

ALVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held Thursday 1st February 2024, 7.30 pm at Alvington Memorial Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr Richard Heys (Chairman)
 Cllr Gail Thompson (Vice Chair)
 Cllr Rachel Macharg
 Cllr Nathan Burlton

ATTENDING: Karen and Colin Dooley, Chris Shill, Alec Davis,
 Marcus Hundson, Laraine George, County Cllr Chris
 McFarling, Carol Hinton (Clerk).

Min. Ref	Item and details	Action
113. 23/24	<p>1. To receive apologies for absence.</p> <p>Cllr Nick Powell sent his apologies due to vehicle breakdown. Accepted.</p>	
114. 23/24	<p>2. To note any declarations of interest relating to the agenda.</p> <p>None.</p>	
115. 23/24	<p>3. To approve the accuracy of the draft minutes of the Full Council Meeting on 07.12.23.</p> <p>Cllr Thompson proposed that these were accepted; Cllr Macharg seconded; Approved unanimously.</p>	
116. 23/24	<p>4. Tudor Cottages sewage flooding issue: To note the status of progress on improving the situation, to note any recent updates and agree any actions the parish council can take to influence progress from Severn Trent and other agencies..</p> <p>Cllr McFarling had heard nothing from Severn Trent Water. Sewage from the new developments is adding to the inadequate current drains, without new ones having been installed. Rain water runoff from gutters adds to the rainwater drainage causing the overflows. Once reported bowsers are sent to pump the excess, sometimes two or three times a week. Cllr Heys asked how the Parish Council can help. Cllr McFarling – questionnaire to find out where neighbouring properties runoff goes – can people use soakaways instead? Article to be put in newsletter also reminding not to flush wet wipes into sewage system causing blockages. Cllr McFarling to chase Severn Trent and check newsletter article before publishing.</p>	Cllrs
117. 23/24	<p>5. Public forum</p> <p>Laraine George: Two Rivers contractors are installing air source heat pumps around the village. These come under permitted development and must be fitted at least 1 metre from neighbouring boundaries and run at less than 45 decibels. The one fitted next to Laraine running at 50-70 decibels all night. Contractors cannot move it due to costs and asked for compromise – turning off overnight – which</p>	

	<p>He is challenging the eco data from the waste plant as it is a carbon Dioxide emitter. District and County Council budgets have been open to public consultation. The DC consultation has attracted 300 responses this year (previously none) all regarding the proposed changes to parking fees. The DC loses money on car park maintenance and so must charge. The new proposal is that the first hour parking will be free of charge (with ticket), 2 hours £1.50 and three £2. This model shows a £50k surplus per year. Alec Davis suggested money could be saved by turning off lights overnight at the Coleford offices – Cllr McFarling to feedback. The County Council budget has still to be approved – CC can add an extra 2% increase on top of the 3% already allowed if used for social care. Chris Shill asked if the waste plant is making money and is preferable to landfill?</p>	
<p>119. 23/24</p>	<p>7. Planning</p> <p>a) To consider - P1332/23/FUL Severn Lodge Church Lane Alvington - Change of use of existing ancillary holiday accommodation to residential dwelling. Resolved - Councillors did not support this application – Clerk to re-submit comments made when previous application was considered.</p> <p>b) To consider - Walnut Tree Cottage Main Road Alvington Lydney Gloucestershire GL15 6AT - variation of Condition 2 (approved plans) relating to planning permission P0002/18/FUL to enable addition of Juliet balcony, sunroom and change of roof materials to slate. Mr and Mrs Dooley explained that because of breathing difficulties bigger windows were required and small doors were suggested instead. Also – they felt the slate roof will blend in better and a sun room will be added to the end of the house. Resolved - No objection.</p> <p>c) To consider - P1332/23/FUL - Severn Lodge Church Lane Alvington Change of use of existing residential annexe to an independent dwelling with associated works. Regularisation of single-storey flat-roofed extension. (Part retrospective). See response to a) above.</p> <p>b) Any other planning updates. Cllr Burlton had seen a notification that plans will be submitted for a park home at Clanna Country Park on the site of the existing meeting hall.</p>	
<p>120. 23/24</p>	<p>8. Village.</p> <p>a) To note updates on village/parish improvement matters (see meeting pack). Cllr Heys reported that council expenditure is likely to go £400-500 into reserves by the year end and that additional expenditure should be kept to a minimum.</p> <p>b) To consider rental of portable toilets from Euroloo for the Fun Day at a cost of £200 plus VAT (Total cost £240) for 3 day minimum hire, price matched with 2023 amount charged. Only one quote obtained as the company were reliable compared with others used in previous years. Resolved to accept quotation – proposed by Cllr Thompson and seconded by Cllr Macharg.</p>	

