**MINUTES OF ALDERTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Held in Alderton Village Hall on Monday 9 March 2020

**Present**: Christopher Langley (CL) Chairman, Nick Rose (NR), Ruth Clark (RC), Tim Giles (TG),

Robin Gilbert (RG), Christina Jacobs (CJ), Will Palmer (WP), Bill Vaudrey (BV), Mal Ward (MW).

**In attendance**: Joy Andrews (JA), clerk: James Mallinder (JM) District Councillor

**Absent**: None

**Members of public**: One

1. **Open Forum**: No concerns raised
2. **Apologies for absence**: None
3. **Declarations of member’s interests in any items on this agenda:** None
4. **Approval of minutes of meetings**: The minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2019 were approved and signed.
5. **Matters arising from minutes**: TG stated that he has been unable to obtain a valuation of the village hall as there is no outline plan of the land available. It would also depend on what the property will be used for. CJ stated that she has been unable to get a plan from the solicitors but may be able to get something from the land registry.
6. **District Councillor’s Report**: All councillors have been sent an electronic copy of the February/March newsletter. JM attended a recent meeting of SCAR and is keeping an eye on erosion in the area. There is a map on the East Suffolk DC website showing areas of land which might be earmarked for conservation purposes. CJ asked if he had found out why Alderton does not come under section 106 of the housing regulation but JM is still to follow this up.
7. **Finance: (i) to finalise budget for 2020/21 -** The Budget (copy attached) for 2020/21 was approved. **(ii) to approve payments** – The items on the attached list were approved.
8. **Planning application: DC/20/0528/LBC – Repair to fire damaged outbuilding at Alderton Hall, Ramsholt Road –** This had been dealt with via email and ratification was given to the decision agreed that the Parish Council has no objections.
9. **The Swan Public House – to receive update and discuss survey:** MW stated that he has kept in touch with Gary Miller reference the sale of the pub. There has been some interest shown but it is doubtful if a buyer will be found in the short term. MW has been interviewed by Radio Suffolk regarding the pub and he used this opportunity to try to generate some interest. The committee has discussed the potential of selling the village hall, putting the money towards buying the pub and then building at the back. This could be a consideration as after clearing outbuildings the area available is slightly larger than the current village hall. MW and CJ have been in touch with The Plunkett Foundation and with their help MW has created a questionnaire which will be delivered to all homes in Alderton and Bawdsey. When results of the survey are known The Plunkett Foundation will help with an action plan but a chairman, secretary and treasurer will have to be appointed. MW stated that after the survey has been carried out he will have to step back from the committee for personal reasons.
10. **Village Hall – (i) to discuss way forward :** no decisions can be made until results obtained from the pub questionnaire. **(ii) to approve terms and conditions** **of hire**: these were discussed and after slight amendments were approved.
11. **Suffolk Coasts & Heaths AONB – to discuss grants available :** JM informed the parish council that there are small grants available for establishing areas to attract wildlife. The deadline for applications is 18 March.
12. **Hollesley Bay Prison –** **to discuss acceptance of sex offenders**: JM confirmed that this is taking place and he will be monitoring the situation. Lighting around the prison will be upgraded. Local parish councils have had a meeting with the governor to express their concerns. Councillors agreed that inmates from Hollesley prison will not be asked to help at village fetes in the future.
13. **Litter Pick- to receive report**: CL was interviewed on Radio Suffolk before and after the event as part of their Planet Suffolk campaign. 20 people took part this year which was a great improvement on previous years.
14. **VE Day celebrations** – **to discuss plans:** a church service will be held in St. Andrew’s church on Sunday 10 May. Elizabeth Mann agreed to organise a ‘picnic in the park’ supported by Barmann on the Bank Holiday, Friday 8 May.
15. **The Alderton Show - to receive update:** CJ reported that arrangements are under way with stalls and bands confirmed.
16. **Defibrillator** – **to appoint a councillor to be responsible for upkeep:** WP agreed to do this. MW will continue to try to get paperwork supplied by manufacturer from Gary Miller.
17. **Youth Club – to receive update:** RC stated that she attends the youth club regularly to support the youth workers. The young people who attend have asked if this could continue through the school holidays. Members of Just 42 plan to visit the primary schools to encourage year 6 children to attend. It was agreed to purchase 12 more seat pads for the chairs in the village hall.
18. **Matters to be brought to the attention of the council:** no matters were raised.
19. **Date of next meeting**: AGM on 11 May 2020

The meeting closed at 8.20 p.m

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