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PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the Full Meeting of Alton Parish Council
held virtually on Thursday 18th March 2021
commencing at 7:30pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Polly Carson [PC], Alex Oliver [AO], Robert Carpenter Turner [RCT], Hayley Kington [HK], Carol Whittle [CW]

OFFICERS PRESENT: Elizabeth Martin [EM], Clerk to Council

CHAIR: Robert Carpenter Turner

APOLOGIES: Ewan MacKinnon [EMK]

FC20/21/164 **TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Apologies received from Ewan MacKinnon.

FC20/21/165 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION**
RCT, AO, CW declared an interest in Agenda Item 7 (FC20/21/171)

FC20/21/166 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 7TH 2021**
Proposed AO. Seconded CW. Agreed.

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7TH January 2021 be accepted as written.

FC20/21/167 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mike Spence and Michael Golding for rubbish collection (10 bags) around the village. Steve and Ruth Hepworth have also been doing this in other areas of the village and RCT extended thanks to them also.

A letter has also been received from Monique and the crop circle exhibition to say that £58.77 had been collected. She has doubled this amount and made the donation of £117.54 to the Parish Council for the Springs Fund. RCT expressed thanks to Monique for the kind donation and matched contribution.

RCT also expressed his disappointment in the planning process where local voices went unheard when planning applications went to appeal. The recent decision for an increase in the housing plans from 5 to 6 at the Clock House location was one good example.

Two more appeals are currently underway, one for the entrance at Chandler's House, the other for land north of Honeystreet for a car park.

RCT also reminded everyone that local council elections are due in May and the Parish Council were always looking for new Councillors.

The Census is due this coming weekend last day to participate is the 21st of March 2021.

Items for the Parish to look forward to are the 3rd of July when hopefully the first official Coffee Morning at the Village Hall will be held and 4th July is the Village Flower Show.

FC20/21/168 TO RECEIVE THE PLANNING REPORT DATED 15TH MARCH 2021

Report received

**FC20/21/169 PLANNING TO CONSIDER AND AGREE PLANNING APPLICATION
APPEAL FROM WILTSHIRE COUNCIL**

Parishioner Emma Lewis, the applicant, was invited to address the Council to outline her plans. Both of the applications are for the same work, one is for Listed Building Consent.

Application: 21/01746/FUL

Location: The Hermitage, Honey Street, Alton Barnes, Pewsey, SN9 5PS

Proposal: Installation of solar PV panels to roof and installation of external battery and cover
[Deadline: 08 April 2021]

Application: 21/02355/LBC

Location: The Hermitage, Honey Street, Alton Barnes, Pewsey, SN9 5PS

Proposal: Listed Building Consent
Installation of solar PV panels to roof and installation of external battery and cover
[Deadline: 08 April 2021]

Ms Lewis ran through the options she had reviewed including installing the Solar Panels in the garden. Ms Lewis was trying to make the smallest impact as possible. The panels will be installed on the new part of the building not on the original building.

Council is supportive of the application.

**FC20/21/170 TO RECEIVE AND DISCUSS INFORMATION REGARDING THE WW1
TREES FROM BEN OWEN**

In September 2017 approach by WWI commemoration group to plant some trees for a memorial for those who gave their lives. It was believed that Oak was better than Beech as it was long-lasting material.

It had been considered to place them up on the hill, but this was felt to be disconnected and potentially not so good for the Oaks. It was also considered along the footpath near the canal, but it was felt this wasn't such a great idea.

It was felt that the area where they are now was the best placement as it is between the two villages. Two soldiers died from Alton Barnes, and two from Alton Priors.

It was felt the trees should be on the Asset Register and some money set aside for on-going maintenance and care. This will be discussed at a later meeting.

