**ALRESFORD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Parish Council Meeting**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 3rd of August 2022**

**At 7.30pm the Pavilion, Ford Lane, Alresford**

**Cllrs. present:** Cllr. F. Belgrove (Chairman), Cllr E Osborne (Vice Chairman), Cllr. J. Housden Cllr. A. Broom, Cllr. J Claremont Brown Cllr. G. Scott, Cllr. A. Wiggins, Cllr R Swash, Cllr S Clark, Cllr L Belgrove

Also present: County. Cllr. A. Goggin

Members of the public x3 Speaker Mr Paul Phillips

**Meeting opens:** 19.30hrs transacting the following business:

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**08.22.2181 Announcements:** Mr Paul Phillips in attendance as District Based Youth and Community Commissioner for Essex Youth, to speak in the public forum.

Chair of Village Hall Committee Mr R Milburn respectfully requests that all queries and booking go through him in the meantime that an online system is finalised. Please could no one contact Mrs P Burmby at all.

Fire safety announcements.

COVID Infections are increased again, caution in place, Hand sanitiser and air filter system in use.

Finally would all councillors please raise a hand when wishing to speak and direct all comments to and through the chairman.

**08.22.2182 Apologies for Absence.** Cllr S Hammick extends apologies and continues to work on two projects on behalf of council. Seeks an extension of leave. Cllr G Scott seeks clarification. Clerk provides clarification. Cllr G Scott comments further that if the councillor works or owns property within the parish, they would be eligible for re-election. Cllr R Swash seeks clarification. Apologies accepted and extension accepted.

**08.22.2183 Minutes of the last monthly meeting:** To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of the 6th of July 2022.

Proposed: Cllr J Housden

Seconder: Cllr A Wiggins

6 For

0 Objections

4 Abstentions

**08.22.2184 Declarations of Interest.**

Cllr G Scott and Cllr A Wiggins declare nonpecuniary interest initems 2198 2202.

Cllr J Claremont Brown declares nonpecuniary interest in item 2190.

Cllrs F Belgrove and Cllr L Belgrove declare nonpecuniary interest in item 2192

**08.22.2185 Public Forum**

Mr Paul Phillips as District Based Youth and Community Commissioner for Essex Youth Services, spoke to introduce the county level offer, and the TDC area team and their engagement with communities and parish councils. Cllr S Clark sought clarification of the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme and asked how parish council might access funding to offer this. Cllr F Belgrove, asked about the process for working with a detached youth worker. Cllr L Belgrove asked fro team numbers and the north Essex overview. Mr Phillips then offered councillors the opportunity to liaise directly with him and to discuss what council would like to do. An agenda item for the future would be added to be discussed to review Youth Work and provision with APC.

A member of the public spoke to mention potholes and remedial works. Cllr F Belgrove clarifies. The same person continued with Belisha beacon brightness since last meeting. Also adds that the wheeled skip bin is not chained or locked to the barrier or the lid locked. Council to contact contractor. Finally the MOP mentioned planning at 2 ash road, and S106 money not being applicable to this development as a planning officer had stated that Alresford had adequate play space. Cllr F Belgrove clarified that Alresford is 5 acres below its required allocation and that this was incorrect information provided.

A second member of the public spoke, seeking clarification on volume of complaints over increased traffic on church road, and complaints on parking at Cox road. Cllr Belgrove and the clerk clarified the disparity. Circa 13 relating to Church road and a singular complaint in the preceding month relating to Cox road. Cllr Scott also contributed to the issues around the post office and parking issues on Cox road. The same MOP then began to raise an issue over the extended absence of a councillor and began to discuss location. The chairman ceased the commentary, and under the Clerks advice GDPR was cited as a precaution to not continuing. The MOP then stated that with elections in May coming up that there would be significant numbers standing and that local residents were dissatisfied with the extended absence.

Cllr Scott sought to clarify the initial MOP Comments on the potholes and mini round about, and it was minuted that the clerk should approach the county councillor to seek remedial action.

The first member of the public also made further commentary over the round abouts relating it to similar issues within a 7 mile radius.

The public forum was closed.

* + 1. **Finance Matters**

July Finance Report - Council to review and approve.

Proposed as accepted Cllr J Claremont Brown

Seconded Cllr R Swash

Carried

**08.22.2187 Planning Matters:** Review of applications (presented on screen)

**Proposal: 22/01073/Detail** Reserved matters application for the erection of 1no. detached three bed bungalow with detached garage, considering details of access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale pursuant to outline planning consent 20/00365/OUT.

22/01073/DETAIL Location: Land to the rear of 1 Coach Road, Alresford, Essex CO7

Robust debate ensued led by Cllr E Osborne in which it was resolved to offer a neutral view with additional commentary. Whilst the neighbourhood plan evidenced the need for an increase of housing stock of smaller scale for an aging population, the scheme as proposed was felt to impact the amenity of neighbouring properties and that the scale of development left little in the way of outdoor garden space for the occupiers of the proposed dwelling.

