



ALBRIGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of meeting

Minutes of the Albrighton Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 4th March at 7.15 pm in the Red House.

Present

Cllrs. D Beechey, B Hickson, T Maguire, M Medlyn, M Pate, J Pledger*, P Woodman, R Rudman, M Pitchford, S Pledger, R Smith, M Pate, A Straney, P Illes, P Collins.

In attendance:

S Reynolds Clerk to Albrighton Parish Council.

19139 Apologies

To receive and approve apologies for absence. Members are asked to give their apologies direct to the Clerk.

Cllr M Pate (holiday)

19140. 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. Members must fill out the declarations of Interests Forms for submission. Where a member indicates that they have a prejudicial interest but wish to make representation regarding the item before leaving the meeting, they must do so under item 4(D) of Public Participation.

None

19141. Public Participation

Members of the public are invited to ask questions, make representations or submit comments on any item on the agenda. This is LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES PER PERSON – at the sole discretion of the Chairman.

There were 9 members of the public present.

The Chairman invited comments from residents, John Gill from the First Albrighton Scout Group expressed his thanks to the council for supporting their application for a heritage grant and was please to inform members that they had been awarded £5,000.

Adam Higgins spoke regarding planning application 20/00463/FUL and issues surrounding the application. Peter Phillips then spoke to application 20/00099/FUL putting forward their objections to the planning application. Josh Foster spoke on behalf of the applicant of the planning application giving detail regarding the application. The Chairman thanked all residents for their contributions and explained that the planning applications would be dealt with later in the agenda but they would not be allowed to take part in the debate.

19142. Report by the Shropshire Council member, Cllr. M Pate, with regard to items of business likely to affect the community.

None

*Cllr J Pledger arrived 7.35pm

19143. Parish Councillors' reports with regard to any items of council business they have recently conducted likely to affect the community.

Cllr P Illes informed councillors that the footpath group was hoping to be successful in their application for £1,000 for increased footpath activity.

Cllr Smith stated that Albrighton Parish Council had also applied for funding for non-slip surfacing of the pedestrian access ramp and that appears to have proceeded to the next stage. The Parish Council was likely to receive the grant of £3,000.

191344 Minutes of previous meetings:

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2020

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the Albrighton Parish Council minutes of the 5th February 2020 were true and accurate records.

19145. Matters arising

To consider any issues arising from the minutes that are not included on the agenda. Meeting actions points to be noted where appropriate.

Cllr Straney asked what policy had been produced regarding back land development as agreed at the last meeting, the Chairman informed Cllr Straney that the Place Plan Working Party had only met once since the last council meeting and had not yet developed the policy in full.

19146. Planning:

Planning applications:

Reference: 20/00461/FUL (validated: 06/02/2020)

Address: 6 Grange Road, Albrighton, Wolverhampton, Shropshire, WV7 3LD

Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension

Applicant: Mr. And Mrs. Bloor

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that council would not comment on this application

Reference: 20/00463/FUL

Address: 21 Elm Road, Albrighton, WV7 3LL.

Proposal: Erection of a two-storey side extension, single storey rear extension and porch to front

Applicant: Mr. A Higgins

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that council would recommend approval of this application

Action - Clerk

Reference: 20/00282/FUL (validated: 14/02/2020)

Address: Plant About Bridge Nursery, Codsall Wood, Staffordshire, WV8 1RU

Proposal: Erection of a 30m high three faced lattice radio antenna and associated equipment box

Applicant: Wolverhampton Community Radio Training Limited (Chris Allen, Newhampton Arts Centre, Newhampton Road East, Wolverhampton, WV1 4AP)

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that council would recommend approval of this application

Action - Clerk

Reference: 20/00746/VAR

Address: 59 High Street, Albrighton, Wolverhampton, Shropshire, WV7 3JQ.

Proposal: Removal of condition no.6 attached planning permission reference 13/00727/FUL dated 27/02/2013

Applicant: Mrs. Fenella Rolli

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that council would recommend approval of this application

Action - Clerk

Reference: 20/00807/FUL

Address: 15 Bredon Close, Albrighton, Wolverhampton, Shropshire, WV7 3PQ.

Proposal: Erection of single storey side extension and formation of pitched roof over existing extension

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that council would recommend approval for this application.

Action – Clerk

Reference: 20/00687/FUL

Proposal: Temporary siting (5 years) of two rows of five containers (63m length) with adjoining canopy to enable training facility

Address: - Proposed Police Training Facility, Old Worcester Road, Albrighton, Shropshire.

