

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF ALMELEY PARISH COUNCIL **HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON 11 MAY 2016**

Present:

Councillor Mr John Hope Parish Council Chairman
Councillor Mr Barry Hall Parish Council Vice-Chairman
Councillor Mr James Edwards
Councillor Mrs Barbara (Bee) Held
Councillor Mr Allan Payne
Councillor Mr Martin Skyrme
Councillor Mrs Elizabeth (Liz) Tucker

Parish Council Clerk/RFO

Mrs. Marion Scott

Also Present

Ward Councillor Mr Clive Skelton. Lengthsman Mr. Andy Cross and approximately 50 members of the public.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30pm

- 1. – 3.** Following disputed procedures being followed for Items 1– 3, the Clerk requested more time to seek professional advice, so it was proposed by Liz Tucker and seconded by Martin Skyrme that these items be put on the agenda of the Almeley Annual Parish Meeting to be held 25th May 2016.
An invitation by a member of the public to express lack of confidence in the chairmanship of the Parish Council was supported by a majority of members present at the meeting.

4. Apologies

No apologies were received as all Parish Councillors were present.
Locality Steward for Balfour Beatty Living Places (BBLP) Lara Edwards not present.
No presence for the local police.

5.0 Declaration of Interest & Dispensations

- 2.1 Declaration of Pecuniary interest made by Councillors James Edwards and Martin Skyrme relating to Item 9.1 and Allan Payne relating to Item 12.8 of the Agenda.
2.2 No applications for dispensations received.

6.0 Speakers - Opportunity for visiting speakers to address council

6.1 Ward Councillor Mr. Clive Skelton provided the following up-dates:

- Mr. Skelton gave an up-date of the NDP work being carried out by the parishes in Castle Ward.
- Balfour Beatty maintenance works programme is on schedule and emergency repairs on-going – namely pot-hole repairs. Drainage ditches cleared at Woonton.

7.0 Public Question Time

Matters raised: All comments made refer to Item 9.1 – Planning application 161268.

Letter read by a member of public objecting to Item 9.1. A transcript of this letter is attached to the Minutes.

Second resident commented that one of the Agricultural buildings proposed to come down is actually attached to her property.

Mr. J. Glyn-Jones stated that the Steering Group of the NDP had not approached the applicants as part of a drive to release more land for affordable housing. This was in response to a claim made that the Parish Council had encouraged the application.

Further comments were made by residents that there is no Mains Drainage – therefore there could be potential problems with drainage and sewerage.

8.0 Minutes

Following a proposal by Martin Skyrme and seconded by Bee Held it was resolved that The Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on the 9 March 2016 having been previously distributed were unanimously confirmed as true records and signed by the Parish Council's Chairman.

9.0 Planning Applications for Consideration

9.1 Application No. 161268 Land Pool Farm, Woonton. Proposed residential development of 10 dwellings (3 affordable), demolition of existing agricultural buildings.

Following representations from members of the public (Item 7), Proposed that a letter of objection be sent by the Parish Council by Barry Hall and seconded by Bee Held.

Martin Skyrme commented that the objections had been well presented and he objected completely to the application and expressed dissatisfaction when he was made aware that the applicant had at no time approached a neighbour to the planned development, even though the development involved the demolition of a barn which was attached to the neighbour's building.

There were no comments from any Councillor supporting application 161268.

10.0 Roads and Footpaths

Report from Mr Andy Cross on work carried out:

Bridge at the Batch completely repaired. Cleaning of signs around village and strimming around the village.

11.0 Financial Information: April 2016

Account balance 28th February 2016
Community account: £8,767.65
Business Savings account: £145.36
Total bank balance: £8,913.01

Cheques to authorise

Andy Cross	£998.18
Herefordshire Elections	£845.78
MP Scott PC	£266.40
MP Scott Expenses	£29.07
HMRC (MPS)	£66.60
G. Beresford (Final salary)	£600.00
Dawn'till Dusk (NDP Printing)	£80.00
Total payments	£2,886.03

Payments received:

NALC (Grant specifically for Web-site)	£1,352.00
Bank interest	£0.02
Total received	£1,352.02

Debtors

Precept Levy 1st Instalment £5,000 due 15th April 2016

Closing balance £7,379.00 (Opening balance £8,913.01 - £1,534.01)

11.1 Payments to be agreed. Following a Proposal by Martin Skyrme and Seconded by Allan Payne it was **resolved** that the above payments are paid from the parish funds.