Proposed Cllr E Osborne

Seconded Cllr S Clark

Carried

**Proposal: 22/01016/FUL** Proposed detached bungalow.

22/01016/FUL Location: 2 Ash Road, Alresford, Essex CO7

The proposal was introduced by Cllr E Osborne and councillors made their views clear. Cllr E Osborne proposed that council object to the proposal and Cllr S Clark seconded the motion adding the commentary that the building comes forward of the existing offset building line and the scale of the development spoils the aesthetic and balance of the street scene with increased risk of accidents and reduction of amenity to neighbouring properties. Cllr R Swash sought further clarification. Cllr L Belgrove explained the limitations of the council in its response to planning. Cllr G Scott commented on the use of hedgerow rather than the restrictions on fences in planning law. Cllr A Wiggins commented that the properties as proposed would be too close together. Carried

**Proposal: 22/01166/LUPROP** Proposed repairs to 2 No. Windows, including the replacement of sill to 1 No. Window to provide a drip rail.

22/01166/LUPROP Location: Brook Farmhouse, Colchester Main Road, Alresford, Essex CO7

The item was introduced by Cllr E Osborne and as listed building consent it was largely for information only exercise. Cllr E Osborne proposed support, Cllr J Housden commented.

Cllr F Belgrove proposed support

Cllr G Scott seconds.

Carried

**Action:** Clerk to upload responses to three applications on the planning portal

**08.22. 2188 Playing field boundary:** Resident complaint over invasive tree species. Cllr F Belgrove introduces the item and seeks council approval for council to help.  
Cllr S Hammick has advised on the tree species and its invasive nature. Cllr L Belgrove supports. Cllr G Scott seeks clarification on location. Cllr S Clark seeks further clarification on the setting of a precedent. Cllr L Belgrove further clarifies that the Parish council has always done the right thing for local residents. Cllr J Housden comments on the use of metal sheeting. Proposed that council send a contractor to look at it, and further review.

**Action** Clerk to seek a specialist contractor to review the tree and its invasion of the neighbouring garden.

* + 1. **ANPR/VAS update**: Council to approve fitting of steel mounting pole outside 44 Wivenhoe Road (application to Highways required) to move and mount the Speed Indicating Device (SID). Cllr F Belgrove introduces for traffic entering the Wivenhoe road, as it is joined from the B1027. Cllr J Housden seeks clarification, Cllr E Osborne supports, and Cllr G Scott also agrees seeking further devices at the Wivenhoe end.  
       Cllr L Belgrove requests it is minuted that the council have consulted the resident and Cllr F Belgrove suggests that we seek a written confirmation from the resident at number 44.  
       Proposed Cllr F Belgrove

Seconded Cllr L Belgrove

Carried

**Action:** Clerk to consult additional residents and seek permission from Essex highways for pole location.

* + 1. **Council to discuss the addition of a Bus stop** in both directions in the Wivenhoe road close to the junction of Marsh farm Lane.

Cllr J Claremont-Brown introduces. Council support the research into previous location of bus stops prior to Marsh Farm lane on the Wivenhoe road and seek reinstatement. Cllrs F Belgrove, E Osborne and G Scott all contribute to the historical precedence for a stop. Cllr L Belgrove makes a point that even if it is within Elmstead boundaries the two communities would work together to address public transport during a recession and the cost-of-living crisis.

Resolution to undertake investigation into reinstatement of Bus Stops.

Proposed Cllr J Claremont-Brown

Seconded: Cllr L Belgrove

Carried.

**Action:** Clerk to research and request reinstatement from both Bus Companies and Essex Highways

* + 1. **Climate Change:**  Report on local environmental issues, dry weather and fire risks, with council to discuss Alresford becoming a "single-use plastic free" community.

Cllr F Belgrove introduces.

In relation to fires, Cllr L Belgrove stresses the importance of community action, of promoting the keeping of a grab bag to residents living in close proximity to fields at risk.

Cllr A Wiggins suggests an article in the Advertiser promotes the issue of fire risk and means of addressing it to local residents.

Cllr S Hammick has been working on a report into mitigation of the worst of dust clouds and how the environmental impact of global warming has increased the risk locally.

Cllr S Hammick has also been busy working on becoming a single use plastic free community in Alresford. Manningtree and Mistley have already achieved this and Alresford needs to follow. Cllr G Scott suggests that East Suffolk are approached to seek advice and guidance and that TDC are also on the way to removing single use plastic from their offices and buildings.

* + 1. **TDALC Report.** Cllr L Belgrove delivers report from TDALC as chairman of TDALC, a non-statutory group meeting via Zoom avoiding the travel and environmental impact.

Top of the 3-5 issues that TDALC deem important are being addressed and the report will be sent out councils for councillors to review.

* + 1. **Highways Report.** Cllr F Belgrove introduces the item, and the first action has been to approach Essex County Council and the Essex association of Local councils to determine if the devolution scheme is to continue. EALC has significant admin issues and as they administer the devolution scheme on behalf of Essex there is uncertainty as to its continuance.

Matters were raised: B1027 in Alresford were made, and that there are changes in hand and to be made. Potholes were also mentioned.