- FC20/21/171 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE THE REQUEST TO WILTSHIRE COUNCIL REGARDING A NEWLY REPAIRED STREET LIGHT ON HONEYSTREET**
Due to declaration of interests, it was proposed that PC take the Chair
Proposed RCT. Passed.
PC took over the Chair
RCT, AO and CW left the meeting
EM will contact Wiltshire Council and ask that the light be shrouded. If this is not successful, the Council will re-consider a request to turn off the light.
RCT, AO and CW rejoined the meeting. RCT resumed the Chair.
- FC20/21/172 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE THE REQUEST TO REPLACE THE STILE AT THE END OF GREEN LANE (RIDGEWAY)**
The Council do not believe this is a public right of way.
EM will verify with the RoW Officer at Wiltshire Council.
- FC20/21/173 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE THE VEHICLE OVERRUN AT THE VH AND FOR A FORMAL REQUEST TO BE PUT FORWARD TO CATG FOR A KERB TO BE INSTALLED**
CATG = Community Area Transport Group
PC and RCT will discuss with Village Hall Committee to gain agreement. Following a positive outcome, EM will raise with CATG for the Kerb to be put in.
- FC20/21/174 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE FLOOD WARDEN VOLUNTEERS IN THE PARISH**
We have two flood wardens (Richard and Maggie) for Alton Barnes/Priors. Alex Oliver is stepping down as the warden for Honeystreet.
EM will ask Mike Spence, parishioner, if he would be willing to volunteer.
- FC20/21/175 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE FLOOD WARDEN INITIATIVE IN ALTON FROM MAGGIE FAULTLESS**
Report Received.
EM will write to Maggie (or Richard) to invite them to provide a regular update to Council.
- FC20/21/176 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE TRACK BEHIND THE PRIORY COTTAGES**
This is the area known as "Green Lane".
EM will write to Aster Homes to raise the issue of the rubbish on the lane.
- FC20/21/177 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE THE STRIMMING OF THE SPRING AT A COST OF £350.00**
EM confirmed there is £850 in the Earmark for the Springs. There are some small expenses along with the contribution from Monique to add to this total.
The strimming will go ahead by volunteers and any expenses will be discussed via PC to the Council

- FC20/21/178 **TO DISCUSS AND AGREE NEXT STEPS FOR REPLACEMENT OF THE NOTICE BOARDS IN ALTON**
Quotes average around £800-£900 each. Both Alton Barnes and Alton Priors need replacements of notice boards.
The Council could seek match-funding to pay for the replacements.
There is £900 in the budget for replacement costs.
EM will look at options for funding and return to Council in May for formal approval.
Proposed AO. Seconded RCT. Passed.
IT WAS RESOLVED THAT the Council will seek match-funding for the notice board replacements and seek final approval in May
EM will also contact Woodborough PC to find out where their board is from. RCT will continue to look at other options including Wiltshire Joinery in Pewsey (who were once resident in the village)
- FC20/21/179 **TO NOTE THE DATE FOR THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**
The annual meeting starts at 7pm, followed by the Parish Council meeting.
The date will be confirmed shortly as the meeting must occur within 14 days of the election.
- FC20/21/180 **TO RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION, THE CLERK'S REPORT**
EM updated that audit time approaches and she is preparing for that work.
EM also reminded members that the election is coming in May and they and anyone else in the village who wishes to run can download information from the Wiltshire Council website here to obtain the nomination forms.
<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/media/5016>
- FC20/21/181 **FINANCE MATTERS**
- FC20/21/182 **To Receive For Information, Disbursements made since the last meeting**
No disbursements since the prior meeting.
- FC20/21/183 **To Receive The Bank Reconciliations As Presented**
The bank reconciliations were presented and received
EM explained that one statement for December has not been received from the bank. Currently being re-issued. Reconciliations are to November.
Meeting Suspended 8:40pm to allow for Cllr Oatway to deliver his update as part of the public participation section
See Public Participation Section
RCT thanked Cllr Oatway for the work he has done.
Meeting Resumed 8:45pm
- FC20/21/184 **RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION, CORRESPONDENCE AND CIRCULARS RECEIVED**
None Received.
- FC20/21/185 **TO CONSIDER ITEMS OF MAINTENANCE.**
Grips may need clearing again.

FC20/21/186 **KEY MESSAGES.**

Census

Election

FC20/21/187 **NEXT MEETING.**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 20th May 2021, 7:30pm. Unless otherwise notified, this and all subsequent meetings will be 'virtual' meetings in accordance with the current legislation, up to and including 5th May 2021.

Meeting Closed.

These minutes are accepted as a true and accurate record: -

Signed _____

Date

Summary Of Public Participation Section

I. To Receive a report from the Unitary Councillor Paul Oatway.

Cllr. Paul Oatway provided an an update.

Latest COVID-19 Update:

21 people tested positive today in Wiltshire, 154 in the last 7 days, a 7.2% decrease

No deaths today in Wiltshire, 4 people in the last 7 days, a 33% increase

3 people admitted to Swindon Hospital and 3 to Salisbury Hospital today, 16 and 14 in the last 7 days respectively, a 50% reduction,

It is an improving situation overall. Within the Vale of Pewsey it is exceptionally low.

Cllr Oatway met with Richard Dobson and the Drainage team at Baker's Corner. Strategy is to sort out the drainage and drains in the area, digging out a ditch to relieve the situation. Then new pipes and drains will be put in, followed by resurfacing. There is no timeline agreed, but it is expected to be in the near future.

II. Comments from members of the public to be considered by the Council regarding items on the Agenda.

None Received.