

ALVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3rd June 2021, 7.30 p.m. at Alvington Memorial Hall

PRESENT: Cllr Richard Heys (Vice-Chair)
Cllr. Gail Thompson
Cllr. Nick Powell

ATTENDING: Alec Davis
John Wood
Meg Humphries (Clerk)

No/Ref	Item/Notes	Action
1. 029 21/22	<p>To receive apologies for absence. Cllrs Chidley and Haslam sent their apologies.</p> <p>Cllr Chris McFarling (district and county representative) sent his apologies also.</p>	
2. 030 21/22	<p>To note declarations of interest relating to the agenda. None.</p>	
3. 031 21/22	<p>To approve the accuracy of the draft minutes of the Full Council Meeting on 13.05.21. Approved.</p>	
4. 032 21/22	<p>Public forum. Mr John Wood made the following remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted Highways' plans to remove soil on the footpath to Aylburton • State of the public rights of way is still poor • Dog waste bins overflowing – Clerk to contact the contractor to check that collection is due soon. <p>Mr Alec Davis made the following remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Car debris has been removed from Swan Hill • There has been another accident on Clanna, where a tractor scraped a parked car of a Globe patron, and Mr Davis's wall. • Footpaths – poor condition; stiles are a concern. A parishioner has offered to pay for the gates. • Asked whether re-titled NDP had been accepted by FoDDC; Clerk confirmed it had. 	MH
5. 033 21/22	<p>To receive/note any reports from county and district councillor for the parish. <i>Dear all,</i></p> <p><i>I have to send you my apologies alas as I won't be able to get away in time to attend the PC meeting in person tonight. Here's an update on the issues I'm following up for you. Apologies if I haven't done them all – I'm trying to find time to take on my County Councillor role and there's a lot of learning, and casework, to get my head around.</i></p> <p><i>1. Clanna Road development: Waiting for Tony Pope to update me on what the LPA needs from the developer in terms of conditions before they begin work and or whether this is suspended whilst the site is up for sale. I will send Meg anything of significance that comes up.</i></p> <p><i>2.Link to flood maps:</i></p>	

I sent this round to Meg a couple of weeks ago. It would be worth discussing one day to see if there's anything we could do strategically to 'adapt' to the rising sea level threat.

3. Footpaths:

I'm waiting for Jeff Wheeler to come back to me in order to discuss his work programme and how he can best contribute to resolving Alvington footpath issues.

I'm sort of hoping you have a list of footpath problems which need actioning as and when PRow team and other resources become available. If you do could you please send that through to me?

4. I need to discuss the high culvert and subsequent pooling of water at the brook crossing Spout Lane, with Brian Watkins. It's now on my list and I will action tomorrow or early next week.

5. Transport and community councillor funds.

I have now been made aware that I have a £30k pot to help distribute on transport/highways issues. I am still awaiting the terms of reference for this so that I can use it wisely and fairly across the division.

The youth activities fund is closing but there may be a community activity fund allotted to me. Again I am awaiting for the details of this latter fund and will let you know when I know.

6. Complaint on behalf of May Higgs.

I have sent my responses to CCW, responding to STW's responses to the questions asked about the sewage discharge. STW are insisting that this is part of a much bigger upgrade of the system which will be allocated a resource in their 5-year Action Management plan for 2025 – 2030.

I am happy to send a copy to Meg for discrete circulation to councillors. This is a live conversation and Laurence King is helping me probe and poke in the right places to see if we can persuade STW to provide a temporary fix or at least move the problem along a bit.

Please send me your questions if you have them and I'll work on them more quickly now that I am getting settled.

At this point it was agreed to take items 12-16, in order for maximum public attendance.

<p>6. 034 21/22</p>	<p>Planning. a) To consider: P0897/21/FUL Smallbrook, Spout Hill, Alvington, Lydney. Removal of condition 03 relating to planning permission P1183/16/FUL. No objections. b) To receive any progress reports on local planning matters. Mr Davis commented on the standing water on the Clanna development.</p>	
<p>7. 035 21/22</p>	<p>Village a) Coronavirus: to receive any updates specific to the parish. None. b) To receive any updates on antisocial and dangerous parking by pub patrons on Clanna Road and consider possible actions by the council to improve the situation. (See also Mr Davis's remarks in Item 4.) Cllr Heys suggested Cllr McFarling may consider funding double yellow lines from his transport fund. Mr Davis suggested a box junction, also incorporating Church Lane. c) To note any updates on village/parish improvement matters (see meeting pack). Noted. d) To receive any reports on other village matters. None.</p>	
<p>8. 036 21/22</p>	<p>Sports Field a) Pavilion project: to receive any updates. Cllr Heys gave a report on planning activity for the 2021 Summer Fun: Forest of Dean Dog Rescue would like to run a dog show, and various community groups including Ellwood football club will run stalls. Stalls could donate 5% of their takings. Cllr Powell advised that there would be plenty of generators available, as well as a 4x4 and trailer, and approx. 20 gazebos. Cllr Heys advised that the next planning meeting would be on the 9th or 10th June. b) Play equipment: to receive any updates on repairs. Ongoing.</p>	

	<p>c) To receive any reports on other Sports Field matters. Gigaclear have been using the car park while doing local works. The new sports field signage has arrived, which sets out the key terms of use.</p>	
<p>9.037 21/22</p>	<p>Churchyard</p> <p>a) To consider giving permission for a parishioner to prune/remove trees in the churchyard which are alleged to present a risk to the parishioner's property. Cllr Heys will be meeting TrunkArb on Saturday to discuss what's been proposed by the parishioner, who intends to pay for the work.</p> <p>b) To receive any reports on other churchyard matters. None.</p>	
<p>10.038 21/22</p>	<p>Highways</p> <p>a) To note any updates on Highways matters. The updates in the meeting pack were noted. It was noted that deer have been seen on the A48 between Alvington and Aylburton. Clerk to request deer signage on A48.</p> <p>b) To note any updates on the pedestrian crossing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Clerk has requested in-principle design quotes from six transport consultants. • Cllr Heys met with one of the consultants today to discuss the location. • Two other quotes have been received, so a decision on supplier may be taken at the July meeting. <p>c) To consider endorsing a draft letter jointly from Alvington Parish Council and Aylburton Parish Council requesting a 50MPH limit between the villages. The Clerk raised the invitation to co-sign a draft letter to this effect, which was believed to be in progress, led by Cllr Mark Topping and Cllr Alan Preest, representatives for Alvington. This was proposed by Cllr Thompson and seconded by Cllr Powell and agreed unanimously. It was noted that deer had been seen crossing on that stretch of road and that this strengthens the case.</p>	<p>MH</p>
<p>11.039 21/22</p>	<p>AGAR 2020-2021: To note the Annual Internal Audit Report by the internal auditor (GAPTC). Cllr Thompson proposed that the report was accepted, Cllr Powell seconded, and it was agreed unanimously.</p>	
<p>12.040 21/22</p>	<p>AGAR 2020-2021: To approve Section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accounting Return (Annual Governance Statement). Cllr Thompson proposed that the statement was accepted, Cllr Powell seconded, and it was agreed unanimously.</p>	
<p>13.041 21/22</p>	<p>AGAR 2020-2021: To approve Section 2 of the Annual Governance and Accounting Return (Accounting Statements). Cllr Thompson proposed that the statement was accepted, Cllr Powell seconded, and it was agreed unanimously.</p>	
<p>14.042 21/22</p>	<p>AGAR 2020-2021: To note the analysis of significant year-on-year variances. Noted.</p>	
<p>15.043 21/22</p>	<p>AGAR 2020-2021: To note the dates for the exercise of public rights: Monday 14th June to Friday 23rd July inclusive. Noted.</p>	
<p>16.044 21/22</p>	<p>Finance</p> <p>a) To approve payment of invoices and expenses from the past month. Cllr Thompson proposed that the council approve the payments for June, Cllr Powell seconded, and it was agreed unanimously.</p>	

	TO WHOM	DETAILS	AMOUNT	
	Meg Humphries	Clerk Pay May 2021	295.08	
	Merlin Waste	Dog Bins May 2021	34.67	
	Richard Morgan	Churchyard mowing May 2021	222.00	
	Alan Haslam	Ink cartridge expenses	33.00	
	GAPTC	Internal Audit 2020-2021	175.00	
	<p>b) To note the receipt of income received since the last meeting. Noted.</p> <p>c) To appoint a member to carry out the Internal Controls for Quarter 4 of 2020-2021. Cllr Thompson volunteered for this task and took receipt of the document pack, to be reported on at the July meeting.</p> <p>d) Online banking: to note any progress on online banking authorisation access for all councillors. Three councillors remain without internet banking access and are in the process of gathering necessary signatures.</p>			GT
17.045 21/22	<p>To note correspondence for information. Noted. There was a short discussion about the Forest Lottery as a potential source of funding – Cllr Powell to bring a proposal to the next meeting.</p>			NP
18.046 21/22	<p>Council</p> <p>a) To receive the Clerk’s Report. Noted.</p> <p>b) To adopt the Equality and Diversity Policy (based on NALC model). Cllr Thompson proposed that the policy was adopted, Cllr Powell seconded, and it was agreed unanimously.</p> <p>c) To receive councillors’ reports and items for future agenda. Cllr Heys gave an update on Woolaston Primary School. The school had a very good internal review from GCC and feedback is that the school is going in the right direction, but a core problem is the low number of pupils: over past two years the school has ‘lost’ about six pupils per class, which puts pressure on the school’s budget. One remedy has been bringing together Reception and Y1 to allow better tailoring, allowing more play-based activity for children who should have been in Reception last year but missed out due to Covid-19 restrictions. The governors are currently reviewing options around governance and sustainability. A long-term model involves the school entering into a federation with another school to overcome funding issues. This would mean a federation-wide governing body. Cllr Heys welcomed any queries from the community on the matter.</p> <p>d) To note the date of the next council meeting: July Full Council: Thursday 1st July 2021, 7.30pm in Alvington Memorial Hall. Noted.</p>			

Meeting closed: 20.42 p.m.

Signed:.....Chairman.

Date:.....