



ALBRIGHTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES – 7th October 2020

The remote Albrighton Parish Council meeting which was held through Microsoft Teams on Wednesday 7th October 2020 at 6.00pm.

COUNCILLORS IN ATTENDANCE: P Woodman, R Smith, T Maguire, D Beechey, P Illes*, A Straney*, M Pitchford, P Collins, R Rudman, M Pate*

ALSO, IN ATTENDANCE: Shirley Reynolds Clerk to the Council

ORDINARY BUSINESS MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL.

20061 Apologies

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

Cllr B Hickson (prior engagement), Cllr S Pledger, Cllr J Pledger

Each apology was accepted by council.

20062. 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 declared.

20063. Public Participation

Members of the public are invited to ask questions, make representations or submit comments please contact the Clerk prior to the meeting. This is LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES PER PERSON – at the sole discretion of the Chairman.

None received.

20064. Minutes of previous meeting:

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd September 2020 (enclosed).

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the minutes of 2nd September were true and accurate records.

*Cllr Illes arrived

20065 To consider the Clerks report (enclosed)

The Chairman thanked the Clerk for her comprehensive report which had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting and asked her to outline a few main points. She explained that she was delighted that having lobbied Shropshire Council a sum of £3,437.50 had been received from Shropshire Council for lost income relating to community transport. She further explained that we were fortunate that the monies received related to the comparison with the same period last year when the contract with LAH was in place, unfortunately we don't have this any longer, the monies received includes nearly £1,800 relating to LAH alone.

The Clerk stated that our external audit AGAR report had been received and would be dealt with later in the meeting.

She also informed members that having submitted a grant application she was pleased to report we have received £200 towards the cost of the external report on the condition of the war memorial. The report was a requirement of the War Memorial Trust before our grant application for remedial works can be submitted.

The Clerk also updated members on the numerous changes to the business procedures for both the Parish Council and the Library which continue unabated especially concerning public areas and usage. She informed members that the library was recovering well and users were returning, but there were still concerns regarding the under usage of the Flyer and the continuing loss of revenue.

Cllr Woodman thanked the Clerk for her work and also congratulated her on the lobbying she had done on behalf of the councils and the monies she had recovered on the council's behalf.

Cllr Smith asked the Clerk if the council would receive BSOG as it had the previous year. The Clerk explained that unfortunately the BSOG was based on the mileage undertaken on behalf of the council and would not cover the period the vehicle had been used as a mobile shop and the mileage incurred during this period. She explained that the BSOG claim this year would be difficult to calculate as the driver had not kept mileage readings on daily record sheets since the vehicle resumed service in August, this has now been requested for future records.

The Chairman thanked the Clerk for her work and moved that the report be accepted.

Cllr Illes asked how councillors could report any issues that they had either dealt with or items of interest in the village, the Clerk informed members that similar to the Clerks report Councillors can provide her with a councillor's report which she would distribute to all councillors. It was agreed that this would be helpful and members were encouraged to let the clerk have their report for future meetings which she would circulate to all members.

Action - Councillors

*Cllr Straney arrived

20066 Finance & Personnel

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

Cllr Maguire asked Councillors if there were any questions on the financial reports, he explained he had a good record of all council financial activities if anyone had any queries, none received.

b) To receive the external audit report (enclosed)

The Clerk informed members that she was delighted to report that Albrighton Parish Council was one of the first councils in the country to have received its external report back stating that everything is in good order and there are no areas of concern. She explained that in order to satisfy our financial regulations and internal auditor requirements that council should suspend standing orders and move a motion to approve the report, the Chairman then proposed the motion that the report be approved.

Resolved: It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the external audit report be approved unanimously.

c) To consider income & expenditure in September 2020 details below:

Expenditure

Date	Cheque	To Whom Payable	Reason	Amount
01/09/20	FPM	Mike Nicholls	Window cleaning library/Parish Office	50.00
01/09/20	FPM	BG Ground Maintenance	2 * Patshull mow 9 th & 23 rd July 2020	140.00
02/09/20	FPM	Hommers & Sons Ltd	Trays of Geraniums & Heucherella	47.88
04/09/20	DD	West Mercia Energy	Gas	36.13
04/09/20	DD	West Mercia Energy	Electric	61.30
14/09/20	DD	Mainstream Digital	Fraud Protection & Calls	43.28
14/09/20	FPM	Shropshire Council	5 litre hand sanitisers for library	39.60
15/09/20	FPM	PKF Littlejohn	Ltd Assurance Review of AGAR 19/20	480.00
15/09/20	DD	Fuel Genie	Flyer fuel September	142.50
15/09/20	FPM	WaterPlus	Surface water drainage May to Aug 20	118.08
18/09/20	FPM	Keith Gibson	Fuel for mower August 2020	6.00
20/09/20	FPM	HMRC	PAYE/NI August 2020	1133.08
21/09/20	DD	West Mercia Energy	Electric standing charge and usage 01/07/20 to 31/07/20	61.30
21/09/20	DD	West Mercia Energy	Gas standing charge and usage 30/06/20 to 31/07/20	36.13
22/09/20	FPM	Shropshire Council	Pension Contributions September 2020	1800.71
23/09/20	FPM	Albrighton Parish Council	September 2020 salaries	5575.13
23/09/20	DD	BT Group	Rental internet line for CCTV & Library	94.80
23/09/20	DD	GB Copiers Ltd	Copier	30.00
28/09/20	DD	Veolia	Duty of Care	4.00
28/09/20	FPM	PHS Group	Waste services Contract	91.80
29/09/20	FPM	Olivia Neal	Postage reimbursement	7.04
30/09/20	FPM	Viking	Toilet Rolls	9.59

