

ALRESFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 7 March 2007
in the Parish Council Pavilion

Present : Cllr Joan Coates, Chairman; Cllr I Robinson, Cllr N Fairbanks, Cllr E Osborne, Cllr J Housden, Cllr Cllr A Wiggins, Cllr G Scott, Cllr D Barnes, Clr J Housden, the Clerk

PUBLIC FORUM: Three members of the public attended. Overhanging foliage outside 48 Coppice Road was reported and the clerk was asked to deal with this. Mr M Hester, editor of the Alresford Advertiser asked if a PCSO Report could be made available for the deadline 10 March. Mrs Linda Bekgrove reported on her recent conversations regarding Ford Lane and advised that she would be passing information on to Gwennyth Dunwoody MP. She offered to wait at the War Memorial on Sunday afternoon for a while in case anyone had not been made aware of the change of venue of the litter pick (see item 3.07.18) and was thanked for all her support and assistance.

ACTION : CLERK

The Chairman thanked Members of the public for their attendance and then opened the meeting.

03.07.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE¹

Apologies were received from Cllr J Richards who was unwell and from Cllr S Carlsson Browne who was away on business.

03.07.2 PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr E Osborne, seconded by Cllr N Fairbanks and agreed that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 7 February 2007 be agreed and signed as a correct record. Matters arising from those Minutes included the following :

- (i) B1027 progress on petition – consultation on this is continuing
- (ii) 21 The Heath – no further progress on the enforcement proceedings was reported.
- (iii) Tendring Citizens Advice Bureau – it was proposed by Cllr E Osborne seconded by Cllr N Fairbanks and agreed with one objection that a grant of £100 be made in response to the recent appeal for financial assistance (Ref : 02.07.7(vi))

03.07.3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA²

Cllr N Fairbanks declared an interest in item 03.07.09 and offered to leave the meeting while this was discussed.

03.07.4 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr D Robinson reported that a new speed management strategy was due to come into effect soon and advised therefore keeping up the pressure regarding the B1027. The Clerk confirmed that letters had been sent to Rodney Bass and Cllr E Osborne advised that he had also been in touch with Rosemary Welch and with Sustrans regarding a

1 Local Government Act 1972 Section 85(1) and (2)

2 Local Government Act 2000 Part III

footbridge across the creek. The Clerk was asked to put this matter on the Agenda for further discussion in April. There was nothing further to report on the situation regarding mobile libraries and no further news regarding gravel extraction for new sites.

ACTION : CLERK

03.07.5 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr G Scott reported that the new bus shelter was proving popular and that pot holes in Coppice Road had been notified to Highways. The Clerk was also asked to write to Highways about these. It was also noted that there was a damaged kerb outside 28 Coppice Road. Opportunist bicycle thefts were reported and the drainage in Station Road was still not satisfactorily remedied. Again, the Clerk was asked to notify Highways about this. Litter and worse in the station waiting room had been reported to Network Rail and the Environmental Services and a clear up operation would be undertaken.

ACTION : CLERK

03.06.6 REPORT FROM PCSO

PCSO Louise Cox presented her report to the meeting together with PC Jo Bennett. A potential bike thief had been identified and this would be followed up. Graffiti tags had been located throughout the village and evidence was being collected and monitored. Parking was also being monitored on a daily basis - the main problem areas being Ford Lane and Station Road. Parking by commuters had been targeted; the owners of cars parked on the pavement or in dangerous positions had been spoken to and the situation appeared to be improving. PCSO Cox was liaising with Robert Collins regarding cars being abandoned on the yellow zig zags outside the school. A monthly surgery was in process of being arranged together with PC Jo Bennett and members of the Parish Council. This would take place in St Andrews Church and the aim would be to hold sessions in both afternoons and evenings to allow local residents to express any problems and concerns within the village.

03.07.7 TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- (i) The Local Works regarding the Sustainable Communities Bill – the Clerk had written again to Bernard Jenkin MP regarding this.
- (ii) NALC – Review of Quality Town and Parish Council scheme - noted
- (iii) B1027 – e-mail from Thorrington - noted
- (iv) ECC – Various Highways Matters - noted
- (v) ProHelp – noted
- (vi) Thorrington Parish Council re B1027 - noted

03.07.8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND WORKING PARTIES :

(i) ENVIRONMENT, FOOTPATHS, TREES AND ALLOTMENTS

- (a) Bench at War Memorial - a design had been chosen and was agreed. The Clerk to put the matter in hand.
- (b) Essex Village of the Year/Best Kept Village Competition – it was proposed by the working party, seconded by Cllr Ann Wiggins and agreed that an entry be

submitted. Cllr D Barnes offered to complete the application forms and send them off.

