

# ALTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting and Parish Meeting, Coronation Hall, Alton Barnes, 7.00, 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2019

- Present:** Ben Owen, Polly Carson, Steve Hepworth, Robert Carpenter Turner, Alex Oliver, Mike Golden, Richard Heacock, Debby Lester (RFO), Charles Reiss (Clerk). In attendance: Cllr Paul Oatway
- 024/19**      **Election of Chair:** Polly Carson, presiding as previous Vice-Chair, invited nominations. Steve Hepworth, having agreed to serve, was proposed Polly Carson, seconded Robert Carpenter Turner. There being no other nominations, agreed unanimously.
- 025/19**      **Election of Vice-Chair:** Polly Carson, having agreed to serve, was proposed Steve Hepworth, seconded Mike Golden. There being no other nominations, agreed unanimously.
- 026/19**      **Minutes:** The minutes of the previous Annual Meeting on May 10, 2018 were agreed and signed by the Chair.

Matters arising not covered by the agenda: none.

- 027/19**      **Chair's report:** Ben Owen said the past year had been challenging, particularly in terms of planning. Alex Oliver was doing good work preparing a Neighbourhood Plan. The year had been marked by the planting of four oak trees to commemorate those from the parish who died in World War I. He welcomed the success of the new cafe at Honeystreet and hoped the Barge pub would reopen for all to enjoy. Finally he thanked all concerned for their help and support during his time as Chair. Members thanked him in return and Councillor Oatway, to applause, said he had been a very professional and dedicated Chair who would be sadly missed.
- 028/19**      **Treasurer's report:** Debby Lester, Responsible Financial Officer, reported a healthy £16,091.67 in the account, up £2,498.62 over the year. The precept was held for the second year in a row at £5,000. However costs are set to rise with more responsibilities offloaded by Wiltshire Council, and others ranging from playground repairs to upkeep of the White Horse. SH thanked her for her ongoing role and for staying on while the search for a replacement, at her request, continued. The full text of both reports is attached as an annexe to these minutes.
- 029/19**      **Dates of next Annual PC Meeting and Parish Council meetings for the year:** Next AM followed by regular PC May 7, 2020. Scheduled PC meetings July 11, Sep 12, Nov 14 and, next year, Jan 23, March 12.

Additional meetings *ad hoc* as required. All at the Coronation Hall  
7.30pm, except the AM at 7pm. Agreed nem. con.

There being no other business the meeting ended at 7.17pm