Alton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 7th December 2015 at 7pm
At Alton Village Hall

Present: Councillor J. Shepherd (Chair)
Councillor P Ballard
Councillor S Hollins
Councillor E Bailey
Councillor E. Brindley
Councillor A. Forrester

Mr S.J. Burton (Clerk)

Apologies: Councillor P. Wilkinson, Councillor T. Wilkinson,
Councillor M. Worthington (SCC)

In Attendance: 7 members of the public.

The meeting was opened by Cllr Shepherd the Chair at 7pm.

194/15 Declarations of Interest.
Members were invited to declare any interests they may have in any matter identified for discussion at the Meeting. There were no declarations.

195/15. Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2nd November 2015.
The minutes of the last meeting were declared a true record proposed by Cllr Ballard and seconded by Cllr Shepherd and agreed by all and were signed by the Chair and the Clerk.

196/15. Matters arising.

i. Cllr Hollins asked if there was any update regarding the housing development at Saltersford Lane. Cllr Forrester stated there was no update at present. Cllr Brindley asked if the council would be informed of any amendments to the plans, Cllr Forrester stated the council would be updated of any radical changes.
ii. Cllr Shepherd stated he had now reported the damaged bridle gate in Saltersford Lane to SCC footpaths. (See November minutes ref 182/15).
iii. Cllr Shepherd also reported that the weeds had been removed from the Roundhouse roof and he had put Christmas decorations up (see November minutes ref 184/15). Cllr Ballard thanked Cllr Shepherd for this work which was supported by all councillors present.
iv. It was noted that the glass bottle bank is still in place and that the other re-cycling bank has been removed.

197/15. Alton Towers.

i. Nothing to report for this item of business.

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198/15. Footpaths.

i. Nothing to report for this item of business.

199/15. Village Hall.

i. Cllr Ballard organised a 60's dance at the village hall which raised £930 for the hall. This was praised by the councillors present.

ii. Cllr Ballard volunteered to be a co-rep for the village hall for the council. This was agreed and Cllr Ballard will contact Cllr P. Wilkinson who is the parish council rep to the village hall to inform him. **Action: Cllr Ballard.**

200/15. Lengthsman.

i. Nothing to report other than routine work.

201/15. Highways and Road Safety.

i. Cllr Brindley reported that the potholes have still not been repaired at Battlesteads junction with Cheadle Road.

ii. Cllr Brindley reported that the speed indicator sign is still in place and working.

iii. Cllr Shepherd reported that regarding the proposed footpath in Hurstons Lane he still has not received a letter for the work to go ahead from Mr. Massey the owner of the land. Cllr Brindley volunteered to speak to Mr. Massey, this was agreed. **Action: Cllr Brindley.**

202/15. Parish Cemetery and St. Peter's Church Yard.

i. Cllr Forrester reported that the hedge has now been cut at the cemetery. Nothing else of note to report.

203/15. Councillor Shepherd declared an open forum to allow parishioners present to ask questions/raise issues:

i. A member of the public mentioned cars parked on the footpath in Lime Kiln Lane causing an obstruction. This happens a various times during the day. There is a similar problem a Saltersford Lane. **Action: Clerk to contact the police and request attention.**

ii. A member of the public asked if a lay-by could be constructed on the west side of Lime Kiln Lane. This is something that has been declined in the past, however Cllr Shepherd will look into this issue and report back to the next meeting. **Action Cllr Shepherd.**

iii. A member of the public asked if there was an update regarding an issue she raised at a previous meeting (September 2015 ref 156/15 iii). The Clerk explained it had been reported to SCC. **Action: Clerk to follow up with SCC Highways.**

iv. Several members of the public mentioned the lack of a bus service. Cllr Shepherd explained things may move forward in the spring with a possible grant, but it was a complicated issue.

204/15. Planning and Licensing Applications.

i. HNT/2015/0038. Consultation on planning application. Single storey rear extension. Mr Dennis Plant, Weavers View, Gallows Green, Alton. **No objections.**

ii. SMD/2015/0638. Mr Ben Delaney, Tennis Cottage, Hurstons Lane, Alton. Remove existing render and apply new render. **No objections.**

205/15. Planning decisions. None for this meeting.

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206/15. Correspondence requiring response.

i. None for this meeting.

207/15. Broadband.

i. At this point Cllr Shepherd mentioned that broadband in the village was still going ahead.

208/15. Correspondence for Information.

i. Email to SMDC planning re November's planning.
ii. SCC Countryside Estate Review letter.
iii. Update re bottle bank in Alton.
iv. SCC letter re library services.
v. SCC Highway Winter Operations letter.
vi. Email to Damian Hosker requesting extension re comments on proposed base station at Alton Towers.
vii. Email response to local press re cemetery charges.
viii. Email re Local Plan meetings on 14th and 15th December 2015.
ix. SPCA bulletin 12th November 2015.

All were read out by the Chair and Clerk.

209/15. Finance.

i. Clerks salary £443.20.
ii. Lengthsmans wages £80.00
iii. Jackson's Nurseries. Net £684.80. VAT £136.96. Gross £821.76.
iv. SPCA invoice for planning training course. £20.00.
v. Income: cemetery £176.00
vi. Authorised payments for November 2015 to be signed off by the Council.
vii. Current bank balances to be presented to the Council.

The finances were proposed by Cllr Forrester and seconded by Cllr Shepherd and carried.

There being no other business the meeting was closed by The Chair, Councillor Shepherd at 7.40pm.

Signed..... Chairman 4th January 2016

Signed..... Clerk