Income

Date	Payment Type	Payer	Reason	Amount
01/09/20	Cash	Albrighton Parish Council	Library Cash 24-29th August	14.77
01/09/20	Cash	Albrighton Parish Council	Flyer Cash 25-28 August	38.00
02/09/20	DD	Shropshire Council	Library subsidy	1200.00

03/08/20	DD	Nationwide Building Society	Interest on investment account	3.61
03/09/20	FPI	War Memorials Trust	Grant towards report on war memorial	200.00
14/09/20	Cash	Albrighton Parish Council	Library cash 1 - 5 September 2020	11.62
14/09/20	Cash	Albrighton Parish Council	Library cash 7 – 12 September 2020	12.21
14/09/20	Cash	Albrighton Parish Council	Flyer cash – Melville Club	8.00
22/09/20	Cash	Albrighton Parish Council	Flyer cash 1 - 4 September 2020	50.00

The Clerk asked members if they had any questions, Cllr Smith queried what the “Ltd” Assurance Review by PFK Littlejohn meant, the Clerk explained how it was in the context of a ‘limited’ external audit based on the documents that had been filed and Cllr Beechey added that various councils would be chosen who would have a more in depth external audit. Cllr Maguire commented that it was a shame we couldn’t query the fee we had to pay as this seemed rather a lot but he was aware this was a nationally agreed figure that all councils had to pay. Members approved the income & expenditure for the month together with all internet banking transactions.

20067 To receive planning report - Planning Working Party (enclosed)

Cllr Woodman had previously circulated the report regarding the planning items received which had been reviewed by the Planning Working Party and that they were recommending support.

Resolved: It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED by a majority that the applications were recommended for support. Action – Clerk

a) To consider:

Reference: 20/03508/FUL

Proposal: Erection of 18No. residential dwellings and associated parking/garaging with new adopted road following demolition of existing bungalow, garage and pool house

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

Applicant: Shropshire Homes Ltd (The Old Workhouse, Cross Houses, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 6JH)

*Cllr Pate arrived

This planning application had been considered by the Planning Working Party and their comments included in the previous report circulated by Cllr Woodman. A discussion followed by members and all members agreed not to support this application for the following reasons :-

- The land is zoned as white land for development of homes for the elderly, therefore bungalows. This is set out in the village SAMDEV and also the village Local Plan. It is also in Green Belt Land and approval to infringement of the Green Belt in this instance was only given in this case because it was perceived that there is a strong requirement for this type of development in the village and one where there is a short walking access to the village centre.
- The Shropshire Homes Ltd proposals do not comply with this dedicated use for homes for the elderly. The majority of the development proposed (using by far the majority of the land) is for executive type 4 and 5 bedroom houses (11 of them). Only 3 bungalows are proposed and a 3 storey apartment block. Is such an apartment block suitable accommodation for elderly people – we think not.

- The development proposed would be very much an overdevelopment of the site with properties crammed together and some overlooking established properties in a Conservation Area of the village.
- The vehicular access and egress would put excessive pressure on Garridge Close which is a narrow road.

It was agreed that Cllr Woodman would write to the Chief Planning Officer outlining our concerns.

Resolved: It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREEDED unanimously that the Parish Council did not support the approval of this application. **Action – Clerk**

20068 To receive verbal update from Grants Working Party (Cllr Smith)

The Chairman updated members on the outcome of the Grants Working Party meeting and the recommendation to pay Albrighton Royal British Legion a contribution of £345 for the supply and installation cost of the flagpole. The Chairman explained that it was hoped that Boningale Parish Council will contribute 5% (as offered by their Chairman and Donington with Boscobel Parish Council will contribute their 28% and that the Clerk had been instructed to pay the full £345 (which included the hoped for contribution by Boningale Parish Council and Donington with Boscobel Parish Council) in order that the flag pole could be purchased and hopefully put in place for Remembrance Day. The grant had been approved and paid on the condition that the flagpole will be in the ownership/responsibility of the Albrighton Royal British Legion and Albrighton Parish Council is only providing a contribution to the overall cost of its provision. The Chairman confirmed that he would circulate the Grant Working Party report to all members of the Grants Working Party. **Action - Clerk**

20069 To note Correspondence received

a) Verbal update on correspondence received (Cllr Smith)

The Chairman informed members that emails had been received by the Clerk from the new residents of Lea Manor Gardens, which she had passed for his attention. The residents were concerned about the speed of traffic on the A41 and the poor state of the footpaths. The Chairman had written to the residents explaining the all highways and footpaths were under the jurisdiction of Shropshire Council and provided them with the details of the Shropshire Cllr Steve Davenport to contact.

The Chairman had also received correspondence from a resident raising concerns about the hounds belonging to the Albrighton Hunt. This followed an incident where the hounds had chased his dog on the public roads through Albrighton and were not under the control of the Hunt personnel. The Chairman had written to the Master of the Hunt asking what measures he could put in place to avoid similar incidents in future. This potentially could be a dangerous issue for the public, especially young children in the village, and also traffic and the hounds themselves.

b) Closure of TSB branch

The Clerk informed members that she had received notification from TSB that the Albrighton branch would close on January 12th. All members agreed that this facility was a loss to the village which would now be left without a bank. Whilst it was a national issue it was agreed that the Parish Council should write to the TSB and express our dismay at the closure of the only bank in the village and the impact this would have on all residents. **Action - Clerk**

Albrighton Parish Council meeting – 7th October 2020

20070 Date of next meeting:

Albrighton Parish Council meeting – Wednesday 4th November 2020 6pm via Microsoft Teams

The meeting closed at 18.56pm

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