11.2 Payments received. See above.

12.0 Matters arising from last meeting

12.1 **Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations:** Clerk informed the Parish Council that the Road Closure Application had been granted and also details regarding the forthcoming Celebration Tea to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday had been put in the Offa Tree News. A request was made to the public and councillors present for raffle prizes.

12.2 **NDP:** A new Steering Group has now been formed, following a previous instruction by the Parish Council, amalgamating the previous Steering Group. J. Glyn-Jones did ask why there was a need for a new Steering Group. It was pointed out that circumstances had changed resulting in a requirement for a new Group. The Parish Council had sent an invitation to the previous members to join. Councillor Clive Skelton commented that the Steering Group was part of the Parish Council and reports should be made to the Parish Council. The Parish Council confirmed their earlier appointment of Mrs Liz Tucker to oversee the proper execution of the final stages, presentation and acceptance of the NDP.

12.3 **Web-site:** Clerk informed the Parish Council that the grant monies for a new web-site had been received. A meeting has been arranged with Mark Millmore who is setting up the web-site for a tutorial as to how to use it. Barry Hall and Marion Scott to attend the meeting.

12.4 **Primary School Representative:** The first meeting has been arranged for 23 May 2016, therefore Bee Held who is the representative from the Parish Council to the Primary School has nothing to report.

12.5 **Commons Committee:** Liz Tucker gave a report that Herefordshire Wildlife Trust (for a nominal amount) would take over responsibility for the Commons. George Thompson and Jim Light be requested to attend a meeting. A proposal that Liz Tucker, Allan Payne and John Hope serve on the Committee. Proposed by Liz Tucker and seconded by Martin Skyrme. The Parish Clerk was requested to write to George Thompson and Jim Light to attend the next meeting.

12.6 **Bus Shelter:** A proposal was made by Martin Skyrme and seconded by James Edwards that this item be postponed.

12.7 Still waiting to hear from Lara Edwards, the Locality Steward regarding clarification of number of bins on Balfour Beatty schedule.

12.8 Proposed by Liz Tucker and Seconded by Martin Skyrme that the Tender given by Allan Payne be accepted. The Parish Council informed the resident who mows the Common outside Pool House be reimbursed expenses (£25.00). The Parish Clerk to note that in future the Tendering Contract to be put on November agenda.

12.9 **BT Kiosk:** Parish Clerk requested to write to BT to obtain a copy of the contract. Resident commented that it could be used as a Notice-Board, however, the main concern was to establish liability.

12.10 **Developments at Crump Oak:** The Parish Council note that no application has yet been submitted, and to comment when the application is submitted.

12.11 **Logaston Broiler Units:** Reply received from the Environment Agency which has been distributed to some of the residents. The Parish Clerk has written twice to Mr. Willimont at Hereford Council and is still awaiting a reply. Jim Wilson, who lives in Logaston has had a meeting with a member from the Environment Agency. The matter is ongoing.

12.12 **Standing Orders and Code of Conduct:** All Councillors supported the Standing Orders and Code of Conduct. Proposed by Barry Hall and Seconded by Liz Tucker that these be accepted.

12.13 **Dog-fouling on the Common:** Signs to be erected prohibiting dog-fouling, and James Edwards was requested to put up the signs. Proposed by Barry Hall and Seconded by James Edwards.

12.14 Renewal of Insurance be accepted. Proposed by Liz Tucker and Seconded by Martin Skyrme.

13.0 Confirmation of the next Ordinary Parish Meeting, Time and Date and Venue

7.30pm, 6 July 2016, Almeley Village Hall.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.00pm

Councillor Mr John Hope Parish Council Chairman

Signed.....

Date.....