

Albrighton Parish Council



Albrighton Parish Council

Council Office
Station Road
Albrighton
Wolverhampton
WV7 3QH
Tel: 01902 375455

Email: Clerk@albrightonparishcouncil.gov.uk
admin@albrightonparishcouncil.gov.uk
www.albrightonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Albrighton Parish Council held on **7th October 2021 at 7.00pm** at **The Red House**, High Street, Albrighton. WV7 3LU

Present:

Councillors: Beechey, Chatburn, French, Illes, Lumby, Medlyn, Noakes, Pledger, Robinson, Roseby, B Watson, F Watson, and Webster

Staff: C Turner (Clerk)

There were two (2) members of the public present at the meeting.

A quorum was present when decisions were made. Names present must be recorded.

FC21 / 067 Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

FC21 / 068 Apologies for Absence

Proposed by Councillor Illes, Seconded by Councillor Chatburn

Unanimously agreed by all Councillors

RESOLVED that the Council accept the apologies and reasons for absence from Councillors:

Straney and Wilmot

FC21 / 069 Code of Conduct

Disclosable Pecuniary and other Interests

Councillors were reminded that they should declare any pecuniary interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting, which is not included in the register of interests.

Councillors Medlyn informed the Council that she would be declaring an interest for item numbers 22/23/24 on the agenda and would be leaving the room.

The Clerk confirmed that for these items Councillor Medlyn had made a declaration on the Disclosable Pecuniary and other Interests documentation held within the Parish Council Office.

FC21 / 070 Dr Bird update on Albrighton Medical Practice Future and Planning Application

The Chairman of the Council welcomed Dr Bird from Albrighton Medical Practice and thanked him for attending the meeting.

Dr Bird provided a verbal update on the current provision and building for Albrighton Medical Practice, their links to the Primary Care Network, the increase in the numbers of patients at the practice and the increase in the number of services now being provided. A copy of the preliminary site plan proposed was tabled at the meeting.

Dr Bird informed that there was a need for the medical practice to modernise in all ways, which in turn would attract more staff and patients. Part of the modernisation was to make changes to the physical building which would be going through a planning application via the Shropshire Planning Portal.

The Councillors were given the opportunity to ask Dr Bird questions.

Councillor Noakes asked if the 3 planned car parking spaces were new. Dr Bird confirmed that the car parking spaces were 3, it was estimated there were 32 vehicle trips per day with the current use plus 20% which included the new COVID restrictions, that the population has been increased, confirmed that the surgery operation would be face to face and phone call. It was confirmed that the current staffing level is 30 but this would be increased and that some staff working in the surgery are not direct employees of the practice.

Councillor Illes informed that there was an appreciation of what the surgery does and the working trying to enhance the services and facilities provided.

Councillor Chatburn asked if there would be any additional rooms and if there was to be more staff was there enough space and car parking spaces as it appeared to be disparity between the two.

Dr Bird informed that this feedback would be reviewed. That the traditional CAB type service provided a receptionist and a room for direct patient contact and this would need to be reviewed now the funding had been withdrawn from the Health Authority.

FC21 / 071 Presentation and Update from the AFLAG Group

The Chairman of the Council welcomed David Corden – Chairman of the AFLAG Group and thanked him for attending the meeting.

Mr Corden introduced himself and the purpose of the AFLAG group, the history behind its set up following extreme flooding in the village in 2006 and 2018, as well as the strong feeling in the village regarding the flooding and provided an update on the information forwarded to all Councillors on the 1st September by the Clerk.

Councillors were given the opportunity to ask questions regarding the AFLAG group.

Councillor Roseby asked if Albany Avenue was on the list for the AFLAG Group to be looked at?

Mr Corden asked the Council if there were any members of the Council who would like to join the AFLAG Group. The Chairman of the Council informed that a representative from the Parish Council for the AFLAG Group was on the agenda to agree at tonight's meeting.

Councillor French joined the meeting.

FC21 / 072 Public Participation

The public session was opened. The Members of the Public did not want to raise anything or comment as they had already had an opportunity as part of the agenda item - Presentation and update from Albrighton Medical Practice and AFLAG Group.

The Clerk confirmed she has not received any items for discussion by the public.

Meeting was reconvened.

FC21 / 073 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Chairman of the Council asked the Council to review and agree the previously circulations minutes from the Full Council meeting held on the 2nd September 2021.

Proposed by Councillor Robinson, Seconded by Councillor Lumby

Abstained by Councillor French, Illes and Roseby – not in attendance at the meeting

RESOLVED that the Council agree the minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd September 2021 to be a true and accurate record of the meeting and will include the following amendments;

- Page 2 - take out the words 'and would have a massive impact on the areas and impact on the 3,000 houses proposed for Tong' from bullet point 15.