Applicant: West Midlands Police

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that council would recommend approval of this application

Action - Clerk

Planning decisions:

Reference: 19/02785/REM (validated: 21/06/2019)

Address: Land to The East Of, Garridge Close, Albrighton, Shropshire

Proposal: Approval of reserved matters (appearance, landscaping, layout, scale) pursuant to 14/03657/OUT for the erection of three residential properties

Decision: Grant Permission

Planning enforcement:

Planning enforcement:

None

Cllr Straney asked if council would consider moving item 19157(b) to be heard with other planning applications, this was seconded and agreed by council.

Planning reference 20/00099/FUL A discussion took place regarding various planning issues which had been heard earlier in the meeting which council felt they were not aware of at the last council meeting. The view was expressed that this application should be determined by the Planning Committee and not via officers delegated powers, Cllr Beechey explained that the local ward member would need to request this action. Councillors expressed several points of concern with this application as it would set a precedent for 'back land development' whilst others felt that this had been discussed at the last meeting and the planning consent was decided by Shropshire Council. After further discussion this was put to the vote:

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED by a majority that council would recommend this application be refused. **Action - Clerk**

It was felt by Councillors that it would be helpful if they were provided with more detailed information on planning applications before the meeting. The Chairman informed members that following the resignation of P Harrison, Cllr Beechey needed support in his planning role, it was agreed that Cllr Woodman and Cllr Straney would support Cllr Beechey with future planning applications. (This entails logging into the planning portal and viewing or if necessary, carrying out a site visit and downloading the relevant documents, drawings, describing the application, and suggesting the council's response).

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that Cllrs Beechey, Woodman and Straney that they would provide councillors with information regarding future planning applications prior to council meetings.

Action – Cllrs Beechey, Woodman & Straney

19147. Finance & Personnel:

- a) To receive a report by the Chairman of Finance & Personnel Committee to also include receipts and payments up to 31st January 2020, (enclosed) – Cllr. Maguire.**

Cllr Maguire informed members that they had received the monthly accounts from the Clerk and a second version produced by himself and asked if there were any questions on the month end figures. Cllr Straney asked if the £403.06 cost for the servicing of 2 sets of doors in library was a recurring expense, the Clerk informed council that it was, these should be serviced every year unfortunately this servicing had not been arranged by the former Clerk and the doors had not been serviced since the Parish Council had taken over the management of the library.

Cllr Smith commented that the Clerk had changed the format regarding how salaries were now proportioned to the differing budget headings so that each cost centre now included the associated salary cost which provided a better understanding of the likely financial outcomes of the Flyer, Library etc. Cllr Maguire explained that currently the cost centres still did not show costings of PAYE, NI and pensions for staff but the accounts were now more explanatory. Cllr Smith agreed and noted that to split this up was more work for the Clerk and perhaps unnecessary as the total only about £11k and so the amount associated with each of the five cost centres being even less did not distort the picture of the outcomes.

Cllr Collins asked what the £1008 for feasibility study was, the Clerk explained this was the contribution received from Donington with Boscobel Parish Council towards the swimming pool feasibility study, Cllr Woodman then detailed what the brief of the feasibility study had been for councillor's information.

- b) To consider income & expenditure in February 2020 details below:**

Date	Cheque	To Whom Payable	Reason	Amount
7/2/20	4588	TFM	Spade, rye grass seed etc.	47.97
7/2/20	4589	Keith Gibson Ltd	Ad Blue for Flyer	16.50

7/2/20	4590	Viking Direct	Soap, domestos, toilet rolls, stamps, envelopes	55.31
10/02/20	4591	Window & Door Contract Services	Service of 2 sets of doors in library 12/6/19	403.06
14/02/20	4592	Viking	Stamps, hooks, whiteboard	70.88
14/02/20	4593	HSQR	Fire Warden on line training	18.00

Income Received:

