Alton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 1st October 2018 at 7pm
At Alton Village Hall

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

Mr S.J. Burton (Clerk)

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

In Attendance: 8 members of the public.

The meeting was opened by Cllr Shepherd at 7pm.

145/18. Declarations of Interest.

i. There were no declarations of interest.

146/18. Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 3rd September 2018.

i. 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.

147/18. Matters arising.

i. Cllr Forrester reported he had checked in Saltersford Lane for the household rubbish reportedly left there (minute 139/18 (ii) September 2018). He had knocked on the householders door but there was no answer, however he checked the area and there was only a very small amount of rubbish and nothing to concern the council.
ii. Cllr Shepherd reported that Alton Towers will support the refurbishment of the Millennium Stone and a cheque is expected to be forwarded to the Clerk in due course.
iii. Cllr Shepherd also reported that he had spoken to Liz Greenwood from Alton Towers regarding the litter allegedly thrown from vehicles going to and from Alton Towers in Green Lane and Nabb Lane, Bradley. He stated that Alton Towers workers would not be sent to that area as the road is considered too dangerous for people collect the litter (minute 123/18 (i) August 2018). Cllr Brindley felt that as the roads are on a Sat Nav route to Alton Towers and he proposed that Cllr Shepherd should have a further discussion with Liz Greenwood, this was seconded by Cllr Ballard and carried. **Action: Cllr Shepherd to follow up and report back to the council.**

148/18. Alton Towers.

i. Nothing for this item of business.

149/18. Footpaths.

i. Nothing for this item of business.

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150/18. Village Hall.

i. Cllr Ballard reported that there may be some events to raise money for the hall organised after Christmas.

ii. Cllr Ballard has also made inquiries with local people and children regarding more use of the playing fields for football teams and similar and reported there is apparent support. Cllr Wilkinson agreed to take this forward. **Action: Cllr Wilkinson to report back on progress.**

iii. Cllr Ballard reported dog owners are still taking dogs onto the playing fields. Arrangements are underway to place the 'no dogs' signs in more prominent positions.

iv. Cllr Shepherd reported the hedge on Lime Kiln Lane will soon need laying as discussed at previous meetings. He has one quote for the work and will obtain a second and bring to the council. **Action: Cllr Shepherd.**

v. Cllr Woods reported that the Millennium Oak Tree at the edge of the village hall is growing into the overhead wiring, almost touching now. Cllr Shepherd volunteered to take a look at this. **Action: Cllr Shepherd.**

151/18. Lengthsman.

i. The Lengthsman reported he has been completing routine work and will shortly be clearing leaves, he will also check the village hall car-park and the grass verges to make sure they are neat.

152/18. Highways and Road Safety.

i. Cllr Woods reported she had not yet had the chance to check the parking in Saltersford Lane and she will also check Shirley Drive near Uttoxeter Road.

ii. Cllr Brindley reported that a grid in the road into Alton from Denstone has sunk into the road. It is by the Alton village sign. **Action: The Clerk to report this to SCC Highways Dept.**

153/18. Parish Cemetery and St. Peter's Church Yard.

i. Cllr Forrester reported the cemetery is in good order but that the hedge has still not been cut by Jackson's Nurseries on Hurstons Lane, the Clerk stated he had already asked Jackson's to attend to the hedge and he would follow it up again. **Action: Clerk to report to Jackson's Nurseries.**

154/18. Councillor Shepherd declared an open forum to allow parishioners present to ask questions/raise issues.

i. A member of the public stated the parking in Cedar Hill is poor. Cllr Shepherd explained that the police had been informed and visited the area. He explained the actions taken and stated this was now in the hands of the police.

ii. A member of the public expressed concerns that the pavement on the left hand side of the road as you go down Lime Kiln Lane suddenly comes to an end. He stated that this has concerned him since the 1990's and although there has never been an accident he considered a sign pointing out the pavement ends would be helpful and pedestrians either have to walk in the road or cross over on a blind bend. The council considered it worth asking SCC Highways if a sign is feasible. **Action: Clerk to contact SCC Highways Dept.**

iii. A member of the public asked who is responsible for the ditches at the edge of roads. Cllr Forrester stated the County Council.

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155/18. Planning and Licensing Applications.

i. SMD/2018/0524. Mrs Carney, Bradley Elms Farm, Cheadle Road, Alton. Change of use of two buildings from C1 bed and breakfast to C3 dwelling. To form 3 open market houses inc gardens. **The council object to this application on the grounds that they consider it to be inappropriate and over development in a rural area.**

ii. SMD/2018/0566. Mrs P. Capewell, Cuckoo-Well-Hollow, Bradley Lane, Threapwood. Removal of condition 7 relating to SMD/2002/1130. (Allowing holiday chalets to be used as dwellings).

iii. SMD/2018/0567. Mrs P. Capewell, Cuckoo-Well-Hollow, Bradley Lane, Threapwood. Removal of condition 9 relating to SMD/2010/1041. (Allowing holiday chalet to be used as dwelling). **These two applications were considered together as they are part of the same development. Both are objected to on the grounds that the council considers them to be inappropriate and over development in a rural area.**

iv. SMD/2018/0573. David Evans, Cliff Farm Cottage, New Road, Alton. Ground floor kitchen extension, overhead first floor bathroom ensuite, separate additional dormer window. **Cllr Shepherd informed the council that this application has been withdrawn.**

156/18. Planning decisions.

i. None for this meeting.

157/18. Correspondence requiring response.

i. Email from resident regarding content of the parish council agenda and minutes and the posting of them on the parish website. Replied to by the Clerk explaining how the agenda and minutes are compiled and when they should appear on the website.

158/18. Correspondence for Information.

i. SCC email re hedge Dimble Lane, Alton.
ii. APC planning comments September 2018.
iii. Letter from SCC re Public Path Order. Public footpath No 13 and Public Bridleway No 13(a) (part) Alton parish.
iv. Email to Cllr Deaville requesting he make contact with Cllr Worthington re mini bus service and email from Cllr Deaville stating he has made contact. The Clerk read out the 7 conditions which need to be met for the bus service to be viable as stated in Cllr Deaville's response as below:
    a. Details of voluntary drivers.
    b. Plans to maintain the vehicle.
    c. Intended area of coverage.
    d. Breakdown of ongoing running costs.
    e. Method of booking/requesting service.
    f. Sustainability plan.
    g. Details of insurance.

This matter was left in abeyance for the time being.

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All the other correspondence was read out by the Clerk.

159/18. Finance.

i. Clerk salary £436.82
ii. Lengthsman wages £190.00
iii. HMRC £331.20
iv. Jacksons Nurseries Gross £915.38 (Net £762.82, VAT £152.56) **Paid.**
v. Income £1,155.00 reserve grave.
vi. Cllr Shepherd proposed that the council authorise him and the group who are organising the WW1 commemorations to spend the money (£435) assigned from SMDC without continually having to come back to the council for each payment. All invoices will be sent to the Clerk who will pay them and ensure the council is updated at each council meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Forrester and carried for payments up to the £435 limit.
vii. Authorised payments for September 2018 were signed off by the Council.
viii. Current bank balances were presented to the Council.

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

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

Signed..... Chairman 5th November 2018

Signed..... Clerk