**MINUTES OF ALDERTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Held in Alderton Village Hall on Monday 5 March 2018

**Present**: Christopher Langley (CL) Chairman, Nick Rose (NR), Will Palmer (WP), Ruth Clark (RC),

Robin Gilbert (RG), Bill Vaudrey (BV)

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

**Absent**: Diana Loughlin, Alex Mann, Darren King

**Members of public**: One

1. **Open Forum**: No matters were raised
2. **Apologies for absence**: None
3. **Declarations of member’s interests in any items on this agenda:** RC declared an interest in item no. 16 – Scout Jamboree.
4. **Approval of minutes of meetings**: The minutes of meetings held on 4 December 2017 and 22 January 2018 were approved and signed.
5. **Matters arising from minutes**: 4 December 2017 -(i) RC asked councillors if they approved in principle to letting the recreation ground to caravan clubs before she spent a lot of time on research. It was agreed that this is worth looking into and RC will get more information and report at next meeting. (ii) The clerk read out a letter from Harry Ulph in which he corrected the misunderstanding that he will organise the selling of books in the pavilion, this service has been offered by his partner, Maryon Giles. The clerk was instructed to write to Harry expressing the councillors’ appreciation of the excellent volunteer work he has carried out in the village. (iii) A meeting has been arranged with a representative of Flagship on 15 March to discuss the problem of parking in Mill Hoo. (iv) Flag of Suffolk have raised enough money to purchase the defibrillator. (v) The Christmas lunch cost £299.58 which was almost offset by the profit of £224.90 at the Santa’s Grotto coffee morning. The chairman thanked those involved. 22 January 2018 – Planning application DC/18/0046/FUL, proposed cattery units at the rear of London House, The Knoll has been referred to committee on 15 March.
6. **Community Land Trust** – To receive report from representatives and discuss the statement of intent: CB explained that the setting up of CLTs is a central government idea to get money to grass roots to build affordable housing. The primary aim is to work with housing associations to ensure more affordable housing for rent which once built will remain owned by the community forever and also for shared equity properties. These would be local houses for local people. A lengthy discussion took place during which some councillors expressed concern over financing and who would ultimately be responsible if the project failed. At the end of the discussion a vote was taken with the following result: 3 abstentions, 2 against and 1 in favour. It was therefore decided that Alderton Parish Council would not join the Peninsula Villages Community Land Trust at the present time but would reconsider once the constitution, articles of association and bank account had been set up. Dist. Cllr. Block expressed her regret that Alderton would not be involved in the initial decision making.
7. **District Councillor’s Report**: (i) There is some concern over the route suggested for the coastal path along the Deben. A meeting with parish councils, landowners and the Deben Estuary Partnership will take place to discuss. (ii) Following the withdrawal of the Public Space Protection Order re dogs on the beach at Shingle Street other ways of protecting the environment are being considered. (iii) The Flood Cell 1 development is on track but there is currently no public money. BV suggested that Tippers R Us should be approached to supply clay to protect the river wall.
8. **Finance**: (i) To finalise budget for 2018/19 **-**  The Budget (copy attached) for 2018/19 was approved. (ii) To approve payments – The items on the attached list were approved. (iii) The clerk stated that the balance at the bank (including grants of £1,000 and £4326 towards replacing play equipment) is £17608.
9. **30 mph signs on Hollesley Road** – To receive update: CL reported that he has sent a number of emails to the leader of SCDC, our county councillor and SCC Highways regarding this but has received no reply. At a meeting with Ray Herring and Andrew Reid it was verbally agreed that it should be sorted out between the county council and the district council. CL will continue to chase this.
10. **Play Equipment –** To receive update: RG stated that the order had been sent to Norse to carry out the work. Two grants have been paid to our bank account and further money will be paid on commencement of the work. Norse have suggested that they will be able to commence on 16 April – clerk to confirm this is acceptable.
11. **Recreation Ground –** To receive report: RG stated that a number of vehicles have been driving across the recreation ground which, because of the wet weather this is cutting up the surface and will affect the football pitch. It has been noted that one of the vehicles is the dog bin collector and the clerk was instructed to write to Norse to get this stopped. The situation will be monitored.
12. **Emergency lighting in village hall** – To discuss buying battery powered lights and walkie-talkies for use in emergency: NR stated the cost of an LED emergency light would be £48.99 per unit and would give 3 hours of light after a power failure. Councillors questioned whether this was the best way to approach this problem and it was decided that the lights at Bawdsey Village Hall should be looked at before a decision is made. The emergency planning committee is looking into buying 4 walkie-talkies at an approximate cost of £200 per item plus the cost of a licence. Concerns over the range of these were expressed so further investigation needed.
13. **Suffolk Highways Survey** – To discuss self-help scheme: Clerk to complete survey stating no interest in undertaking any work.
14. **Joint meeting of Peninsula Parish Councils –** To receive and discuss report: All councillors had been sent a copy of the notes taken at the meeting. RC highlighted a number of issues, in particular requesting any volunteers to represent all peninsula parishes at certain meetings such as SALC, Police and the Disability Forum. Councillors to contact clerk if interested.
15. **Litter Pick –** Sunday 11 March: Event has been advertised and it is hoped parishioners will come along to help. CL suggested that note is taken of any pot-holes and signs etc. which need attention so that these can be reported to SCC Highways.
16. **Scout Jamboree** – To discuss application from scouts for donation: RC left the room. The chairman read out a letter from 3 scouts belonging to 1st Rendlesham Scout group who are raising money to attend the World Scout Group Jamboree 2019 in West Virginia, USA asking for a donation. It was agreed to send a cheque for £50 bearing in mind Alderton PC has already agreed to give a donation to the group as a whole from the proceeds of this year’s fete.
17. **Matters to be brought to the attention of the council**: RC returned to the meeting. CL asked the clerk to write a letter of appreciation to Mr Richard Baker for his hard work in clearing the road out of the village during the recent bad weather. BV requested that a letter of thanks be sent to Mr Clive Baker for turning off water supply to the pavilion during the cold spell. RC reported that she had been asked by a parishioner to report the problem of excessive dog fouling on the grass verges and recreation ground recently. This will be monitored and actioned at the next meeting.
18. **Date of next meeting**: AGM on 14 May 2018

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m

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