for funding for the swimming club insurance:**

Members felt that there were not enough details available for them to make a decision on the request for insurance payment. In particular, they wished to know why the insurance was for a full calendar year and what exactly was being insured. Further discussion would take place at the planning meeting on 7th July.

- **Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service – Employers Evening invitation, 30th June 2016:**

Cllr. Pate said that it was important that the council was represented at this event and Cllr. Harrison stated that he would attend.

24. DATES AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- **Albrighton Parish Council Personnel Committee – 22nd June 2016 at 3.00 pm in the council meeting room.**
- **Albrighton Parish Council planning meeting – 7th July 2016 at 7.15 pm in the council meeting room.**
- **Albrighton Parish Council Library Committee - 11th July 2016 at 1.30 pm in the council meeting room.**
- **Albrighton Parish Council business meeting – 21st July 2016 at 7.15 pm in the council meeting room.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.40 pm

Signed.....Date.....

Chairman