- (ii) **FINANCE** – no meeting held but it was agreed that one would be arranged in advance of the Annual Parish Meeting.
- (iii) **PLAYING FIELD AND VILLAGE HALL** – *see below*
- (iv) **COMMUNICATIONS** – no meeting held
- (v) **HIGHWAYS** - no meeting held
- (vi) **PLANNING** - *see appendix 1*
- (vii) **HUMAN RESOURCES, PERSONNEL AND TRAINING** – no meeting held
- (viii) **HEALTH AND WELFARE** – no meeting held

Cllr J Robinson reported on a meeting of the Village Hall and Playing Field working party held on 27 February regarding both the pavilion and the equipped play area. Concerning the pavilion it was agreed that the preferred option would be to purchase the land and the buildings, or secure a very long lease for these from the Village Hall Management Committee. The minimum needs of the football club were for new male and female toilets. The Parish Council would like to consider new more secure roofing for the building and the inclusion of a parish office in the long term plans and would be prepared to split the cost of a valuation of the land and buildings with the Village Hall Committee. An agreement should be in place before 1 November when the present lease expires and Heads of Terms should be agreed with the Village Hall Committee before seeing solicitors and incurring expense. A further meeting with the Village Hall Committee had subsequently been held with the Village Hall Committee still unable to reach a conclusion. Councillors were urged to attend the Village Hall AGM on 29 March.

Regarding the play area, it was agreed that the repairs which had already been decided should be put in hand now that the weather was improving and the Clerk and Cllr N Fairbanks would liaise regarding this. The toddlers play area had been discussed and it was suggested that the roundabout should be re-sited to allow space for more toddler equipment in the corner. Cllr E Osborne reported further damage to the fencing around the play area. Cllr N Fairbanks and Cllr J Robinson would attend to this. Cllr J Housden reminded Councillors that an award had been received again in 2006 in the Best Kept Playing Field annual competition.

ACTION : CLERK : ALL COUNCILLORS : CLLR N FAIRBANKS (x2) : CLLR J ROBINSON

03.07.9 MONTHLY PAYMENTS AS LISTED BELOW :

Clerk's salary and expenses (DD)	1069.64
NI	83.15
Village Hall hire (17.3.07)	30.00
Just Lamps – Monthly maintenance	71.16
Just Lamps – call out fee 29C Wiv Rd	52.88
C & C Cleaning (invoice 1112)	24.01
C & C Cleaning (invoice 1182)	28.20
C & C Cleaning (invoice 1248)	28.20
C & C Cleaning (invoice 1348)	28.20

EON – street lighting 1.12.06 – 31.1.07(DD)	318.97
Alresford Advertiser	50.00
N Fairbanks – repairs to Pavilion roof	179.00
N Fairbanks – replacement of dog bin	65.00
Powergen – Pavilion and floodlighting (DD)	50.00
Banner – stationery supplies	52.62
Queensbury – bus shelter	5,889.10
THWS – allotments	13.18
THWS – Pavilion	93.17
Kendall Contract Services – January	420.65
Jay Pettitt – computer repairs	40.00

It was proposed by Cllr J Housden. seconded by Cllr D Barnes and agreed that the above payments be made.

03.07.10 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

It was proposed by Cllr J Housden. seconded by Cllr N Fairbanks and agreed that financial statement for January 2007 be agreed.

03.07.11 TO RECEIVE REPORTS OF MEETINGS AND COURSES ATTENDED BY MEMBERS SINCE THE LAST MEETING

- (i) Cockaynes Wood – report from Clerk attached
- (ii) Election Training Day – report from Clerk attached
- (iii) Raising the Profile of your Parish Council - report from Cllr D Barnes attached.