FC21 / 074 Shropshire Councillor

Opportunity for the Councillor for Shropshire Council to report to the Parish Council and for Parish Councillors to raise questions with the Councillor for Shropshire Council.

Councillor Lumby provided an update which included the following;

- For the Afghan Refuges 3 houses had been offered by Shropshire Council to the Government Central Scheme – currently 1 property was suitable and had been taken.
- attendance on a Team Meeting with the Transport Portfolio including an updated from integrated public transport and the monies coming available for this from Government
- An emphasis has been made on dog detritus which may be of interest to the Environmental Group at Albrighton Parish Council
- Darwin Shopping Centre had now been cleared but may not now be used at the new headquarters and may be looking at a new purpose-built facility
- The planning decision at the Ironbridge Power Station site would be coming out
- Discussions regarding a possible footpath from the Fire Station to Grange Park

The Councillors were given the opportunity to ask the Shropshire Councillor questions.

Councillor Illes raised the issues of the information board at the side of the Coop being out of date since 2017 and the bus stop on main road needing fixing.

FC21 / 075 Update from the Grants Committee

Councillor Pledger left the meeting due to being the Chair of the Albrighton Patients Group and this group would form part of the discussion under this agenda item.

Councillor Webster provided a verbal update to The Council on the tabled report provided and the Grant application from the Chairman of the Albrighton Patients' Group – Sylvia Pledger, for support with the CAB service at Albrighton Medical Practice.

The Councillors had a detailed discussion with regard to this grant application.

Proposed by Councillor Webster, Seconded by Councillor Roseby

Unanimously agreed by all Councillors present

RESOLVED that the Council agree to the recommendation from the Grants Committee to award the Albrighton Patients' Group with a grant of £3,710 to fund a six (6) month trial of the CAB at Albrighton Medical Practice with the condition that the CAB provide updates on the numbers of service users and the types of assistance being provided.

Councillor Pledger re-joined the meeting.

FC21 / 076 Update from the Flyer Committee

Councillor Medlyn left the meeting due to her disclosable pecuniary interest declared.

The Council held a discussion on this item being deferred to the next meeting.

Proposed by Councillor B Watson, Seconded by Councillor Webster

Unanimously agreed by all Councillors present

RESOLVED that the Council agree to defer this item to the next Council meeting.

Councillor Medlyn re-joined the meeting.

FC21 / 077 Update from the Planning Committee

The Council were provided with an update from the Chairman of the Planning Committee – Councillor Noakes following the meeting of the Planning Committee held on the 4th October 2021 and tabled a report following this meeting.

The planning applications updated on were:

- 21/04250/FUL – 38 Loak Road
- 21/04250/FUL – 4 Grange Road
- 21/03694/OUT - Albrighton Sports and Social Club

Councillor Noakes informed that there was an additional planning application but there had been no objection to this.

Councillor Medlyn declared an interest in the planning application 21/03694/OUT due to being a former member of the Albrighton Sports and Social Club.

The Chairman of the Council confirmed that all Councillors are now able to attend the Planning Committee Meetings with it having been previously agreed to be a committee and having delegated powers to make decisions on behalf of the Council.

The Clerk confirmed these comments had now been added to the Shropshire Portal.

FC21 / 078 Update from the Environmental Working Group

The Council were provided with a verbal update from the Chairman of the Environmental Working Group following the meeting held on the 23rd September 2021 and tabled a report following this meeting.

The Councillors had a detailed discussion with regard to the update and the report tabled.

Proposed by Councillor Robinson, Seconded by Councillor Chatburn

Unanimously agreed by all Councillors

RESOLVED that the Council agree on block to the following recommendations made by the Environmental Working Group:

- to the map provided and allocation of the roads within the village being allocated to individual Councillors to monitor the environment in this area and report any issues to the Parish Office to log with Shropshire Council
- for it to be agreed for the Scouts to accept their offer of help to maintain the village planters
- for the village entrance sign window boxes to be incorporated in any future procurement with the planters
- for tree issues to be on a future council meeting agenda
- for this issue of the overgrown area and pathway between Load Road and Worthington Drive to be on a future council meeting agenda

FC21 / 079 Update from the Law & Order Working Group

The Council were provided with a verbal update from the Chairman of the Law & Order Working Group - Councillor Robinson - following the meeting held on the 6th October 2021 and tabled a copy of the quotation for the proposed move of the CCTV equipment from the Red House to the Council Office.

Councillor Robinson informed the Council that there had only been one quotation for this work due to the equipment being specialist and the company supplying the software updates, tracking, maintenance and supply of the equipment. It was explained that there was a possibility that if the equipment was moved by another organisation and this had any effect on the software and equipment, etc, that we would have to call out this organisation because they maintain the equipment and potentially this could cost the Council more money.