Date	Payment Type	Payer	Reason	Amount
03/02/20	Cash	Albrighton Parish Council	Flyer cash 28-30 Jan	155.50
03/02/20	Cash	Albrighton Parish Council	Library cash 27/1-1/2/20	31.62
03/02/20	Cash	Albrighton Parish Council	Flyer booking 8/2/20 Ratcliff	110.00
11/02/20	Cash	Albrighton Parish Council	Library cash 3-8 Feb	37.77
11/02/20	Cheque	Albrighton Parish Council	LAH Flyer usage Jan 2020	211.00
18/02/20	Cash	Albrighton Parish Council	Flyer cash 11-14 Feb	168.50
18/02/20	Cash	Albrighton Parish Council	Meeting room booking 11/2/20	13.00
18/02/20	Cash	Albrighton Parish Council	Library cash 10-15 Feb	29.70
18/02/20	Cash	Albrighton Parish Council	Library cash 17-22 Feb	24.76
24/02/20	Cash	Albrighton Parish Council	Flyer cash 18-21 Feb	190.00
24/02/20	Cheque	Donington with Boscobel Parish Council	Contribution pool feasibility study	1008.00

The Clerk invited questions on the income and expenditure figures, none were received and council approved the income & expenditure amounts.

19148 To update on flag pole

The Chairman provided a verbal update, he the Vice Chairman and the Clerk had been invited, along with the Chairman of Donington with Boscobel Parish Council, to meet with the Village Hall Trust Chairman and Manager and a representative from the Royal British Legion. The idea of a flag pole for the village was discussed together with its siting, it was felt that the Red House would be central for the village and that planning permission for the siting of a flag pole would need to be sought from Shropshire Council who own the land. Mandy Medlyn informed Councillors that the Red House were looking at different ways to raise funds for the project to go ahead. This was a community led issue and that the Red House would lead, it was hoped that Albrighton Parish Council, Donington with Boscobel Parish Council and the Royal British Legion together with residents would help fund the flag pole, assuming the project were to go ahead.

19149 To consider proposal regarding summer activities (JW)

The Clerk explained that she had spoken to JW who unfortunately was on holiday and unable to attend the meeting. The Clerk asked if APC could consider this item in JW's absence. The main request was for the Parish Council to coordinate dates of summer activities across the village if possible, in order to prevent clashes for any of the groups that provided their details. It was hoped that a leaflet could be produced advertising all activities that Albrighton Parish Council was aware of and ensure that groups were not competing with each other for the same target market. There is no monetary cost to this decision and JW was requesting that Albrighton Parish Council endeavour to try and pull this information together in order for it to be held and advertised centrally. Councillors agreed to the idea in principle but felt they required further detail, some activities in the village were free, others had a cost and it was felt that a meeting was needed to coordinate this, Councillors requested that a report was brought to council with more detail regarding the request.

19150 To discuss condition of Talbot Road (Cllr M Medlyn)

Cllr Medlyn explained that following the development at Talbot Road/Austin Drive the tarmacked surface had only be laid part way down leaving about 3ft at the end of the development untarmacked. This surface is very uneven containing rubble and the elderly residents are struggling to bring their refuse bins down over this surface. She requested that STAR Housing and Shropshire Council are contacted to ask why the road has been left in this condition, she also said she would provide the Clerk with further details and photos to enable her to contact Shropshire Council and STAR Housing.

Action – Cllr Medlyn & Clerk

19151 To consider an appeal by a Councillor regarding a recent ban (Cllr J Pledger)

Finance & Personnel Committee Chairman, Cllr Maguire explained the format for the appeal to all councillors whereby both Councillors involved would be given the opportunity to speak and Councillors would be able to address questions to them or to the Clerk if legal advice was needed. Councillor J Pledger would then be asked to leave the room whilst Council deliberated and to return to the room to hear the decision of the council, which would be final.

Cllr J Pledger explained why he was challenging the decision, he stated that he had not exchanged many emails with Cllr Woodman during the last 6 months and stated that he felt that Cllr Woodman refused to work with him. Cllr J Pledger said he had sort advice from SALC and Graham White and had contacted Cllr Woodman explaining this, but unfortunately Cllr Woodman refused to meet with him in order to resolve this situation. Cllr J Pledger explained that he felt that Cllr Woodman had an obsession with him, producing a dossier on him which he had shared with council regarding his DPI and his property, he said that Cllr Woodman had implied he had broken the law which was a serious claim and that if Albrighton Parish Council felt his request was wrong they needed to explain this to him.

Cllr Maguire then asked Cllr Woodman if he wanted to respond, Cllr Woodman informed members that Cllr J Pledger had sent many long and complicated emails to him all on the same or similar subjects questioning his integrity and pressing to meet and had put in a 41-page complaint against him, in which he had accused him of failure to take responsibility and of ineptitude. Cllr Woodman also informed Councillors that this complaint had been investigated by Graham White, the Monitoring Officer and had been found to be without foundation. The Monitoring Officer had stated that Cllr J Pledger was constantly raising issues which had been resolved, Cllr Woodman said he rejected what Cllr J Pledger was alleging and that he had taken legal action against Cllr J Pledger for his comments against someone in public office.