03.07.12 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

It was noted that a speaker on local Brass Bands was to attend and the clerk was asked to arrange for wine and nibbles to be made available and to advise the meeting in the usual way. It was agreed that potted biographies of all Councillors would be made available to the Clerk for inclusion in the next edition of the Alresford Advertiser.

ACTION : CLERK

03.07.13 MAY ELECTIONS

The Clerk and all Councillors were reminded to encourage standing for election and voting. Voting papers would be available from the Clerk within the next few days.

ACTION : CLERK : ALL COUNCILLORS

03.07.14 ANNUAL CIVIC SERVICE FOR ALRESFORD

The possibility of holding an annual civic service at St Andrews was discussed and considered but it was eventually concluded that this was not something which all Councillors would feel comfortable about and the matter was dropped.

03.07.15 VANDALISM

A report of action taken by Lilleshall and Donnington Parish Council in Staffordshire regarding vandalism in their parish was noted and it was agreed that where possible, any acts of vandalism should be paid for by the perpetrators.

03.07.16 BUS SHELTER BY POINTER

Complaints had been received about the condition of the bus shelter and it was agreed that eventually demolition of the existing shelter and its replacement should be considered. Meanwhile the Clerk was instructed to get in quotations for cleaning and repainting the shelter.

ACTION : CLERK

03.07.17 REVISED MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERS

Councillors considered the Consultation Paper for response by 9 March which the Clerk would deal with based on their comments. It was noted that the document was very obscure.

ACTION : CLERK

03.07.18 COCKAYNES WOOD

In view of recent complaints received regarding litter and rubbish in the woodland it had been arranged to re-site the litter pick on 11 March to cover this area. Posters had been distributed around the village to this effect.

03.07.19 TCVS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Nominations for this award were considered and it was agreed by all the the Clerk should approach Maureen and Peter Clarke to see if they would agree to their names being put forward.

ACTION : CLERK

03.07.20 PARISH PLAN EVENT

Arrangements for this event on 17 march were finalised.

03.07.20 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY AND ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON NEXT AGENDA

- (i) Cllr J Robinson asked whether there was an up-to-date list of Parish Contacts. The Clerk advised that she held such a list and updated whenever she was advised of changes. She would let him have a copy.

(ii) Cllr J Coates advised that she had purchased the microwave oven for the Lunch Club and would present this to them at the next lunch meeting.

(iii) Cllr E Osborne reported briefly on a meeting held on 1 March in St Andrews Church with various individuals regarding the proposed footbridge over the creek to link up with the coastal footpaths scheme and asked the Clerk to put this matter on the agenda for further discussion in April. Community Reach would be involved with fund raising for this and Parish Council support was proposed by Cllr A Ball, seconded by Cllr N Fairbanks and agreed.

(iv) Letters from the Audit Commission, ECC regarding a notice of closure of the level crossing in Station Road from 23.00 until 07.00 on 17-18 March, an NHS workshop to be held on 23 March and a further letter from Bernard Jenkin MP regarding Quiet Lanes were all notified to the Council by the Clerk.

ACTION : CLERK

There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 9.55pm.

The next meeting of Alresford Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 4 April 2007 at 7.30pm in the Parish Council Pavilion

APPENDIX 1

A meeting of the Planning Committee was held in the Pavilion on 23 February 2007 at 7.30pm.

Those present : Cllr I Robinson (chairman), Cllr J Housden, Cllr J Richards, Cllr A Wiggins, the Clerk

The following applications were considered and the meeting closed at 7.48pm

Application Number and Applicant	Location	Proposal	Comments
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06/02029/FUL Mr M Miah Letter dated : 8.2.07	49 Station Road Alresford	Change of use from residential ground floor flat to Indian Takeaway (A3) and installation of extractor flue	No objection
07/00144/FUL Mr N Rudkin Letter dated 8.2.07	56 Coppice Road Alresford	Single Storey rear extension	No objection
07/00068/FUL Mr & Mrs Brampton Letter dated 6.2.07	Edinburgh Main Road, Alresford	Loft conversion and conversion of garage to utility/study	No objection
07/00118/FUL Alresford Developments Letter dated : 8.2.07	3 Wivenhoe Road Alresford	Conservatory	No objection
07/00285/FUL Alresford Developments Letter dated : 1.3.07	3 Wivenhoe Road, Alresford	Add a first floor to existing bungalow	No objection