

ALSTONEFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Alstonefield Parish Council was held on Wednesday 21st August 2024 at 7.00 pm in Alstonefield Village Hall.

Present: Chair: R Hignett, Vice Chair: G Campbell (GC), M Newman (MN), C McIlroy (CM), and the Clerk, M Jinks. There were also two members of the public present.

24.08.1 Apologies: A Hayes (AH), R Longdon (RL) and S Jeffery (SJ)

24.08.2 Minutes of the previous meeting

The draft minutes of the previous meeting had been published and forwarded to members of the Council in advance of the meeting. These were confirmed as a true record of proceedings and signed by RH.

24.08.3 Declarations of personal and prejudicial interest of councillors related to published agenda

None declared.

24.08.4 Clerk's Report and matters arising

The Clerk reported back on the action that he had taken following the previous meeting.

It was noted that the water pump had been repaired, restored and replaced in excellent condition. The Clerk was asked to communicate the Council's thanks to Andrew Griffin and his local business, Tractor Spare Parts for undertaking this. The Clerk had been asked to obtain guidance in respect of traffic and parking nuisance following the recent road closure at Hopedale. He had approached Councillor Mark Deaville, who had referred him to the licencing department of SCC, who had in turn suggested that concerned parties contact the highways department. The Clerk agreed to communicate this to the concerned residents.

24.08.5 Items to/from the District Councillor

None

24.08.6 Planning matters, decision notices and appeals

There were no applications to discuss

There were no decisions to notify.

There were no appeals.

24.08.7 Financial matters - items of expenditure and income

Car park monies had kindly been collected by AH in the sum of £128.68. Other receipts were £120 for the car boot sale on 28th July.

The following payments were approved:

Herbivore; mowing of playing field & knotweed spraying	£576.00, no VAT
Martin Jinks; reimbursement of defibrillator pads	£78.19, incl £12.20 VAT

After taking into account the above transactions, the Council had balances of £2,282 in the current account and £19,351 in the deposit account (*including interest of £21.47 for June and £25.34 for July*).

24.08.8 Community Benefit Society

CM gave an update on the CBS and it's attempt to purchase The George. The CBS had now been incorporated and was officially the Community Interest Group, thereby replacing the Parish Council. The CBS now has an open bank account and is actively seeking membership applications and loan offers.

24.08.9 Items for Community Magazine

None to note

24.08.10 Highways Issues

RH explained how a Notts & Derby coach had attempted to go down Mill Lane and had to be towed back – causing extensive damage to the coach and the retaining walls. It appeared that the attitude of the driver was “*couldn’t care less*”. The relevant landowners were all aware of the necessary contact details. It was noted that there are two signs outside Church Farm; one indicating a width restriction and the other stating unsuitability for motor vehicles. It was agreed that there is little else the Council can do.

24.08.11 Correspondence

The Clerk had received complaints from a couple of parishioners concerning the state of the overgrown verges in Milldale. It appears some work had been done at Hodedale, but none in Milldale. RH confirmed that he had tried, unsuccessfully, to contact the relevant lengthsman – he will persist.

Another parishioner had asked that the flora on Back Lane be strimmed and cut back; this is now an adopted highway, and the overgrowth is causing a nuisance. RH agreed to contact the relevant lengthsman.

GC advised that Manifold Community Action for Nature wanted to make a presentation to a future meeting; the Clerk was instructed to formally invite them to the next one.

The Clerk had been requested by another parishioner to inform the Council about the recent situation whereby travellers had set up camp in Butterton village hall car park. Apparently, they were “on holiday” and on their way to Alston Towers! The Councillors all agreed to be extra vigilant.

The Clerk had received a letter from an interested party who wished to explore the option of acquiring the Council’s land at Archford Moor. A member of the public at this point stated that he would also be interested in purchasing or leasing the land if it were available (*possibly jointly with the interested party*). Whilst it is widely believed that the PC owns this land, it is not yet formally registered with the Land Registry. The Clerk was asked to try and address this before any negotiations took place.

24.08.12 Any other business

None to note

Date of next meeting

Wednesday, 2nd October 2024 in the Village Hall.

The meeting was declared closed at 7:51pm

These Minutes remain draft until ratified at the next meeting.