The matter was then referred back to the council. Cllr Maguire explained that the Finance & Personnel Committee had looked at all the circumstances and emails in this case as they had done previously in Cllr J Pledgers case against the Clerk. Cllr Maguire stated that he had written to Cllr J Pledger stating that if it wasn't his intension to harass or upset why didn't he just apologise, this should have happened back in 2018, it was not the giver who felt harassed but the receiver, if the receiver felt harassed then even if the giver did not intend it then nevertheless the receiver felt harassed, so he should have apologised to both the Chairman and the Clerk, Cllr Maguire went on to say that would have been a very courageous thing for Cllr J Pledger to do, there has been a lot of correspondence from Cllr J Pledger which he had seen and Cllr Maguire said that if he had been on the receiving end of it he personally would have considered it harassment, even if Cllr J Pledger didn't accept this fact. Cllr Medlyn stated that the situation was becoming ridiculous. Cllr Maguire asked if any Councillors had any further questions, as there were none forthcoming Cllr J Pledger was asked to leave the room for council to discuss the matter.

Cllr Maguire explained that Cllr J Pledger was questioning the decision of Finance & Personnel Committee and that Cllr J Pledger was suggesting that the committee hadn't examine the issue carefully. Cllr Maguire stated that the decision to impose an order against Cllr J Pledger was not to restrict his activities as a councillor but it was to protect the Chairman, he stated that he had seen the emails and the 41 page complaint and that in his opinion they constituted harassment, the decision of the F&P was brought before full council in November 2019. He said he had only been trying to stop the nastiness which had been going on since August 2018 which was tainting the council. Cllr

Maguire expressed his opinion which was too much time had been taken up with this issue, it was futile and council needed to move on from it. It was agreed that the council had a duty to protect the Chairman as they had the Clerk and the current order did not stop any councillor from doing their job.

Cllr Maguire proposed that “the Council agrees with the decision taken by Finance & Personnel Committee and dismisses the appeal”, this was seconded by Cllr Medlyn. Cllr S Pledger said other councillors were aggressive, she said the reason the Chairman got so many emails was because he didn’t answer emails. Cllr S Pledger claimed that the meeting in August 2018 was called by Phil Harrison but she didn’t support it and that the issues within the council only continue because Cllr Woodman continues to put them on the agenda. Cllr Maguire commented he was at his wits end, he didn’t like the constant bickering and claimed that Cllr S Pledger personally caused a lot of the aggravation, to which Cllr S Pledger said she was not the only one. Cllr Maguire stated that if the proposal was overturned or if Cllr J Pledger refused to comply with the order all councillors and the Clerk should ignore his emails unless they were to do with current valid official council business, this was agreed by councillors.

Cllr Smith stated that the point was the council was getting fed up of this situation, the council should be working together for the community, we have voted about working together and ceasing this constant bickering 3 or 4 times now and Cllr J Pledger is continuing to waste a lot of council time. It was agreed by council that sadly the situation had gone past mediation, poor communication has also escalated the issue, it was agreed that unfortunately whether Cllr J Pledger accepted it or not the recipient was frightened and harassed by the situation and the council need to take action to deal with this situation. Council were reminded that a proposal had been placed before them and council thus needed to vote on it.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED by a majority that the council agrees with the previous decision taken by the Finance & Personnel Committee to continue the restriction imposed and the appeal is dismissed.

Cllr Maguire asked Cllr J Pledger to return to the meeting and advised him of the outcome and reminded councillors including Cllr J Pledger who had re-joined the meeting, that the motion had been carried, his appeal had been dismissed and that no further appeal will be allowed, that this should be the absolute end of it.

19152 To consider Christmas lights. (Cllr P Illes)

The Clerk had circulated a report on behalf of Cllr Illes who along with the Clerk had met with Turncock’s last week to review the previous year and to look towards the future. Cllr Illes informed Councillors that there had been some issues with a defective timer switch in the Red House, now fixed and one of the displays due to defective lamp post timers. The Clerk informed councillors that lampposts 1, 2 and 3 on Station Road were due to be replaced by Shropshire Council. Turncock’s had informed us that several trees on the village green, opposite the Coop shop where a truck had hit some lights and put them out of action, needed trimming back to ensure continued safety for traffic on the High Street. The condition of the Christmas lights including the areas around Maywood Fold, Lockleys garage block, the frontage of the Bush and the row of shops opposite Next Door bar were also discussed. Many of our current Christmas lights are life expired and the contract has now run out. The Clerk was asked to contact Shropshire Council to discuss the new light fittings to ensure these would take our Christmas light fittings and to ask the village warden to trim the trees around the village green as much as he was able. Cllr Illes informed members that we would be receiving a report from Turncock’s, once this was received council could then consider costs and the contract for the next three years. The Clerk was given delegated powers to purchase new equipment for the Village Warden to trim the trees.

Action - Clerk

19153 Update on David Austin memorial (Cllr Woodman)

The Chairman presented his written report which had been circulated to Councillors asking for a grant of up to £1200 for this project. Hopefully Donington with Boscobel would agree to participate in this funding. He explained that he and the Vice Chairman had met with all interested parties and he had obtained two quotations for the first phase of

the works - the clearance of the site, the storage of the yorkstone paving ;the preparation of the site in readiness for the planting of the roses (provided FOC by David Austin Roses including all special soils and fertilisers) and the planting of those roses. One quotation was for £1200 and the other for £1400. A third quotation would be obtained if possible. The plan was to go ahead with this site clearance and planting in time for this spring.

Also planned was to obtain a memorial stone - in accordance with an estimate already obtained of c. £2600. A village fund raising scheme would be organised by the Red House and the target would be set at £4000. If met the grant made by the Parish Councils would be repaid.

Cllr Smith explained that the land this land by the Paraphernalia Shop has been tended by Ron Murdock who has done this on a voluntary basis and he has volunteered again to maintain the memorial garden but asked that he was given no publicity for his work; a vote of thanks on behalf of the Parish Council was proposed for his excellent voluntary work. It was agreed that if the monies were not for coming for the memorial stone then a memorial rose garden would be provided and that the £1,200 would be reclaimed if there were sufficient funds to pay the council back.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that council would provide up to £1,200 to start the David Austin memorial garden and if sufficient funds were raised this money would be reclaimed.

19154 To consider Clerks workload (Cllr Maguire)

Cllr Maguire Chair of Finance & Personnel Committee outlined the many changes to the Clerk's workload. He listed many responsibilities and asked for consideration to be given to how the role had changed since being offered the current hours. He also explained that the Library Branch Manager and RFO had both retired and the Clerk had been given only another 5 hours per week to undertake the duties of both of these members of staff. Currently the Clerk is working extra hours every week, it would seem appropriate for these to be included in her contract and to allow flexible working hours as per the statutory right in the Employment Rights Act 1996. He proposed that council grant the clerk an increase of one day per week (presently she works 3 days per week) and that she has the flexibility to choose to work this time in the most efficient and convenient way, allowing flexible working hours. Cllr Smith noted that there would be no extra cost to the council as the Clerk is already entitled to be paid for extra hours worked. Cllr S Pledger asked whether it would be useful to have an Assistant Clerk, and Cllr Maguire said that there was no provision in the budget currently for an Assistant Clerk this would need to be built into the budget process, he said that the Finance & Personnel Committee could consider this in the future. Cllr Maguire's proposal was seconded and it was put to the vote.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED by a majority that council would increase the Clerks contract to four days which she could work flexibly as per the statutory right in the Employment Rights Act 1996. Action - Clerk

19155 To discuss siting of benches in village (Cllr S Pledger)

Cllr S Pledger stated that some of the benches had been sited in the wrong place around the village as they were under trees which meant they were subject to bird droppings. The one at the end of Shaw Lane should be on the other side of the road and also the one at the end of Manor Gardens. Cllr S Pledger said she wanted them moved, the Clerk explained she had spoken to the Village Warden who had said the benches were very heavy, bolted into the ground and concreted in and he was not able to move them. He had also informed the Clerk that it would be very costly to move the benches. Cllr Smith asked why the old council had put them in those position under trees in the first place? Cllr S Pledger said that the former Clerk didn't tell Shropshire Council where to place the benches correctly. Cllr Straney said that the Parish Council had bought new benches and retained a lot of old ones and did we need that many benches anyway; if a bench was unusable, we should just get rid of it. It was agreed to ask the Village Warden to look at the condition of each bench and decided if they were okay or needed to be removed.

