

ALSTONEFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The Clerk to the Council- Liz Court, tel. no: 01538 702077
c/o The Village Hall, Alstonefield, Ashbourne, Derbyshire. DE6 2FR

Councillors: Nick Bonsall (310262). Dot Griffin (310249).
Frank Lipp (310302). Noel Peat (310000). Cathy Reavy (310125).
Kevin Stockton (310347) Rupert Hignett (310389)

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th January 2015 at Alstonefield Village Hall.

Present: Cllr D Griffin(Chair), Cllr N Peat, Cllr K Stockton, Cllr F Lipp, Cllr N Bonsall, Cllr R Hignett, Cllr C Reavy and Liz Court (Clerk)

2 members of the public were also present.

51 Public Forum - Adele Metcalfe from PDNPA spoke to the Council to outline the current Neighbourhood Plan scheme, both in terms of the benefits that such a plan could have and also in describing the processes around putting one in place. Several parishes in the area are in the process of putting together such a plan but the first one to be completed – from Bradwell will be available online shortly. It was agreed to look at this once it is available and to bear this in mind for the Council after the elections in May. There were also discussions regarding accessing grants and any concerns in the parish. Ms Metcalfe was thanked very much for her time and the information.

52 Minutes of Previous Meeting- agreed and signed

53 Declarations of Interest - none

54 Planning Matters

54.1 Crewe & Harpur Cottage, Alstonefield, Proposed alterations and extension to dwelling and conversion of outbuildings to ancillary accommodation – PC alerted to application on 8th December – **no objections.**

54.2 Upper Hurst, Hulme End, Section 73 application to alter condition 3 – height of hedge on NP/SM/1213/1146 – **the Council objected to this application as the visibility of this development was already a concern – and also commented on the increase in the number of panels on this application contrary to their request in the comments on the original application.**

Clerk to action

54.3. NP/SM/0314/0305 – Replacement of existing residential caravan with permanent agricultural workers dwelling at Town End Farm, Lode Lane – **permission granted**

55 Financial Matters

55.1 Precept setting for 2015-16 – figures were discussed and it was agreed that the final figure would be submitted prior to 31st January. **Clerk and Cllr Peat to action**

55.2 Payments

i. Chair's allowance £75.94 **ratified and paid**

ii. Peter Frost – Lengthsman's wages (£800) plus expenses (£45.78) £845.74 **ratified and paid**

55.3 Monies Received

55.3.1 – Car Park – honesty boxes

Playing Field Car Park - £5.06 Toilet Car Park- £27.36

56. Playing Field Matters

56.1 Play Area Safety Check Confirmation – 19th December 2014

56.2 Playing Field on-going maintenance folder – updated to reflect recent works including replacement swings.

56.3 Car Park – honesty box – report on any monies collected prior to January meeting

Playing Field Car Park - £8.30 Toilet Car Park- £17.70

57. General Parish Matters

57.1 Feedback on Meeting with Gill Heath re the Rakes and speeding concerns was given by Cllr Stockton. It was agreed that he would request the feedback from data collected from the recent black box on the Rakes before any further action would be taken.

57.2 Feedback regarding potential costs if a Parish Council Election is called was given by the Clerk. An estimated figure from the Borough Council had been given of between £1200.00 – 1500.00. The wide range is because the final figure would depend on the number of postal votes in the parish. Should an election be called, the cost of any election could be paid back in 4 annual instalments after the election takes place.

Council meetings are open to the public. Members of the public are also entitled to see the reports presented, if these are not subsequently published as part of the minutes and therefore automatically in the public record. Minutes and reports can be viewed by appointment with the Clerk and copies made, upon request, on payment of a charge.

57.3 Website work completed – Cllr Reavy gave information on the work done to update the software and bring the site into line with the recent cookie legislation. Other changes on the site include a much improved events calendar. It was noted that further work will be needed in due course and there was also discussion regarding the potential to sell more items through the website.

57.4 Play Area chippings – the Council agreed to authorise the purchase of 2 tonnes of rubber chippings to top up the surface. Cllr Reavy had several quotations which she was to follow up but none were more than £1000.00. The Council were unanimous in agreeing that once all quotations were in, this purchase should be made without delay.

57.5 Kerb stone by Harpur Crewe Cottages damaged – reported to Highways

57.6 Wooden post knocked down on the green at the bottom of the Rakes – Lengthsman has repaired.

58. Correspondence in - all noted.

59. Any Other Business

59.1 Councillor Griffin asked the Clerk to write to DCC to request that the road into the Parish via The Pinch be gritted. The condition of The Pinch was felt to be wholly unacceptable and, for the most part impassable by most. The road surface of Green Lane above The Pinch was even worse for many days. It was quite clear that neither of these major routes out of Alstonefield had been treated to any satisfactory degree. These are the primary routes from Alstonefield and adjacent Parishes to significant commercial and shopping centres within the area. **Clerk to action**

59.2 Councillor Bonsall reported that a mobile home with garden equipment etc. seemed to have been sited in a field close to Paddock Farm and local residents were not aware of planning permission for this. The Clerk was asked to check this with Planning Enforcement. **Clerk to action**

59.3 Councillor Peat reported that a fingerpost at Valley View requires repair. The lengthsman will be asked to do this work if possible.

59.4 The Chair will arrange the Spring Clean dates and these will be put into the next newsletter.

Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 18th February 2015

Future meetings were confirmed as: 1st April, 20th May (Cllr Griffin gave her apologies for this meeting), 1st July, 12th August, 23rd September, 4th November and 16th December 2015.