**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, ASTON CANTLOW ON 10th APRIL 2024. No. 126**

1. **Present:**

Cllr. Haycock, Cllr. Peacey, Cllr. Edwards , County Cllr. Kerridge and 23 members of the public.

 **Election of Chairman:**

Cllr. Edwards proposed Cllr Haycock for Chairman, seconded by Cllr Peacey. Cllr Haycock had indicated he would be prepared to stand and accepted the post.

**2. Apologies:**

 Cllr Holmes.

**3. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda:**

 No declarations were received.

 **4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18th January 2024:**

 The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

 **5. To consider requests from Mr. R Mason and Mr. P. Walters to be co- opted onto the Council:**

Both candidates were interviewed by Councillors.

 Mr. Mason said he had lived in the village for 35 years and feels he would now like to support the Council as much as possible.

 Mr. Walters was born in Little Alne and also lives in the parish. He is a farmer with a professional background and is keen to assist with items such as the flooding problems, the possibility of opening a shop in the village, looking into arranging passing points in the lanes.

 With show of hands for each candidate both were supported by the Cllrs. present at the meeting and therefore co-opted. Both were asked to sign a Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Clerk.

 **6. Public participation:**

 One member of the public was attending in relation to agenda item No. 12. Other members of the public remained after attending the Annual Parish Assembly.

**7. Correspondence:**

All correspondence circulated electronically is taken as read.

**8. County & District Councillors reports**:

 No District District Cllr. report was available.

 County Cllr. Kerridge did not have a specific report for us but is very pleased to hear that the Council is keen to focus on flooding problems in the Parish through both the County Council Flood

 Risk Team and our new member, Cllr. Walters.

 Cllr Kerridge mentioned that Great Alne are also currently very involved with similar problems and suggested the Clerk makes contact with the Great Alne Clerk to see if we can perhaps work together with this item. Cllr Kerridge will have some grant funding available until the end of May.

**9.** **Planning applications update:**

 Application No. 23/03457/FUL Burford Barn, Little Alne. Pending.

 Application No. 23/02013/FUL Walnut Tre Cottage, Little Alne.

 Appeal dismissed.

 Application No. 24/00280/FUL Holyoake House, Little Alne. PC responses received late & missed deadline by one day. Application refused by Conservation Officer.

 Application No. 24/00335/TREE Pear Tree Cottage, Bearley Road, Application No. 24/00362/TREE St. John The Baptist Church and Application No. 24/00506/FUL 5 Sunnyside, No Representation due to lack of responses from Cllrs. All pending.

**10. Litter Bin by Lych Gate:**

As requested by the Churchwardens it was agreed that this bin must be removed from the current location as there are objections to it being attached to any part of the church property. Subject to SDC’s agreement it is hoped a more suitable site can be found and the bin can be re-located.

 **11. D-Day 80th Anniversary:**

 Cllr Edwards had been in touch with the Church and it is

 confirmed that the bell ringers will ring the bells from 6.30pm on

 the 6th June.

 Cllr Edwards suggested that a beacon could cause health and safety

 issues suggested that we could provide a Lamp Light of Peace,

 cost £55.00, instead. This could also be re-lit for Remembrance

 Sunday for many years to come. Cllr. Haycock seconded the

 proposal and all Cllrs were in agreement. Cllr Edwards agreed to

 place the order.

 **12. Communication routes to residents:**

This item was requested by Lucy Supperstone and Dawn Deakin relating

 communication channels for the parish council to the residents of the

 parish**. “**Currently, there is an issue with all residents finding out about

 activities etc.  Can this be reviewed and a clear comms plan developed to

 ensure a no surprises approach is taken to any activities in the parish.”

 The Clerk assured the ladies that the rules for notifications of

 agendas/meetings are followed very strictly. Notices are posted on

 the website and on notice boards within the parish, in particular the

 one by the village hall which is the most important one as this

 accommodates residents who may not have internet access.

 By law, an agenda for a meeting must be posted in a public place

 **three clear days** prior to the meeting date, similarly Councillors

 require three clear days notice. The reason for this is to allow for

 any last minute items arising, for example planning application

 notifications.

 Dawn Deakin said that no agendas had been posted on the main

 Notice board for months. This is not the case as Cllr

 Haycock confirmed he had been posting them since the previous

 chair resigned and Karen Nicholson had posted them while she was

 a member of the Council.

 The Clerk was asked about posting them on the WhatsApp Group

 but she is not a member and does not wish to become one.

 **13. Update on matters since the previous meeting:**

Flooding: A member of the County Council Flood Risk Team has been invited to attend

 the July meeting and Emergency plan templates have been obtained for consideration.

 Defibrillator for Little Alne: the equipment has now been received and is in full working order. A training seminar is due to take place on the 9th May in the village hall.

 WRCC Housing Needs Scheme: Discussions have taken place between the Rural Housing Enabler & a landowner who has decided not to proceed.

 **14. Urgent items not on the agenda raised by Councillors:**

 No items were raised.

 **15. To propose other items of business for consideration at the**

 **next meeting:**

Lady Kilmaine to speak on the subject of a land dispute with Heart

 of England Forests.

 Craig Payne to advise Cllrs of the proposed plans for Manor Farm.

Litter bin on Church wall by Lych gate.

 Request for grant towards grass cutting at playground

 **16. Date of next meeting:**

9th May 2024. Annual Parish Council meeting followed by an

 ordinary Parish Council meeting.

 No further business, meeting closed at 9.00 pm