<p>121. 23/24</p>	<p>9. Sports Field. Cllr Heys reported that Ellwood are interested in talking about future use. Cllr Heys will work on agreeing an acceptable wording for the boundary agreement with the Wickson Orchard. Alec Davis – dog mess on field has been bad. Cllr Burlton had noticed it had been particularly bad in the last few weeks and that the bins should be monitored – dog training on the field will increase the use of the bins. The dog warden has been to the field. Cllr Heys - One of the payments for approval is for the legal costs for John and Heather Rogers which has increased due to the adverse possession issues which now have to be addressed again. Cllr Thompson proposed and Cllr Burlton seconded a proposal by the Chairman to continue with the adverse possession legal work. Clerk to confirm this with solicitor.</p> <p>a) Pavilion project: to receive any updates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Powell still awaiting electrical quotes – once these are in the Council can draw down on the S106 monies. <p>c) To receive any other reports on the sports field.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working party of councillor worked on the astro turf area and replacing wobbly posts / supports. Perhaps it could be advertised in future so that members of the public could help. 	<p>Cllr Heys</p> <p>RH/ Clerk</p>									
<p>122. 23/24</p>	<p>10. Churchyard.</p> <p>a) To receive updates on any churchyard matters. None at this time.</p> <p>b) To consider replacement tree for churchyard to mitigate the loss of the holly tree. Resolved - to ask TrunkArb for a quotation to plant a yew tree near to the site of the holly.</p>										
<p>123. 23/24</p>	<p>11. Highways.</p> <p>a) Road safety: to receive any updates Cllr McFarling to push forward on the change of speed limits in the village.</p> <p>b) To note any updates on Highways matters. Land Registry – amendment regarding the hall now completed. Land at The Globe – still ongoing.</p>										
<p>124. 23/24</p>	<p>12. Finance. Alec Davis commented that the Parish Council does an excellent job of controlling the parish accounts.</p> <p>a) To ratify the payments made in January.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>M Humphries</td> <td>Clerk Pay Dec 23</td> <td>£363.98</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PATA Payroll</td> <td>Q3 Payroll plus back pay processing.</td> <td>£35.80</td> </tr> </table> <p>Resolved – to ratify. Proposed – Cllr Thompson, seconded Cllr Macharg.</p> <p>b) To approve the payments for February.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>M Humphries</td> <td>Final Clerk pay</td> <td>£66.18</td> </tr> </table>	M Humphries	Clerk Pay Dec 23	£363.98	PATA Payroll	Q3 Payroll plus back pay processing.	£35.80	M Humphries	Final Clerk pay	£66.18	
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	<p>C Hinton Clerk pay from 18/12/23 £427.28 Virtual Running Events Website Hosting 24/25 £100.00 Forest Eq Svces Dog Bins £184.80 Village Hall Hall Hire 18/11/23 £45.00 Thrings Solicitors Rogers Legal Fees £1824.00 Cllr R Heys Timber – play area repair £14.52 Cllr R Heys Bolts – Play area repair £25.40 Resolved – to approve. Proposed – Cllr Burlton, seconded – Cllr Macharg</p> <p>c) Resolved to note the receipt of income received since the last meeting. Cllr R Heys Purchase of surplus wine £137.50</p> <p>d) Bank Reconciliation for Q3 of 23/24: Resolved - to note.</p> <p>e) Budget Statement for Q3 of 23/24: Resolved - to note income and expenditure.</p> <p>f) Accounts statement for Q3 of 23/24: Resolved - to note. d), e) and f) proposed by Cllr Macharg, seconded by Cllr Burlton.</p> <p>g) Internal controls checks for Q2 23/24: to note completion/progress. Returned to Clerk by Cllr Thompson.</p> <p>h) Internal controls checks for Q3: to assign to a member. Councillor Thompson to complete.</p>	GT
125. 23/24	<p>13. To note correspondence for information.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
126. 23/24	<p>14. Council.</p> <p>a) To receive the Clerk’s Report.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>b) To receive councillors’ reports and items for future agendas.</p> <p>Cllr Macharg – in view of the success of the Pudding and Quiz night – should another one be pencilled in? Cllr Thompson – husband and son in the process of repairing the tables in the hall.</p> <p>c) To note the date of the next full council meeting: Thursday 7th March 2024 at 7.30 pm.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	

Meeting closed: 9.28 pm.

Signed: (Chairman)

Date: