ASLTONEFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Alstonefield Parish Council was held on Wednesday 22nd September 2021at 7.00 pm in Alstonefield Village Hall.

**Present:** Chairman, Mr R Butler, Vice Chairman, Mr G Campbell and councillors: Mr N Bonsall,

Mr A Hayes, Mr R Hignett, Mrs R McIntyre, Mrs C Osborne, Mrs L Court, retiring clerk and the new clerk, Mrs S Hampson. District Councillor, Mr E Wain was briefly in attendance. There was also one member of the public in attendance.

**Apologies:** There were no apologies from members.

**21.9.1 Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting had been displayed on the parish council noticeboard, the parish website and forwarded to members of the parish council in advance of the meeting.

**Resolved:** To accept the minutes as a true record of proceedings. These were ratified by the Chairman,

Mr Butler.

**21.9.2 Declarations of interest**

There was no need, by any member present, to declare an interest in any matter detailed on the agenda.

**21.9.3 Planning matters and decisions**

Two recent planning proposals had been granted:

West Side Mill Farm, Hulme End – extension to agricultural building for the purpose of storing hay and straw.

Upper Hurst Caravan Site, Hulme End – conversion of roof space above toilet block to warden accommodation and alterations to site information centre to form site reception and office.

**21.9 4 Financial Matters**

**4.1 Payments to be raised:**

Cq 1425 John Lewis & Partners Lap top for clerk £349.99 (£292.66 + £58.33 VAT)

Cq 1426 Defib World New battery & pads £329.19 (£274.99 + £54.20 VAT)

Cq 1427 E James 4 months’ clerk’s salary £739.48

DD HMRC PAYE September £46.20

Cq 1428 I Redfern Lengthsman’s costs £288.75

Cq 1429 The Ford Partnership Payroll function 18m £192.00

Cq 1430 Owen ATVS Garden Machinery New strimmer £545.45 (£454.54 + £90.01 VAT)

**21.9.5 Playing field matters**

5.1 Playing Field Inspection

The ROSPA inspection had recently been undertaken and a copy of the report and findings distributed to members for their attention.

Mrs Osborne raised the matter of weeding the area around the children’s playground area.

**Resolved:** Mr Hayes to liaise with lengthsman (IR) to request that the weeding of this area take place shortly.

5.2 Car park

Mr Hayes had collected the monies from the honesty boxes as follows:

Playing field £72.20. Toilet car park £50.41

**Resolved:** The new clerk to bank these monies shortly.

**21.9.6 General parish matters**

**6.1 Benches for the playing field**

Mrs Osborne requested that consideration be given to the placement of benches on the playing field. Members discussed pros and cons of location; future on-going maintenance liabilities; increased time and cost to strim and mow around; possible donations towards the cost of purchase but without inscription; natural timber versus artificial timber.

**Resolved:** The clerk to forward a seating policy and to defer the matter to the Spring.

**Resolved:** The clerk to begin to find some costings for a future meeting.

**6.2 Change of use of public house to restaurant**

Some parishioners had asked, prior to the meeting, if permission is required for the above change and concerns had also been expressed regarding the possible loss of an amenity. An enquiry to Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA) prior to the meeting revealed that permission was not required for this particular type of change of use as food and alcohol will continue to be served but in an alternative manner. A change of signage; however, may necessitate an involvement with PDNPA. There is no imminent lease issue.

**6.3 Car boot sales – feedback from this season and query for next year**

A report had been received from the person operating the car boot sales regarding signage and a request to continue in 2022 on the same Sunday (last Sunday in the month). This appears to be recognised by the local community. Cricket fixture lists are awaited to ensure there is no conflict.

**Resolved:** to contact the person concerned with permission from the parish council to continue in 2022.

**6.4 Items for the village newsletter (27th September 2021)**

**Resolved:** The outgoing clerk to post generic information as no other business was required to be published.

**6.5 Playing field car park update**

Mr Campbell provided an update following liaison with Staffordshire County Council (SCC) regarding the playing field car park; generic information about off street parking orders; signage etc. Future events are arranged requiring access to the playing field through the car park entrance. It was noted that there are some issues with people not adhering to no over night parking notices.

**Resolved:** to place the item on future agendas and to take appropriate action regarding immediate parking issues, advising any residents concerned.

**Resolved:** to close the car park, preventing access to it, other than for organised events booked through the parish council.

**21.9.7 Correspondence**

Details had been forwarded to members in advance of the meeting.

The member of the public present did not wish to bring any matters before the members.

**21.9.8 Any other business**

A request had been received from the cricket club regarding a forthcoming match. Mr Butler had received a request regarding the use of the playing field for a forthcoming wedding anniversary event with over night parking.

**Resolved:** To grant permission for the above events; however, to decline the use of over night camping on the playing field to the parishioners as over night camping had been declined for an event booked by an outside organisation.

On a disturbing note, it was reported that lengthsman (PF) had received verbal abuse from a resident during the course of undertaking his duties from the path running from the river to Valley View, Mill Dale. As a consequence of this abuse, the lengthsman has reported that he will no longer undertake duties in Mill Dale which will be of significant detrimental effect in this area. It was also reported that he had fulfilled all of his allocated hours.

**Resolved:** Mr Bonsall to visit the lengthsman concerned to hopefully resolve the matter.

**21.9.8 Date of next meeting**

**Resolved:** to hold the next meeting on Wednesday, 10th November and not 3rd November, as previously advertised and to advise the village hall bookings clerk accordingly.

The meeting was declared closed at 8.10 pm

Mrs S Hampson

Clerk

Alstonefield Parish Council

24th September 2021

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

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