Alton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 5th December 2016 at 7pm
At Alton Village Hall

Present: Councillor J. Shepherd (Chair)
Councillor S Hollins, Councillor E Bailey, Councillor P Ballard
Councillor E. Brindley, Councillor A. Forrester, Councillor T. Wilkinson, Councillor M. Worthington (SCC).
Mr S.J. Burton (Clerk)
Apologies: Councillor P. Wilkinson, Councillor E. James.

In Attendance: 6 members of the public.

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

178/16. Resignation: Cllr Shepherd read out a letter of resignation from Cllr P. Wilkinson, who gave personal reasons for the resignation. The council accepted the resignation and wished Cllr P. Wilkinson well for the future.

179/16. 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.

180/16. Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 7th November 2016.
The minutes of the last meeting were declared a true record proposed by Cllr Shepherd and seconded by Cllr Forrester and agreed by all and were signed by the Chair and the Clerk.

181/16. Matters arising.

i. Cllr Ballard stated she had been unable to contact the school to see if they have a photograph of the millennium stone to assist with the restoration, she stated she would complete this action and contact the clerk later this week. **Action: Cllr Ballard.**
ii. Cllr Shepherd has humanly caught the mole that was causing damage in the cemetery and does not wish any money towards the trap used.
iii. The Clerk has contacted SCC Highways regarding a possible Zebra crossing in the High Street.

182/16. Alton Towers.

i. Cllr Worthington reported he had attended a meeting of the Alton Towers liaison group and had requested £5,000 towards the repair of the village hall car-park. Liz Greenwood from Alton Towers had been most supportive and had offered £1,000, other members of the group had objected, although Cllr Worthington will continue to press for this support. **Action: Clerk to write to Liz Greenwood and thank her.**

183/16. Footpaths.

i. The Lengthsman was complimented on the cleanliness of the footpath leading to the war memorial.

184/16. Village Hall.

i. Cllr Ballard had not been able to attend the meeting of the village hall and had not yet received any update. There was nothing else to report.

185/16. Lengthsman.

i. Cllr Hollins reported that she had received a complaint of fly tipping near the cottages in Saltersford Lane. It was not clear what or exactly where the problem was. Cllr Hollins will advise the complainant to report to SCC if the issue is on a footpath. If more detail can be provided the Clerk will contact SCC.

186/16. Highways and Road Safety.

i. Cllr Brindley reported that there are now 2 speed indicator signs in the village.

ii. Cllr Shepherd mentioned that although footpath 13 and 16 was now a bridle way there were still gates present which prevented use by horses. Cllr Worthington will report this to SCC. **Action: Cllr Worthington.**

187/16. Parish Cemetery and St. Peter's Church Yard.

i. Cllr Forrester reported both sites were in order.

188/16. Date of January 2017 meeting.

i. The Clerk reported he had spoken to Emily Ball from the village hall twice and that she was trying to arrange the hall so that the council meeting can take place on 9th rather than the second of January. He had not yet had a result but will try to action this as soon as possible. **Action: Clerk to arrange.**

189/16. Councillor Shepherd declared an open forum to allow parishioners present to ask questions/raise issues:

i. A member of the public mentioned dog fouling near to the village hall, no precise details of times or offenders could be given. Cllr Shepherd explained that the village is on the patrol list for the enforcement officer. This to be monitored should more details be forthcoming.

ii. A member of the public asked if an extra street light could be provided on Lime Kiln Bank. **Cllr Shepherd stated he would look at this after the meeting to see if one was necessary.**

190/16. Planning and Licensing Applications.

i. SMD/2016/0723(re-submission of SMD/2016/0348). Proposed 2 storey extension and internal alterations. Mr. Graeth Latham, 10, Castle Hill Road, Alton. **No objections.**

ii. SMD/2016/0646. Proposed single storey extension. Utility room and front porch. Mr G. Stanley, 6, Shirley Drive, Alton. **No objections.**

iii. SMD/2016/0699. Mr. G. Kileen, Heathfield Cottage, Tythe Barn. 2 storey side extension with single storey rear extension and front porch. **No objections.**

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191/16. Planning decisions.

i. SMD/2016/0427. Full permission for development. The Old Vicarage, Dimble Lane. New dwelling.

192/16. Correspondence requiring response.

i. None for this meeting.

193/16. Cllr Brindley then asked if he could take the meeting back to the discussion on funding for the village hall car-park and the Alton Towers liaison group. He explained he was not happy that it appeared a lot of decisions went against Alton when funding was requested and asked Cllr Worthington why the parish council did not have a representative at the meeting. Cllr Worthington explained this was because the chairman of the meeting felt the group would become too large as other parish's would also want representation. Following a discussion it was decided that Cllr's Shepherd and Worthington would liaise with the Clerk to write to Cllr Philip Atkins the leader of SCC to see if he could assist. **Action: Cllrs Shepherd, Worthington and the Clerk.**

194/16. Correspondence for Information.

i. Parish council planning decisions November 2016.
ii. Email re ground maintenance (company asking to be considered for the contract).
iii. Email from police re 'community speedwatch'.
iv. Email from SCC Highways re Zebra crossing in Alton.

All were read out and commented where appropriate by the Chair and the Clerk.

195/16. Finance.

i. Clerk salary £394.53. Expenses £7.87 (postages). Total £402.40.
ii. Lengthsman wages £105.00
iii. Mole traps (for use in the cemetery). No charge made.
iv. Cemetery income £544.50
v. Authorised payments for November 2016 to be signed off by the Council.
vi. Current bank balances to be presented to the Council.

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

There being no other business the meeting was closed by The Chair, Councillor Shepherd at 7.50pm.

Signed..... Chairman 3rd January 2017

Signed..... Clerk