

ALSTONEFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Alstonefield Parish Council was held on Wednesday 18th December 2024 at 7.00 pm in Alstonefield Village Hall.

Present: Chair: R Hignett, Vice Chair: G Campbell (GC), S Jeffery (SJ), A Hayes (AH) and M Newman (MN) together with the Clerk, S Dartnell. There were no members of the public present.

18.12.1 Apologies: R Longdon (RL) and District Councillor, Edwin Wain (EW).

18.12.2 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.

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

None declared.

18.12.4 Clerk's Report and matters arising

The Clerk reported back on the actions taken following the previous meeting:

PF10 has been approved as Bridleway – SCC will be in touch again after the Order has been made.

The Clerk also reported no update in respect to the Land Registry issue for the land at Archford Moor. GC had visited the History Centre in Stafford and has seen and photographed clear evidence that is available to share. RH thanked GC for his effort on this matter.

18.12.5 Items to/from the District Councillor

None - EW had sent apologies.

18.12.6 Planning matters, decision notices and appeals
Application NP/GDO/1124/1175 - Land west of, Alstonefield Road, Hulme End

Councillors discussed this briefly. Decision has already been notified as refused.

Application NP - /SM/1024/1152 - Old Vicarage, Church Street, Alstonefield

Councillors discussed listed building consent. There are no objections. The Clerk was instructed to respond accordingly. There were no appeals.

18.12.7 Financial matters - items of expenditure and income

Car park monies had kindly been collected by AH in the sum of £26.24

There were no other receipts in the period.

The following payments were approved:

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| GC reimbursement for Christmas Tree | £175.00 |
| Peter Frost 2024 Milldale/Stanshope Lengthsman | £1678.14 |
| Clerk Salary and Expenses for Martin Jenks | £663.87 |
| Clerk Salary and Expenses for Sally Dartnell | £299.70 |

After taking into account the above transactions, the Council had balances of £ 167.85 in the current account and £21,447.46 in the deposit account (*including interest of £23.52 for November*).

The Clerk was advised an invoice from the Alstonefield lengthsman is expected shortly.

18.12.8 Connect Fibre installation

GC reported that no communication from Connect Fibre. There appear to be new contractors working. Broadband will be available to Connect Fibre's original list, but councillors fear service may be impacted by road traffic. AH reported that culverts for water flow have been damaged by the contractors resulting in considerable standing water.

18.12.9 Items for Community Magazine

None

GC expressed frustration that community messaging is relying on FB and WhatsApp which mean that many people are unaware of activities/information. SCC notice in relation to Christmas bin collection should be added to the Parish Website. Clerk to action.

18.12.10 Highways Issues

The Clerk advised that the application to upgrade PF10 to a bridleway decision has been confirmed 15/11/24.

18.12.11 Village Green Registration Status – SCC say there are no registered village greens in Alstonefield. GC has meeting minutes from 2006 stating that 4 of the 10 have been registered. He also has a copy of the letter from the Records Office. GC emailed again in December and is awaiting response.

18.12.12 Correspondence

Cherry Tree – awaiting confirmation if successful in application for allocation.

GC presented a letter from Josh Elliot in relation to Lost In The Hills Festival. The letter sets out what is being proposed in relation to provision and improvements to parking arrangements. Letter is for information and is a request to use the playing field for overflow parking. AH proposed that there should be a charge for agreement to this. 2 days – Friday 9th and Saturday 10th May. Only the top end of the field would be made available (c100 cars) and the offer is subject to weather and would be withdrawn if conditions don't allow. Standard rates, contract and compliance. Councillors agreed that dates are acceptable

18.12.13 Christmas

AH thanks to GC for arranging Christmas meal. The Council also gave thanks to Mike Griffin for erecting the Christmas Tree and Richard Butler for the lights.

18.12.13 Any other business

None

Date of next meeting

Wednesday, 5 February 2025 in the Village Hall.

The meeting was declared closed at 19:54

These Minutes remain draft until ratified at the next meeting