The Councillors had a detailed discussion with regard to the proposal to move the CCTV equipment and the quotation supplied.

Proposed by Councillor Robinson, Seconded by Councillor Chatburn

Unanimously agreed by all Councillors

RESOLVED that the Council agree to move the CCTV equipment from the Red House to the Council building, to use Technical Services (Shropshire) Ltd to complete this work, and agree the quotation reference number QUO00553 for this work.

Proposed by Councillor Lumby, Seconded by Councillor Robinson

Unanimously agreed by all Councillors

RESOLVED that the Council agree for the spend to move the CCTV equipment from the Red House to the Council building would be taken from the general reserves.

FC21 / 080 Request for Representation on other outside Bodies and Committees

The Chairman of the Council provided a verbal update regarding the request for representation on other outside bodies and committees:

- AFLAG Group (Albrighton Flood Action Group)

Councillors debated the requests and were given an opportunity to ask the Chairman questions.

Proposed by Councillor Pledger, Seconded by Councillor Medlyn

Unanimously agreed by all Councillors

RESOLVED that the Council agree for Councillor Wilmot and Roseby to be the representative for Albrighton Parish Council on the AFLG Group.

FC21 / 081 Events

The Clerk provided a verbal update regarding Events and the report tabled at the meeting.

- Update on the MacMillan Coffee Morning was very well attended by the community and working in partnership with the Craft Group raised £525.00 for MacMillan.
- Queens Platinum Jubilee 2022 that planning had already started by many organisations. It was confirmed that the Red House would be holding a Street Party.

Councillors discussed the possibility of a working group for Events under the Queens Platinum Jubilee 2022.

- The Chairman of the Council raised the possibility of the chains of office for the Chairman of the Council be upgraded to mark this. It was discussed and agreed for costings for this to be collated and to be an agenda item at a future council meeting for agreement.
- The approach from Compton Hospice Charity Shop to hold a Christmas Coffee Morning and asked if the Council could offer the same financial support as with the MacMillan Coffee Morning. It was discussed and agreed for the Clerk to collated more information including a date and to be an agenda item at a future council meeting for agreement.
- The Chairman raised that a Pumpkin Event could be held in the village in 2021 with prizes being provided from the Chairman's allowance.
- Approbation for 2022 and a proposed date for the 7th May 2022.

Councillors held a detailed discussion regarding the Approbation for 2022.

Councillor Webster asked if the date could also form part of the Battle of Britain commemorations in September?

The Chairman of the Council informed that the date in May had been chosen by Cosford.

Councillor Medlyn informed that the format had always been the same and at the same time in previous years, that this event cost a lot of money and how would this look to the community when there are many dealing with Covid and have struggles, etc. Councillor Medlyn asked if it could be delivered in a different way, have the march and salute but have the Red House open to everyone to have tea / cake because her concern would be the criticism the council would have in spending this money at this time especially when we don't know what the future brings with Covid, etc.

The Chairman of the Council informed that the Approbation was held every four (4) years as a thank you to Cosford. That there were security implications because the event involving military personnel and this does mean that in the past it has been invitation only due to the security implications.

Councillor Beechey asked if this was going to be shared with Donington with Boscobel as they would need to be consulted and informed the Donington meeting would be in two weeks' time.

Councillor Roseby informed that this event was seen as a flag ship event in the village.

Councillor Beechey made a suggestion that member of the council could pay for their meal and their guests' meal.

The Clerk was asked to pull together a proposed draft itinerary, costings for the proposed event and discuss these at a future council meeting.

- Christmas Lights Switch-On and Traders Extravaganza to be on the same day - Saturday 27th November 2021.

The Chairman of the Council informed of the proposed date to switch-on the Christmas lights and informed that the Station Commander had been invited to switch the lights on.

The Clerk was asked to note that both Councillor Illes and Medlyn were concerned that the change of date for this event from a Thursday to a Saturday would be seen as the Council not support the Red House as they had set their event day on the Thursday.

The Clerk was asked that for next year this event to be planned early in 2022.

- Official Opening of the Memorial Garden for David Austin in the village and the suggestions for this to be either part of the armistice day event or when the roses are in bloom in June/July.

It was discussed the possibility of this being held in the summer of 2022 and be part of the Queens Platinum Celebrations.

Proposed by Councillor Pledger, Seconded by Councillor Chatburn

Unanimously agreed by all Councillors

RESOLVED that the Council agree for the following items under Event:

- for the costing for updating the Chairman of the Council chains to be collated and to be an agenda item at a future council meeting for agreement.

- for a proposed draft itinerary, costings for the proposed event and discuss these at a future council meeting for the Approbation 2022
- for the Christmas lights Switch-On and Traders Extravaganza to be on the same day - Saturday 27th November 2021
- for the Station Commander to be invited to switch the lights on with the Chairman of the Council and with Jenny Wynn as the Head Trustee of The Red House
- for the formal opening of the David Austin memorial rose garden to possibility form part of the Queens Platinum Celebrations in the summer of 2022 and to be an agenda item at a future council meeting for agreement.

