**MINUTES OF ALDERTON PARISH COUNCIL**

 **ANNUAL MEETING**

Held in Alderton Village Hall on Monday 11 April 2016

**Present**: Christopher Langley (CL), Alex Mann (AM), Nicolas Rose (NR), Will Palmer (WP), Ruth Clark (RC),

 Diana Loughlin (DL), Robin Gilbert (RG), Bill Vaudrey (BV)

**In attendance**: Joy Andrews (JA), clerk: Christine Block (CB), District Councillor.

**Members of public**: Two

**Election of Chair**:- NR nominated Christopher Langley for chairman, this was seconded by BV. CL agreed to stand and this was carried unanimously. Declaration of acceptance of office was signed.

**Election of Vice-Chair**:- BV nominated Nicolas Rose for vice- chair, this was seconded by RC. NR was duly elected. Declaration of acceptance of office was signed.

**Co-opting of new Councillor**:- Darren King was co-opted as a councillor. Declaration of acceptance of office was signed.

**Apologies for absence**:- None

**Councillor’s declaration of interest:-** None

**Approval of minutes of meeting held on 29 February 2016:-** The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

**Matters arising from minutes**:-

Website – CL stated that everyone needs to make an effort to get more information on the site. WP reported that there have been 586 hits and 84 regular users, 2 people contacted him with information after he announced its launch on Facebook. It was thought a good idea to add photographs of the fete and litter pick and **WP** agreed to upload anything suitable. **WP** asked to advertise website on notice board.

V. Burrows:- A plaque in memeory of ‘Bibs’which has already been made will be displayed on the Bowls Pavilion. All agreed that the remaining £54 collected should be sent to Cancer Research UK.

Neighbourhood Plan:- The clerk reported that she had attended a meeting at Bawdsey Parish Council to hear a presentation by Heather Healis (Clerk to Rendlesham Parish Council). Advice was given on how to carry out the process of setting up a Neighbourhood Plan and was very much centred on the experience of Rendlesham. Although interesting, the clerk felt that as our parishes are so vastly different this would not necessarily be relevant to us. The clerk contacted Jenny Webb (Clerk to Bawdsey Parish Council) prior to this meeting but as they have not had a meeting since the presentation with an opportunity to discuss this she was unable to let us know their views.

**Adoption of accounts for year ending 31 March 2016**:- The accounts were adopted and signed by the chair.

**Planning applications**:- Planning application ref.DC/16/1252.FUL for Crown Cottage, The Street was discussed. There were no objections and the **clerk** will reply to SCDC.

**Recreation Play Equipment**:- RG reported that the play area has been inspected by Suffolk Norse and all is in a good state with no need for urgent action. However, it was pointed out that the gate between Beach Lane and the recreation ground needs attention and the small goalposts should be fixed to the ground. Some damage had been done to the goalposts but RG had been able to rectify this. CL felt that the play area should be fenced in but after discussion it was decided that as this will be expensive a new container for storage should take priority. **AM** was asked to get prices for this. DL stated there might be money available from SCDC under their Playspace scheme, the **clerk** will contact our District Councillor.

**Village Celebration for Queen’s 90th birthday**:- RG stated that it was planned to have a party on the recreation ground commencing at 4 p.m on Saturday 11 June. **RC** offered to organise Tea and Cake for all but public to be encouraged to bring their own picnic. Live music in the evening with Kevin Sullivan and friends, musicians will need to be paid. The Swan public house to run a bar and S. Collins a BBQ. Expect to finish around 9 p.m. Councillors agreed that the Parish Council would cover costs up to £250. **WP** asked to advertise on website and Facebook. CL handed round a copy of the letter he proposed to send to the Queen on behalf of Parish Council and villagers, all agreed.

**Hedging plants alongside The Pastures, Hollesley Road**:- BV reported that he had been asked by a member of the public to bring this to the attention of the council. After discussion it was decided no action should be taken as this was a Highways issue.

**Village Fete:-** RC handed round a sample of flyers she wished to have printed advertising the fete this year, all agreed. RC also asked permission to buy more gazebos so that we have our own rather than having to borrow from other villages. It was agreed that two ‘Coleman Event Shelters’ should be purchased. It was also agreed that more signage could be purchased. Although we have a loyal core of helpers more volunteers are needed to help on the day.

**New signatories for bank account**:- The clerk stated that with the resignation of Cllr. John Haley it is necessary to appoint two new signatories for the bank account. RC and DL agreed to do this. The **clerk** will make necessary arrangements.

**Future dates of regular meetings:**- It was agreed that meetings for the coming year will be on 13 June 2016; 12 September 2016; 12 December 2016; 27 March 2017; AGM 15 May 2017.

**Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council**:- CL is concerned about the disruption the Cycle Race in August causes in the village and will be writing to the organisers. CL stated that he has met with an area highways engineer to discuss improved signage needed on the approach to School corner. WP advised that the pavilion needs attention and he has friends who are willing to help. RC asked if a date could be fixed for the OAP Christmas lunch. DL and RC have received an invitation from Mrs Susan Harvey, chair of SCDC to attend a reception to celebrate volunteers within our communities. NR proposed a vote of thanks to Kay Goodchild-Critchley for all the help she has given over the past few years.

Date of next meeting:- Monday 13 June at 7p.m

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.03 p.m