Alderminster Parish Council

Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

Wednesday 21st November 2018 Alderminster Village Hall 7.30 pm

Present: Cllr Geoff Smith

Cllr Mark Meadows Cllr Karen Jones Cllr John Melville Cllr Sherry McGinn Cllr James Dignan

Mrs M Norman (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

Also present: Cllr Izzi Seccombe and 7 members of the public

With the agreement of all Councillors, Cllr Melville chaired the meeting.

1 Apologies:

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Penny-Anne O'Donnell.

Declaration of interests

2 Cllr Melville declared an interest in respect of item 7 iii of the agenda.

3 Questions from the public:

A resident raised his concerns about sheep falling into the river as it was blocked by debris. The Chairman regretted that this was not a matter within the powers of the Parish Council. Another resident asked if it was known when the playground at the new development would be installed. The Chairman said this would not be done until all the houses were occupied.

4 Minutes of the previous meetings:

The minutes of the meeting of the 26th September 2018 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the acting Chairman.

5 **Matters arising** from the minutes of the previous meeting:

Cllr Meadows said that he had placed the new grit bin at the top of New Road.

6 Report from the District Councillor or County Councillor:

Cllr Seccombe informed the Council of the changes in structure within Warwickshire County Council. Monica Fogarty, the new Chief Executive had taken up office in April. JLR were proposing to build autonomous cars at their Wellesbourne site, which should provide a boost to the local area. Concerns were expressed at the additional pressure this would place on the infrastructure.

7 Grant applications:

i)Alderminster Village Hall Management Committee had requested a grant of £3,865 for

restoration of the main hall floor in the Village Hall; replacement of the kitchen door, and screening off the storage area in the hall foyer. After discussion, the Council resolved to award this sum on condition that the Village Hall Committee would show evidence of a 5 year investment plan so that the Council could make provisions within its own budget for any possible future applications for grants.

- ii) It was resolved to make a grant of £120 to Alderminster Parochial Church Council for provision of external lighting of the Church.
- iii) It was resolved to grant the sum of £100 to Village Voices to assist in the publication costs of the newsletter.

8 Local elections May 2019

Parish Councillors were reminded that their term of office expired in May 2019. Candidates wishing to stand for re-election would need to submit their nominations by the due date. The clerk would notify councillors of the relevant dates in due course. The election, together with those of District Councillors, would be held on the 2nd May 2019. It would not be possible to accurately count the cost of these elections, but assuming that the election for Parish Councillors was not contested, the costs were likely to be in the region of £150.

9 **Draft precept**:

The Council began discussions on the draft precept document. It was agreed that the final figure to be requested as precept would be decided at the meeting on the 16th January, by which time the tax base would be known.

10 | Clerk's updates:

- i)The clerk had been informed that the scheme to install the village entrance gates had been sent out for delivery to County Highways. No definite date for the installation had yet been set.
- ii) The clerk had contacted the Forestry Department again in relation to the overhanging tree on New Road.
- iii) The asset register had been redrawn to reflect the new assets owned by the Parish Council in the form of two new bus shelters. The insurance company had been informed and a further £71.95 was now due as cover for these items.

11 | Maintenance issues:

The overgrowth of the hedges around the BT station on New Road was still a problem. The clerk had contacted BT Outreach about this. Cllr Seccombe suggested asking the Localities Officer to contact Outreach on the Parish Council's behalf, as a request from Warwickshire County Council was likely to carry more weight.

12 | Planning applications:

No planning applications had been received.

13 Accounts for payments and finance matters:

The following payments were approved and authorised:

- i) Clerk's salary £**
- ii) HMRC (income tax) £**
- iii) Bryan Gerrard (grass cutting side of church) £360.00

	The acting Chairman and Cllr Meadows signed the supporting documents.	
14	Correspondence: The Council noted the following correspondence: an email from resident regarding speeding cyclists on New Road and queries from residents regarding bonfires and dog fouling. It was noted that the Council had no powers to act in relation to the first two queries.	
15	Councillors' reports and items for future agenda: Consideration of purchase of another dog litter bin.	
	Close of meeting: The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.	
	Date of next meeting Wednesday 16 th January 2019	

