**MINUTES OF ALDERTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Held in Alderton Village Hall on Monday 10 December 2018

**Present**: Christopher Langley (CL) Chairman, Nick Rose (NR), Will Palmer (WP), Alex Mann (AM), Ruth Clark (RC), Diana Loughlin (DL), Bill Vaudrey (BV)

**In attendance**: Andrew Reid (County Councillor), Christine Block (District Councillor), Joy Andrews (clerk).

**Absent**: Darren King (DK)

**Members of public**: One

1. **Open Forum:** A member of the public stated that he has concerns over the number of cars parking in The Street. It is difficult to exit Mill Lane and entering and leaving properties along The Street is becoming more dangerous. The chairman stated that this is on the agenda and will be discussed later.
2. **Apologies for absence**: Robin Gilbert (RG)
3. **Declarations of members’ interests in any items on this agenda:** CL item 18 (ii); AM item 18 (iii)
4. **Approval of minutes of meeting**: The minutes of meeting held on 11 June 2018 were approved and signed.
5. **Matters arising from minutes**: NR stated that he had been unable to purchase emergency lights for Village Hall but this is now in hand.
6. **County Councillor’s Report:** Andrew Reid thanked the chairman for inviting him to attend the meeting and stated that as County Councillor he represents 26 parishes from Bawdsey to Sternfield. A copy of his report is attached. When asked if superfast broadband is available in Alderton he confirmed that it is and stated that this can be checked on www.betterbroadbandsuffolk.com.
7. **Speeding through village (i) To receive update on 30 mph signs in Hollesley Road:** Andrew Reid stated that unfortunately the position of the signs was not taken into consideration when The Pastures development was built. The cost to have the signs moved would now be £7000 and there is no money available from the County Council. However, there may be some money in the Highways Budget which he will investigate and let us know in the near future. **(ii) To consider installation of Speed Indicator Device (SID) :** After discussion it was decided to apply to the County Council for advice as to where this could be sited, clerk to arrange. **Andrew Reid left the meeting**.
8. **District Councillor’s Report**: Cllr. Block reported that she has received complaints regarding the lack of action from SCDC in following up Planning Enforcements. This is being investigated at the District Council. There have also been complaints regarding the land being used as a builder’s yard next to Alderton Hall. The chairman stated that he has written to the Environmental Agency asking them to investigate as the licences held are possibly being contravened and planning permission may be necessary.
9. **Finance:** (i) The reconciliation of the bank account (copy attached) was accepted and approved. (ii) The attached list of payments was approved. (iii) It was agreed that the clerk should be given ‘view only’ access to the bank statement online. (iv) The chairman stated that an email had been received today from PKF Littlejohn suggesting that Alderton Parish Council may meet the criteria for exemption from an external audit this year. The Certificate of Exemption was considered by the council and it was agreed all criteria have been met. Clerk to complete and send to external auditor.

**10. Village Fete (i) To discuss how funds raised should be spent:** After discussion it was agreed to purchase the following - a Union flag for the flagpole in the centre of the village, an outdoor table tennis table for the recreation ground and a pool table for the village hall. The idea of a youth club and PGL visit should be investigated further. The clerk was also asked to get a price for fencing around the play area on the recreation ground**. (ii)** The next fete will be held on Saturday 13 July 2019. A committee of 6 – 8 volunteers, with one councillor will be formed to organise this event.

**11.** The date fixed for Santa’s Grotto and Coffee morning is Sunday 16 December. The Christmas party will be held on Friday 7 December. DL agreed to organise this.

**12. Local Plan: To discuss content and response:** It was felt that as there is only one area with current planning permission in Alderton this did not affect the village too much. Cllr. Block stated that the plan mainly focuses on housing and development and some concern has been expressed regarding the impact this will have on the roads. Visitor hotspots in our area are Felixstowe and Bawdsey Ferry and the extra traffic will have an adverse effect on the smaller villages

**13. Recreation Ground - To receive report on Sutton Heath Football Club and discuss future use of containers:** The clerk reported that she had received an email stating that the football club would not be using the recreation ground this season. Despite emails to the secretary of the club the pavilion key has not been returned and the container has not been cleared. It was decided that a skip should be hired Friday – Monday and a work party can then clear the fly-tipping, rubbish in container and old chairs etc. from pavilion. RC stated that there is no longer a need for shelving to be purchased for the container as there are book shelves in the pavilion which can be used instead. Harry Ulph and Robbie Andrews have cleaned and decorated the inside of the pavilion and are willing to paint the outside with extra help.

**14.Tree warden:** Robin Gilbert has agreed to become Tree warden for Alderton.

**15. Armistice 100 display:** The chairman stated that he feels this exhibition will be well worth a visit and all are invited to the opening ceremony in Alderton church on Saturday 13 October. It was noted that cakes for this event will be stored in the village hall freezer.

**16.** **Beach House – To discuss proposals received:** The owner of Beach House has contacted the Parish Council with a proposal to straighten the boundary between his property and the recreation ground and build a brick wall to match the wall along the front of the property. As this would involve land which is currently part of the recreation ground it was decided that it is necessary to check the Deeds of Covenant set up when the land was gifted to the village by the Quilter family. **CL** with follow this up.

**17. HMP & YOI Hollesley Bay – To discuss proposal to accommodate sex offenders:** The chairman stated that he would be attending the meeting in Hollesley Village Hall on Friday 14 September along with the clerk and RC.

**18. Planning applications (i) DC/18/2877/FUL – 27 Watson Way - single storey rear and side extension. Loft extension with en-suite dormer and roof lights** – This had been dealt with via email and ratification was given to the decision agreed that the Parish Council has no objections. **(ii) DC/18/1977/LBC – The Old Rectory, Shottisham Road – Garage Block – remove worn out peg tiles and replace with second hand slates. Replace x10 rafters and cover roof membrane, replace battens, re-lead ridge and hips with new lead, toned down with patination oil** - This had been dealt with via email and ratification was given to the decision agreed that the Parish Council has no objections. **AM left the meeting. (iii) DC/18/3480/FUL – Benchfield, The Street – Erection of two detached single storey dwellings, with use of existing vehicular access –** After discussion it was decided that the Parish Council would object to the application as they considered this to be an over development of the site and there were concerns over the width of the drive and splay at the entrance/exit on to the main road**. CL** to compose report to SCDC.

**19.** **Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council –** None

**20. Date of next meeting** – 10 December 2018

The meeting closed at 9 p.m

These are draft minutes which will be verified at the next meeting.