Alton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 6th August 2018 at 7pm
At Alton Village Hall

Present: Councillor A. Forrester, (Chair)
Councillor P Ballard, Councillor S Hollins, Councillor E Bailey, Councillor C. Woods, Councillor T. Wilkinson.

Mr S.J. Burton (Clerk)

Apologies: Councillor J. Shepherd, Councillor E. Brindley, Councillor E. James, Councillor M. Worthington (SCC).

In Attendance: 3 members of the public.

The meeting was opened by Cllr Forrester who took the Chair in the absence of Cllr Shepherd at 7pm.

114/18. Declarations of Interest.

i. Cllr Wilkinson declared an interest in planning application SMD/2018/0413 and 0414.

115/18. Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2nd July 2018.

The minutes of the last meeting were declared a true record proposed by Cllr Ballard and seconded by Cllr Bailey and agreed by all and were signed by the Chair and the Clerk.

116/18. Matters arising.

i. None for this meeting.

117/18. Alton Towers.

i. There was nothing to report for this item of business.

118/18. Footpaths.

i. There was nothing to report for this item of business.

119/18. Village Hall.

i. There was nothing to report for this item of business.

120/18. Lengthsman.

i. The Lengthsman reported that he is just doing routine work, clearing and responsibly watering the flowers tubs in the village. No grass cutting as it is not growing due to the hot weather.

121/18. Highways and Road Safety.

i. Cllr Woods reported she felt the hedge in Dimble Lane is growing out into the road causing the carriageway the become narrow. **Action: Clerk to request cutting by SCC.**

ii. Cllr Ballard mentioned the army type vehicles parked in Shirley Drive and stated the residents would like double yellow lines to prevent parking near to the junction. She felt they obstructed a clear view of the junction with the B5032. Cllr Worthington has been contacted regarding this and is investigating whether this is feasible. **Update from Cllr Worthington at the next meeting.**

iii. Cllr Ballard also mentioned a vehicle that parks close to the junction of Shirley Drive with Uttoxeter Road. This to be monitored.

122/18. Parish Cemetery and St. Peter's Church Yard.

i. The clerk reported he had now received an email detailing the costs of monument repairs in St. Peter's Church Yard. The total costs to repair two monuments is £720. Following a discussion, it was felt that the council could not help with this as it would set a precedent for the future. All agreed. **Action: Clerk to update SMDC.**

123/18. Councillor Forrester declared an open forum to allow parishioners present to ask questions/raise issues.

i. A member of the public stated that he was concerned about litter thrown from vehicles which he presumed were travelling to and from Alton Towers in the Bradley area of the parish. He asked whether Alton Towers could be asked to clear the area as part of the work undertaken to clear litter in other areas. **Action: Clerk to liaise with Cllr Worthington who sits on the Alton Towers Liaison Group.**

ii. A member of the public mentioned parking in Saltersford Lane, the way vehicles are parked is causing difficulty entering and some driveways. **Action: Cllr Woods to view and report back.**

124/18. Planning and Licensing Applications.

i. SMD/2018/0401. Mrs Sandra Satchell, Kenelm Youth Trust, Alton Castle. Listed building consent for internal alterations to third floor. Showers for dormitories and en-suites for two existing staff rooms. WC on ground floor. **No objections.**

ii. SMD/2018/0435. Mr & Mrs Burton, The Grove, Cedar Hill, Alton. Two storey side and rear extension and ground floor rear open oak frame canopy and detached coach house. **No objections.**

iii. SMD/2018/0413 & SMD/2018/0414. Dr and Mrs Webster, The Stone House, Malthouse Road, Alton. Erection of 4 dwellings and construction of new access. The clerk read out an email from Cllr Shepherd outlining objections in his absence to this application. **On a vote 3 Cllrs objected, 2 abstained and 1 was in favour. The councillors objecting agreed with objections in the email from Councillor Shepherd. Which are as follows:**

a. Since all public transport connecting with Alton has been scrapped a total of 45 new houses, mostly 3 bed and above, have been granted permission to be built around Alton. There are also 14 additional houses granted permission to be built at Capri. This level of development with no public transport is not sustainable and further building developments should be rejected outright until at least public transport is restored.

b. Part of this site is outside the village boundary. Of the 45 new permissions granted 39 are on green fields outside the village boundary. This level of development is damaging the character of our village. Furthermore, if there is any slight deforestation

at the rear of this site now or in the long term then the largest house in this development will clearly be visible as you approach Alton from the Farley direction perched on top of the hill.

c. Alton needs smaller houses not more 3 and 4 bed builds.
d. New builds within Alton should be built from stone particularly at this location to reflect the vernacular of the village.
e. This is one of the last smallholding type properties left intact within Alton and should remain so for future generations to enjoy.

iv. SMD/2018/0488. Edwards James Homes Ltd. Plot 1 Hurstons Lane, Alton. New dwelling a garage. **Object on a vote of 5 to 1. Grounds: The building will impinge on a neighbourhood that is already built up.**

125/18. Planning decisions.

i. SMD/2018/0245. Mr C. Barks, Land Hurstons Lane, Alton. Erection of detached dwelling. **Approved**.
ii. SMD/2018/0209. Mr S. Massey, c/o Sammons Architectural Ltd, Hurstons Lane, Alton. Construction of outdoor riding area. **Approved**.
iii. SMD/2018/0141. Alton Towers. 102 accommodation pods, showers, toilets etc. **Approved.**
iv. DET/2018/0008. Nathan Riches, The Dairy Shepherds Stand Farm, Cheadle Road, Alton. Change of use of agricultural building to one dwelling house. **Approved.**
v. SMD/2018/0143. Dr Gary Kelsall, The Malthouse, Malthouse Road, Alton. Change of use from C1 bed and breakfast to C3 dwelling with business accommodation B1. **Approved.**
vi. SMD/2017/0819. P. Finney, The Caravan, Cheadle Road, Alton. Change of use of land for 14 touring caravans, separate camping/open space, facilities, reception. **Refused.**

126/18. Correspondence requiring response.

i. Email from SMDC – Monument repairs in St. Peters Church Yard. This letter outlined the costs of repair (see minute 122/18 I regarding the decision) **Action: Clerk to write and inform the District Council.**
ii. Richard Newton offer to continue as internal auditor. **The council agreed Mr Newton to continue as the internal auditor for this financial year.**

127/18. Correspondence for Information.

i. Email to Alton Towers re traffic management (no objections).
ii. Email from Cllr Shepherd regarding planning application SMD/2018/0413.

All were read out by the Clerk.

128/18. Finance.

i. Clerk salary £436.82
ii. Lengthsman wages £130.00
iii. Jackson's Nurseries £457.69 (Net £381.41 VAT £76.28) **Paid.**
iv. Invoice Richard Newton (internal auditor) £165.00

v. Mazars (external auditor) invoice and comments. £240.00 (£200.00 net, VAT £40.00)
vi. Authorised payments for July 2018 were signed off by the Council.
vii. Current bank balances were presented to the Council.

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

There being no other business the meeting was closed by The Chair, Councillor Forrester at 7.45pm

Signed..... Chairman 3rd September 2018

Signed..... Clerk