

<p style="text-align: center;">ALBRIGHTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING 20th October 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 Thursday 20th October at 7.15 pm in the council meeting room.

PRESENT: Cllrs. P Harrison (Chairman), S Kirkland (Vice Chairman), D Beechey, C Hassall, P Illes, S Pledger, A Robinson, C Roseby, 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 (illness), M Pate (family reasons), K Pledger (illness), A Straney (family reasons).

Each apology was accepted by 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 14th September 2016:**

Cllr. Illes asked that his name be added to the list of apologies.

With this addition Cllr. Beechey proposed that the minutes were a true and accurate record which was seconded by Cllr. Woodman and agreed by council 7 – 0 with 2 abstentions.

- **Minutes of the Albrighton Parish Council planning meeting 6th October 2015:**

Cllr. Pledger proposed that the minutes were a true and accurate record which was seconded by Cllr. Roseby and agreed by council 8 – 0 with 1 abstention.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr. Hassall asked that a reference to the 'council clerk' in item 4 of the minutes of the meeting on 14th September should be changed to 'parish clerk' which was agreed by members.

5. RAF COSFORD REPORT:

Sqn Ldr Wilson reported that RAF Cosford was hosting the A.V. Club Academy, an aircraft photo event, on 26th October. On 3rd November there was to be the station bonfire and RAF Cosford was involved in Remembrance Day parades in Wolverhampton and involved in the Birmingham International Tattoo. RAF Cosford was also contributing to a Dutch commemoration event.

Cllr. Pledger reminded members that they were invited to the local Remembrance Day event on 11th November at 10,45 a.m.

6. SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL REPORT:

Because of the absence of Cllr. Pate there was no Shropshire Council report.

7. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:

Cllr. Beechey reported that Cllr. Illes had made a presentation to Donington with Boscobel Parish Council on the position regarding the Albrighton Flyer which had been well received.

Cllr. Illes reported that the Christmas lights would be installed the week before the Albrighton Traders' Christmas Extravaganza.

Cllr. Hassall reported that a small group of travellers had located in Shackerley Lane in the parish of Donington with Boscobel.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Personnel Committee report:**

Two written accounts of the meetings were received and noted. **Cllr. Woodman stated that he disagreed with the recommendation to refuse identification for council and library staff and proposed that all staff should have identification in the form of a badge or lanyard. Cllr. Robinson seconded the proposal which was carried 5 – 2 with 2 abstentions.**

- **Transport Committee report:**

Cllr. Illes stated that Donington with Boscobel Parish Council broadly gave their support to a change of Albrighton Flyer vehicle including the possibility of some form of leasing arrangement. Cllr. Robinson gave his support to a leasing contract as did Cllrs. Roseby and Woodman. Thanks were extended to Cllr. Illes for his work in relation to the Flyer.

- **Finance committee report:**

The Finance Committee meeting had had to be cancelled as the meeting was not quorate.

- **Swimming Pool Forum report:**

This item was deferred as it was to be discussed under agenda item 10.

9. FINANCE:

- **To receive and discuss council accounts and bank reconciliations for the second quarter ending on 30th September 2016:**

The clerk went through the council's accounts for the end of the second quarter up to 30th September 2016. The accounts showed balances as follows;

TSB current account - £4,634.31;
 Nationwide Business Saver – £109,175.00;
 Petty cash – £20.49;
 Cambridge Building Society - £75,000.00;
 Beverley Building Society - £1,000.00.

Total council reserves half way through the financial year when outstanding payments were taken into consideration were £188,290.40. There were no issues of concern although a number of items had already exceeded their full year allocations including:

Members expenses;
 Office telephone/internet;
 Ground/tree maintenance;
 Other non-recurring expenses.

Cllr. Pledger proposed that the accounts for the half year should be approved which was seconded by Cllr. Robinson and unanimously agreed by council.

- **Update on the status of the two additional savings accounts with the Beverley Building Society and the Cambridge Building Society;**

The accounts at the Cambridge Building Society and the Beverley Building Society were now functioning. A transfer of funds into the Beverley Building Society from the Nationwide would take place in November to bring the balance in the Nationwide account down to £75,000.

- **To consider and approve cheques for October 2016:**

Cllr. Kirkland proposed that the cheques for October 2016 should be approved for payment which was seconded by Cllr. Beechey and unanimously approved by council.

