

ALMELEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Almeley Parish Council held on 26 November 2014.

Councillors Present: Mrs Price (Chair), Mr Edwards, Mr Glyn-Jones.

Mrs Jones, Mr. Plummer.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – none were received.
2. **MINUTES** of the meeting held on 3 September 2014 were approved and signed.
3. **MATTERS ARISING** out of the minutes:
 - a. **Rubbish collection bins Almeley and Woonton.** It was noted that once again the bins are not emptied on a regular basis. It was agreed that the problem should be referred to Vince Playdon, Balfour Beatty.
4. **ADOPT A TELEPHONE KIOSK PLAN.** British Telecom had offered Parish Councils an opportunity to purchase telephone kiosks for a nominal £1.00 each kiosk. There was local support for retaining the kiosks in Almeley and in Woonton. Volunteers will need to accept responsibility for on-going maintenance. Agreement of Herefordshire District Council's Planning Department is required before formal transfer and an application has been made; a decision is expected mid January 2015. British Telecom had produced a draft contract, to be signed by the Parish Council if the application is successful. It was agreed to circulate the proposed contract to Councillors.
5. **NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN UPDATE.** Mr Glyn- Jones reported that a public meeting had been held during which the draft plan had been presented for discussion. There has also been a meeting with Ted Bannister, Forward Planning Officer, Herefordshire Council, who had offered guidance for future work on the plan. This included seeking information from land owners who may be willing to release land for development.

The future of land, which will be vacated when the lease of tenant farmers is terminated, was discussed. It was noted that development will be confined to brown field sites on farms: farm buildings, barns, etc. The land will be transferred separately. It was noted that the NDP will not be completed by the proposed deadline of 31.12.2014.

It was also noted that Mr Glyn-Jones is no longer a tenant farmer and as such will not be required to declare an interest when options concerning land are discussed by the Parish Council.
6. **PRECEPT REQUIREMENTS 2015/16.** It was proposed by Mr Plummer, seconded by Mrs Price that the precept (£7,250) should remain unchanged as the business of the Parish Council remained in budget and had not been increased three years.

Information had been provided by the Electoral Services Manager that consideration needed to be given to financing local elections, planned for 7 May 2014. This should be based on the number on the electoral role. Guidance offered was that £850.00 should be budgeted for. It was proposed by Mrs Jones, seconded by Mr Plummer and

agreed unanimously that £850.00, in addition to the usual Precept should be requested.

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS. It was proposed by Mrs Price, seconded by Mr Glyn-Jones and agreed unanimously that the following accounts should be paid:

- a. Smiths of Derby, Maintenance of Church Clock 243.60.
- b. Hire of Village Hall £36.00
- c. Peter Watts, Lengths man, £380.00 September/October.
- d. Clerk's salary £1,000.
- e. Expenses for NDP £40.24

8. PLANNING MATTERS.

It was noted that consent had been granted to the following planning application: Upper Woonton Farm, Woonton. Proposed dwelling for farm worker.

9. ALMELEY VILLAGE HALL. Councillors expressed appreciation to the Committee of Management for the work undertaken to improve the structure of the Village Hall.,

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.45pm