* + 1. **Multiple Complaints:** over increased traffic on Church Road and Ford Lane. The item relates to Wyvernwood. Cllr E Osborne and Cllr F Belgrove had reviewed traffic flow on occasion and that there had been a vehicle each minute. Council has received assurances from Wyvernwoods’ owners that this is a temporary measure which should be resolved by the end of August. The concern is that it is a breach of planning conditions and District Councillors responded to the meeting. Cllr F Belgrove confirms that council is concerned that it is a breach of planning conditions and in our role to uphold planning law it has been forwarded to TDC.
    2. **Fitting of street name signs on B1027 Colchester Main Road and Saint Osyth road.** Sir Bob Russel contacted the chairman in relation to tourists and visitors not being able to identify which roads they are on. Residents have also mentioned to Cllr F Belgrove that Wivenhoe Road at the junction of Station road is not sign posted, and also the road sign for Wivenhoe road at the junction with the B1027 is also missing. Cllr F Belgrove sought councils view. Cllr G Scott responded with local knowledge and historical signage positioning, supportive of an approach to TDC. Cllr F Belgrove suggests a working party is formed.
    3. **Section 106 claim for playing field equipment and two seats**. Council to consider purchasing a net climbing apparatus and two playing field seats. Budgeted cost to be £23,000. Cllr F Belgrove introduces the item. Images presented on screen. Chairman sought commentary. Cllr L Belgrove clarifies what section 106 money is for to the public in attendance. Cllr R Swash sought further clarification on the equipment and costings. Cllr G scott suggested that ROSPA would advise and suggested that Great Horksley would be worth a visit. Cllr J housden commented. Resolved to investigate and seek approval from TDC for the use of section 106 money.
    4. **Parish Council to organise a meet and greet event in the Village Hall for new residents:** Council to organise an opportunity for new residents to meet councillors, the Clerk, Village organisations and al businesses to explain their function and to invite participation. Cllr F Belgrove introduced the item and handed over to Cllr E Osborne to discuss the notion of a meet and greet for new residents to seek involvement in existing organisations and introduction to businesses in the village. Cllr G Scott supports the notion. Cllr L Belgrove agrees and relates it to the new resident book, updated to contemporary needs. Cllr L Belgrove also notes that a second screen is required for the Pavilion (noted for a future agenda item). Looking to implement an event in October or later. Cllr Wiggins proposes a working party with support from Cllr S Clark.

Action: Cllr E Osborne to email full council to seek members to form a working party

* + 1. **Allocation of meeting times for District and County Councillors reports**. Time to be extended to five minutes each (but no further extension of time allowed as written reports supplied prior to meetings). Proposed Cllr F Belgrove, Seconded Cllr J Housden, carried.
    2. **Projects update:**  council to review.

1. Public convenience/Toilet block for the Playing Field. Council to further discuss design and layout. Cllr G Scott seeks clarification. Cllr L Belgrove also contributes. Cllr J Housden contributes. Cllr A Wiggins agrees. Cllr L Belgrove suggests that the playing field working party convenes to narrow this down.

2. Concrete Post Gravel and Pothole repairs St Peters. Contractor quote requested. Council needs to pursue this with local contractors following a lack of replies to the clerk.

3. Remounting of previously approved Listed Milestone on B1027. New contractor to quote.

* + 1. **PCSO/Police Report**. Policing update and PCSO crime report. See appendix B

Cllr L Belgrove introduces the crime report. Cllr L Belgrove clarifies the form of policing being undertaken prior to the PCSO return. Cllr F Belgrove reads a response from Essex police in relation to the PCSO. Cllr G Scott comments asking for more information via the Alresford Advertiser. Cllr E Osborne asks if burglaries have increased. Cllr L Belgrove confirms that there was a single burglary in the locality. Cllr L Belgrove confirmed that Anti-Social Behaviour and Fraud are the increases in crime locally. Cllr S Clark seeks clarification on commitment to provide the resource.

**08.22.2201 Clerks Report** See appendix C. Cllr S Clark seeks clarification re Brett Aggregates. **Action** Cllr F Belgrove to contact Bretts locally. Cllr J Claremont Brown also asks a question. Cllr S Clark seeks clarification over TW/Staunton Gate. TDC as planning authority can work with us to pressure TWEL. Cllr G Scott speaks concerning play equipment, and states that the see saw is missing. Cllr L Belgrove asks when Cllr G Scott was informed of this? Cllr L Belgrove confirms that the clerk must be informed of such communications from residents. Upshot: See-Saw not removed.

**08.22.2202 District Councillor’s report (Written Report)** and 5 min verbal report See appendix D.

Cllr G Scott introduces.

**08.22.2203 Essex County Councillor Report (Written Report)** and 5 min verbal report See appendix E Cllr A Goggin reports.

Noted future Agenda Items: Second screen for Pavilion. Where on B1027 the Survey should be sited.

**08.22.2204 Meeting Ends 21.39**

Prepared by the Clerk/Proper Officer: Matt Cooke 09.08.22