Cheque No.	Date	Payee	Amount	VAT
4209	03.10.16	Mazars, external auditor fee	480.00	80.00
4210	05.10.16	Mh-p Internet, update to the council website	15.00	3.00
4211	06.10.16	Midland Computers, new solid state drive and fitting	156.00	26.00
4212	06.10.16	Keith Gibson, safety check, ECU diagnostic cheque	119.12	19.85
4213	06.10.16	TFM, plastic sacks, cement, sand	34.89	5.82
4214	06.10.16	BG Grounds Maint., mowing Patshull Green	84.00	14.00
4215	12.10.16	Npower, Ashgrove street lighting	753.30	126.55
4216	18.10.16	Cash for petty cash	100.00	
4217	19.10.16	Mrs Schofield, windscreen repairs	75.00	
4218	21.10.16	Midland computers, repairs to computer	498.00	83.00
4219	21.10.16	M Ward, re4imbursement for office pens/stationary	68.69	11.45
4220	21.10.16	M Ward, travel expenses, computer repairs	26.10	

4221	29.10.16	SLCC, membership 2016/17	149.00	
4222	31.10.16	Shrewsbury Arms, deposit for Christmas dinner	350.00	
4223	31.10.16	SALC, training course for Chairmanship skills	22.00	
4224	31.10.16	M Nicholls, library/office window cleaning	50.00	

10. UPDATE AND FUTURE ACTION ON THE ALBRIGHTON PRIMARY SCHOOL SWIMMING POOL.

Cllr. Pledger reported that a speaker had attended the last meeting and had proposed a local lottery in support of the swimming club which was in the process of applying for charitable status. The lottery would support the status quo and the parish council was not involved with the scheme or with any form of gaming. Cllr. Pledger said that the management group needed parish council representation and there was discussion regarding the suggestion that Cllr. Woodman would not be eligible to represent the council because of his association with the Civic Society. Cllr. Woodman expressed his displeasure at this suggestion and said that there was no conflict of interest.

Cllr. Roseby proposed that Cllrs. Pledger and Robinson should represent the council on the ad hoc committee which was agreed by council 6 – 2.

Cllr. Pledger stated that councillors would need to consider another possible allocation of funds for the swimming pool in 2017 when it came to consider its draft budget for 2017/18 later in the year.

Cllr. Beechey strongly urged the acquisition of solar panels if the pool was covered in order to help defray the running costs.

11. TO DISCUSS THE ALBRIGHTON STATION RAMP, THE ASSOCIATED RISK ASSESSMENT AND INSURANCE IMPLICATIONS.

Two risk assessments were now available regarding the proposed ramp at Albrighton railway station, one from Shropshire Council/Mouchel and one from Cllr. Hassall. Members agreed that the big issue was the matter of insurance and whether the council insurers would provide adequate cover if all of the conditions proposed by the ramp committee were met. Members also needed to know what the additional premium would be. The clerk was asked to contact its insurance provider and obtain an initial reaction to the proposal and report back to council. Cllr. Robinson reminded members that the ramp would not be DDA compliant and the council would ultimately have to decide whether it wanted any involvement in this project, although Cllr. Illes felt that any failure to back this proposal would be badly interpreted by members of the community.

Cllr. Beechey felt that with so many issues still needing resolution there was an urgent need to convene a new meeting of the ramp committee and the clerk was asked to write to the secretary of the committee and ask him to call a meeting at the earliest opportunity.

Cllr. Woodman left the meeting during this agenda item.

12. TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL FROM CLLR. PLEDGER THAT THE POLLING STATION SHOULD BE MOVED FROM THE RED HOUSE TO THE LIBRARY AND TO DISCUSS THE PARISH COUNCIL'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE RED HOUSE, ITS TRUST AND ITS MANAGEMENT.

Cllr. Pledger reminded members of the need to maximise the income of the library and one way would be to seek a relocation of the polling station from the Red House to the library. The Clerk

reported that discussions with Democratic Services at Shropshire Council revealed that this was a significant step requiring careful discussion and there would have to be good reasons for moving the facility such as complaints from residents following past elections.

Cllr. Illes felt that there were no issues of this kind and he proposed that no further action on this matter should be taken. The proposal was seconded by Cllr. Robinson and unanimously agreed by council.

Cllr. Illes stated that he represented the parish council on the Red House committee in order to try and improve the relationship between the two bodies. He felt that the Red House was the Community Centre for the village and it deserved council support and help.

13. UPDATE ON THE SIGNING OF THE LEASE, THE SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT AND THE LANDLORD AND TENANT DECLARATION, ALL RELATING TO ALBRIGHTON LIBRARY AND THE SIGNING OF THE HR CONTRACT WITH SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL.

Cllr. Harrison reported that the lease and the Service Level Agreement for Albrighton library had been signed and returned to the council's solicitors. He reminded members that if the council wished to terminate the lease it had to give one year's notice.

