

ALSTONEFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Alstonefield Parish Council was held on Wednesday 9th August 2023 at 7.00 pm in the Alstonefield Village Hall.

Present: Chair: R Hignett (RH), Vice Chair: G Campbell (GC), Alan Hayes (AH), Sarah Jeffery (SJ), M Newman (MN) and the Clerk, M Jinks. There were also 4 members of the public in attendance.

23.08.1 Apologies

R Longdon had sent her apologies, as had the District Councillor, E Wain.

23.08.2 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. SJ had stated that she felt they were inaccurate and wanted to make some amendments. However, she had not got her notes with her and so it was decided to defer approval of the Minutes until the next meeting.

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

None declared.

23.08.5 Clerk's Report

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

23.08.6 Items to/from the District Councillor

There were no matters for or from the District Councillor.

23.08.7 Planning matters, decision notices and appeals

Application NP/SM/0623/0632 at Rose Cottage, Alstonefield had previously been discussed and there were no objections. However, the Clerk advised that he had been advised that the application had been withdrawn.

Certificate of lawfulness (NP/SM/0523/0485) at Upper Hurst Farm was discussed. Although such a matter was not one in which a decision could be made, the Clerk was asked to obtain some clarification on the permitted use(s).

Application NP/SM/0423/0445, for solar panel at Lower Hurst Farm was discussed and there were no objections.

It was noted that applications NP/SM/0423/0443 (Grange Farm, Stanshope) and NP/SM/1122/1439 (toilets Car Park) had both been approved.

There were no appeals to note.

23.08.8 Financial matters - items of expenditure and income

Car park monies had kindly been collected by AH in the sum of £125.96. The Clerk had also received £120 in respect of the July car boot sale.

The following payments were approved:

BACS	Ian Redfern – lengthsman and mowing duties	£665.46, no VAT
BACS	Paul Binfield – repairs to noticeboard	£151.99, incl VAT
BACS	Martin Jinks – reimbursement of football nets	£83.79, incl VAT
BACS	Peak Park Parishes – Annual subscription	£12.00, no VAT
BACS	Mike Griffin – repairs to Greenwell	£140.00, no VAT

After considering the above transactions, the Council had balances of £5,118 in the current account and £14,087 in the deposit account (including £15.83 interest for the month).

23.08.9 Items for community magazine

Vacancy for lengthsman – see 23.08.13 below

23.08.10 Highway Issues

The Clerk had failed to identify the part of the retaining wall on Lode Lane that had given way; AH was to investigate and advise further.

The Chair noted that part of underside of Lode Bridge appeared to be giving way. He would look further, take some pictures and further advise the Clerk. He would also lobby the PC of Eaton & Alsop

23.08.11 Correspondence

A note had been received about wasps and moles at the playing field. It was agreed the costs of any action outweighed the benefits and no further action is to be taken.

The Clerk had received a letter from Karen Bradley, MP stating grants for defibrillators may be available for community groups. The letter is to be retained until such a group is identified.

A resident from Milldale had written complaining that the verges had been mown; the resident would prefer they were left for wildlife. It was discussed that the current policy of mowing occasionally was the most beneficial. The verges are initially left to allow the wildlife to grow but were mown just before the village Wakes activities. The verges need to be managed and not simply left.

A village resident had pointed out that DCC were discussing the possibility of charging for non-Derbys. residents to use the tip at Ashbourne. The Chair said he would make further enquiries.

PDNP had advised of their Annual Parishes Day on 7 October in Bakewell; GC indicated that he may be interested.

SPCA had advised of their AGM on 30 October. It was agreed that the PC values its membership but did not feel the need to attend.

The Clerk had received a number of copies of a statement from the landlord of the George; these were circulated to each Councillor; it was noted that there were also copies on the notice boards. The statement was read, discussed and no further action was to be taken.

23.08.12 Emergency action plan

SJ advised that she had not had any time to look at this further; therefore, the matter was deferred until the next meeting.

23.08.13 Alstonefield Lengthsman's contracts.

The Chair acknowledged that he had not yet had the opportunity to discuss the hours worked with the lengthsman. However, usurping this discussion, the latter had tendered his resignation with effect from 6 September. It was noted that equipment owned by the PC would need to be collected and "re-homed" immediately thereafter. The Chair accepted the resignation with reluctance and thanked the lengthsman for all his hard work in the past; the PC had come to rely on him, and he would be missed. The Clerk was asked to place an advert for a new lengthsman in the Community Magazine.

23.08.14 Membership of Peak District Rural Housing Association

The Clerk advised that the AGM of PDRHA was to be held at 12 noon on 19 September in the Agricultural Centre in Bakewell. RH agreed to attend on the PC's behalf.

23.08.15 AOB - Apologies

SJ asked if, following the last meeting, there were any apologies that needed to be said. GC responded that his comments at the previous meeting had all been directed at SJ; he readily apologised to all other Councillors for any bad language he used and for leaving the meeting early.

The date and time of the next meeting was agreed to be 7:00pm on Wednesday 20th September.

The meeting was declared closed at 7:56pm

These Minutes remain draft until formal approval at the next parish council meeting.