

ALTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting at the Coronation Hall, 7.00 pm, April 20, 2017

Present: Steve Hepworth (Chair), Peter Emery, Ben Owen, Robert Carpenter Turner, Polly Carson, Mike Golden, Charles Reiss (Clerk). Apologies: Debby Lester (RFO). In attendance: Cllr Paul Oatway, Mr Richard Petitt, for Petitt Bros.

040/17 Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising not on the agenda:

041/17 Application 17/01500TCA: Members complained that this proposal to fell trees in a conservation area had been unanimously opposed by the Parish Council; but Wiltshire Council had ignored the local view. Paul Oatway said he understood the frustration and would look into the matter.

042/17 New farm building, Honeystreet: Members voiced strong concern, shared by local residents, at the erection of a very large building in a field immediately next to the village. They accepted that it appeared to be a permitted agricultural development but were nonetheless dismayed at the impact on the village and on the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. They described the development as "terrible", "an eyesore" and "appalling." PO said he would raise the matter with Mike Wilmott, head of Wiltshire Development Control.

043/17 Parish Council election: Charles Reiss reported there had been seven valid nominations for the seven PC seats and therefore no election would be necessary.

044/17 Planning application 17/02632/FUL - Honeystreet wharf: Steve Hepworth pointed out that this was a resubmission of an earlier planning consent which had recently lapsed and was based on the same plans and specifications. Mr Richard Petitt, for the developers, said he was committed to using good materials and good workmanship and to working closely with the PC. He expected the development to take two years and would not be happy until it looked good. Answering questions, he said lighting should be in keeping with the area and should not create tension between neighbours. He noted the request from one member that the stump of the original crane used for barge building be retained. He was looking at reusing old materials where possible. After brief discussion, members agreed unanimously to support the application. PO said that, given the PC view, if Wilts

unexpectedly turned down the proposal he would call it in to the Planning Committee.

045/17 Applications 17/02140/TCA and 17/02387/VAR: These applications, for tree work at 2 The Old Smithy, Alton Priors, and removal of condition of permission K/39836 at Newtown Dairy Alton Barnes, circulated to pc members by email and accepted with no objections or comment, were noted for the record.

Any other business:

046/17 Parish Steward: SH reported he now had contact details for the Parish Steward along with tasks to be done, including the footpath by St Johns Cottage and the layby near The Granary.

047/17 Canal and River Trust meeting: CR reported that, as requested at the last PC, he had emailed a manager at the CRT to request a meeting to discuss local canal issues. After two weeks with no response he had telephoned and been promised a reply but two weeks further on still nothing had materialised. PO said this was unacceptable and he would raise it at his next meeting with the Trust.

048/17 Priory Cottages issues: PO said that he had discussed the unacceptable behaviour by the occupants of one property with police and enforcement officers and the head of the property landlords, Aster. They said they would take action but required evidence to do so. He would also deliver to the landlords a petition signed by a considerable number of local neighbours.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.27pm.