14. TO DISCUSS THE FOOTPATHS IN THE VILLAGE AND ANY ACTION NEEDED WITH REGARD TO SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL.

Cllr. Illes informed members that documentation from the Footpath Group had been placed on to the council website.

Further discussion on this agenda item was deferred because of the absence of Cllr. Griffin.

15. UPDATE ON THE INSTALLATION OF THE SOLAR FARM NORTH OF ALBRIGHTON AND ANY IMPLICATIONS FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL.

Cllr. Hassall informed members that the rights to the development of a solar farm in Harriott Hayes Lane had been sold to Anesco who were developing 25 acres and the work was nearly complete. No problems had been encountered. There were no notices about running cables from the solar farm to connect it to the grid and no planned road closure notices had been issued and no local landowners had been contacted. Battery storage would also require cabling. Members discussed the possibility of obtaining panels for the library/swimming pool changing rooms and Cllr. Illes proposed that an invitation to Anesco should be extended to discuss the development and possible contributions to the community.

16. CONCERN WITH REGARD TO FLY POSTING IN THE VILLAGE AND DISCUSSION ON WAYS TO REDUCE THIS EYESORE.

Cllr. Harrison voiced his concerns about the level of flyposting in the village and members agreed that it needed to be reduced. Cllr. Illes suggested that the council needed guidance with regard to what powers were available to combat this problem and suggested that the clerk should contact Shropshire Council and then issue a statement on the website and in the Parish Magazine to deter future offenders.

17. DISCUSSION ON LOCAL RIGHTS OF WAY AND BRIDLE PATHS.

Cllr. Hassall reminded members that a definitive map of footpaths and bridleways across the country was being produced with a deadline of 2026 and it was important that all pathways still in use were recorded on this map. Cllr. Illes responded by saying that the Footpaths Group were dealing with this matter and any parish councillor with a contribution to make regarding local footpaths should contact the Footpaths Group. A suggestion already made was to provide a footpath at the edge of the housing development behind Shaw Lane from Beamish Lane.

18. CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COUNCIL CHRISTMAS MEAL AT THE SHREWSBURY ARMS ON 8TH DECEMBER AND THE CIVIC SERVICE AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH ON 11TH DECEMBER.

Cllr. Harrison asked members to provide the clerk with a deposit of £10 per person for the Christmas meal on 8th December.

Cllr. Harrison informed councillors that he had been in discussion with the vicar of St. Mary's Church and it had been suggested that a civic service would be more appropriate around Easter time towards the end of the civic year rather than at Christmas. An invite to councillors to the church's main carol service could replace the traditional carol service which was poorly attended in 2015. Members agreed that it would be more appropriate and to cancel the proposed carol service on 11th December.

19. ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA OF THE ALBRIGHTON PARISH COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING ON 17TH NOVEMBER 2016.

The following items were agreed for inclusion on the agenda of the business meeting to be held on 17th November:

- Future relations with the Red House;
- Cllr. Griffin's item on footpaths;
- The Albrighton school swimming pool;
- The possible use of the toilets in the Crown car park for storage;
- The proposed ramp at Albrighton station;
- The Relief in Need charity.

20. CORRESPONDENCE:

For information:

For action.

- **SALC - suggested letter to be written on behalf of Albrighton Parish Council to Mr Mark Prichard MP.**

Cllr. Beechey suggested that the draft letter to Mr Mark Pritchard MP should be sent on behalf of the council which was agreed by members.

- **M Pitchford – request for ongoing funding for the village planters.**

Members agreed that Cllr. Harrison should chair future meetings of the Grants Committee and agreed to deal with the request from the Civic Society without delay.

Some councillors were of the view that the initial grant had been made for one year only and the council had its own budget for the establishment of planters at the entrances to the village. Given the previous agreements some councillors urged that the request should be refused.

Cllr. Illes felt that this was a mistake and the council should support local groups who were doing their best to enhance the appearance of the village.

Cllr. Pledger proposed that the council should refuse the request for funding for the village planters which was seconded by Cllr. Robinson. Cllr. Illes proposed an amendment to the motion that the council should contribute 50% of the estimated costs which was seconded by Cllr. Kirkland. The amendment was carried 4 – 3. Members went on to vote on the substantive proposal for 50% funding which was agreed by council 4 – 3.

21. DATES AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS:

- **Albrighton Parish Council planning meeting – Thursday 3rd November 2016 at 7.15 pm in the council meeting room.**
- **Albrighton Parish Council business meeting – Thursday 17th November 2016 at 7.15 pm in the council meeting room.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.41 p.m.

Signed.....Date.....
Chairman