The Clerk was asked to look into who owned the land where the David Austin memorial rose garden was located.

FC21 / 083 Update on the DALNR

The Council received a verbal update on the report provided from Councillor B Watson on the Donington and Albrighton Local Nature Reserve and the work being completed to maintain and make improvements including working with the Environment Agency, Shropshire Council, residents and partners.

Councillor B Watson informed that there was work being completed with the trees but as the area is in a conversation area did have to go through a number agencies and work being completed with the Environment Agency for pathways but this was a large outlay that would require help to fund.

Councillor Chatburn asked if costs and expenses for the DALNR were split between Donington with Boscobel Parish Council and Councillor B Watson confirmed that they contributed to the costs.

FC21 / 084 Update on the Stain Ramp Project

The Council received a verbal update and back ground information from Councillor Beechey regarding the Station Ramp Project for Albrighton.

Councillor Beechey informed that the proposal had been provided with Network Rail & WM Trains to the Department of Transport but the proposal had been rejected due to the gradient of the ramp for wheelchair users as it didn't meet the requirements for the Equalities Act.

Councillor Beechey informed that week commencing 25th October 2021 an assessor was due to review all stations in the area and passenger usage.

The Councillors had a detailed discussion with regard to the proposal and the requirements under the Equalities Act relating to the proposal.

FC21 / 085 Update on the Red House

The Council received a verbal update on the report provided by Councillor Illes regarding the Red House.

The Councillors had a detailed discussion with regard to the update.

FC21 / 086 Update on Councillor Training

The Chairman of the Council thanked Councillors for their attendance on the training provided and informed she had very much enjoyed attending.

FC21 / 087 Correspondence

The Clerk informed the Council that under Section 3.x if the Standing Orders a meeting shall not exceed a period of (2) hours and that this time had now passed.

Proposed by Councillor Beechey, Seconded by Councillor Illes

Against by Councillor Lumby – who wanted it noted the agendas are far too long for (2) hours

RESOLVED that the Council agree to suspend Standing Orders Section 3.x. to allow the Council to transact the remaining business on the agenda.

FC21 / 088 Offer received from the RAF for any community projects where they may be of community service

The Council wanted to thank the RAF for this offer.

Councillor B Watson asked the Clerk to forward the contact details as there may be a possible project under the DALNR.

FC21 / 089 Request from Openreach BT

The Clerk updated on the request from Openreach for consent for a Wayleave to contact to the house on High Street. The Clerk informed this would be dealt with as with the previous requests.

FC21 / 090 Confirmation of Wayleave - Western Power

The Clerk updated the Council that the Wayleave agreement with Western Power had been agreed and the payment of £2.50 had been received that forms the Wayleave Payment.

FC21 / 091 Exclusion of Press and Public

To resolve: that under Section 100(A) Local Government Act 1972, the press and public to be excluded from the remainder of the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Acts.

Proposed by Councillor Beechey, Seconded by Councillor F Watson

Unanimously agreed by all Councillors

RESOLVED that the Council agree the exclusion of press and public on the ground that the following items of business involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Act.

FC21 / 092 Confidential Minutes of Previous Meetings

Councillor Medlyn left the meeting and declared her disclosable pecuniary interest for the items that remain on the agenda.

The Chairman of the Council asked the Council to review and agree the confidential minutes from the closed session of the Full Council meeting held on the 2nd September 2021.

Proposed by Councillor Lumby, Seconded by Councillor Robinson
Abstained by Councillor French, Illes and Roseby – not in attendance at the meeting
RESOLVED that the Council agree the confidential minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd September 2021 to be a true and accurate record of the meeting.

FC21 / 093 Update from the Personnel Committee

The Council were provided with a verbal update from the Chairman of the Personnel Committee - Councillor Illes and tabled a copy of the update reports for the meetings.

Councillors debated the reports provided and were given an opportunity to ask the Chairman of the Personnel Committee questions.

FC21 / 094 Agenda Item - To reconsider agenda item 20139

The Council were provided with an update and reports relating to the agenda item to reconsider agenda item 20139.

Councillors debated this agenda item and were given an opportunity to ask the Clerk questions of clarification before reaching a decision. The Council resolved to accept the proposed resolutions to the matter.

FC21 / 095 Date of Next Meeting

- Full Council Meeting - Thursday 4th November 2021 - 7.00pm

Meetings held at the Red House, High Street, Albrighton, Nr Wolverhampton. WV7 3LU.
The meeting ended at 9.55pm

Signed: **Date:**.....
Chairman of the Council