Action – Clerk/Village Warden

19156 To discuss camera on skate park (Cllr S Pledger)

Cllr S Pledger raised the issue of the camera still not working and stated that this issue had been outstanding for many months. The Chairman informed Cllr S Pledger that he had spoken with the Headmistress who informed him the camera was now defunct and nothing could be done with it. He also explained that the camera and the skate park were the responsibility of Shropshire Council and not Albrighton Parish Council. Cllr S Pledger requested that a letter was written to Shropshire Council requesting that they replace the camera.

Action -Clerk

19157 Correspondence

For action:

- a) email received regarding lamppost poppies

The Clerk had circulated an email to all Councillors to make them aware that there was an opportunity to purchase lamp post poppies as part of the JE/JV day celebrations and she was seeking their instruction as to whether these should be purchased and the quantity to be purchased if they were. She advised that these could also be used in the village around Remembrance Sunday so would have more than a one-off purchase cost. The Clerk was asked to contact the Royal British Legion and ask their views, they may be able to obtain these poppies at a cheaper cost, or may feel that they already have enough poppies so no extra ones are needed.

Action – Clerk

- b) email received reference: planning 20/00099/FUL

This matter had been dealt with earlier in the meeting.

To note:

- e mail from Shropshire Council regarding Public Payphone on Newport Road

The Clerk had circulated an email from Shropshire Council informing them that the pay phone in Cosford was under threat of removal, Donington with Boscobel Parish Council had written to Shropshire Council objecting to this proposal and it was hoped that this removal will not now happen.

19154 To consider Clerks workload (continued)

It was noted that an item under 19154 had not been covered fully and it was agreed that this could be discussed at this point. The Chairman of Finance & Personnel informed members that the Clerk had received a Subject Access Request from a Councillor. The request for information covered a period since 2018 and could take a considerable amount of time to fulfil, this would cost the council a lot in terms of Clerks time and resources.

Cllr Hickson said he was 100% against spending any more time on this, the council were wasting valuable time every meeting on a couple of councillors' and not doing proper council work. Cllr Medlyn commented that the community were also fed up of this problem and wanted to know why we are allowing it to continue and who was paying for it. The Clerk should not be spending time on this.

The Clerk was also asked what the impact to the council would be for this request, she explained that it would take a considerable amount of time to research old documents and electronic records for all emails that may be available with this Councillors name on and regardless of what subject matter they may be about, she would also have to redact them to remove any names or details which may concern any other councillor or resident within their content. It was agreed that this was a massive task which would take a lot of the Clerks time and resources to do and the cost of this should be borne by the subject access requester and not the Council. The Council would be able to charge some of the cost to the Councillor evidencing the time and costs involved and the Clerk confirmed that she had already spoken to the Information Commissioner Office about this and they had also advised that the Council would have a two-month extension for the request as it was complex. Cllr Smith asked the councillor concerned why he was making this request? Councillor J Pledger replied that the matter was really in the hands of the Chairman, Cllr Pledger

said that if the Chairman, Cllr Woodman would meet with him as he had requested on numerous occasions, he would withdraw his request for the information. He went on to say he had requested a meeting to discuss matters with Cllr Woodman several times over the last year which had been declined, and he was again willing to meet with him which would negate the need for the subject access request. The Clerk informed councillors that this subject access request would put extra pressure on top of what was already a heavy workload, Cllr Maguire reminded Councillors that they should try whenever possible to do more tasks for themselves, many issues passed to her were issues that they could deal with rather than always asking the Clerk. Several Councillors expressed concern at the time and potential cost to the council of dealing with this request and some Councillors felt that the Clerk should not answer the request but the Clerk explained that there was a legal requirement to do so, Cllr J Pledger was urged to withdraw the request.

Cllr J Pledger said the power to stop this Subject Access Request was in the power of Cllr Woodman and stated that he would withdraw his request if Cllr Woodman met him. Cllr J Pledger also said “the Finance & Personnel Committee decision is unenforceable so I won’t be abiding with it anyway”. The Chairman, Cllr Woodman, asked the Clerk to check the legitimacy of the Subject Access Request and the potential for charging Cllr J Pledger for the work needed to met the request.

A member of the public mentioned at the end of the meeting that they thought someone in the public area was recording the proceedings and wondered if that was legal. The Clerk informed the member of the public that such recording, if it exists, cannot be shared or used in any way, it did not comply with the guidance around recording of meetings following GDPR regulations and should be deleted immediately.

19158 Date of next meeting:

Albrighton Parish Council meeting – Wednesday 1st April 2020 at 7.15 pm in The Red House.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

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