

ALRESFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on the 4th December 2019 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr. F. Belgrove (Chairman), Cllr. Osborne, Cllr. Wiggins, Cllr. Hammick, Cllr. Day and Cllr. Scott.

Also present: Parish Clerk, Cty. Cllr. Goggin, and 7 members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes

Announcements:

1. Carole Osborne – A 1 minute silence was observed. Service of Remembrance 20th December at 2pm, to be held at St Andrews Church, hospitality at The Pavilion & Alresford Village Hall. Cllr. Osborne thanked everyone for all of their kind words and cards to the family.
2. Cllr. Michael Talbot (Portfolio holder for Environment and Public Space) and Jon Hamlet from TDC would be attending the meeting regarding waste collections.
3. The January meeting would be held on the 8th not the 1st (New Years Day)
4. Drinks and food nibbles would be available after the meeting for those that were happy to stay after the meeting.

12.19.1467 Apologies for absence: Cllr. Swash gave apologies.

12.19.1468 Minutes of the last monthly meeting: Cllr. Wiggins proposed and Cllr. Osborne seconded, 1 abstention. Otherwise all in favour.

12.19.1469 Declarations of Interest: Cllr. Wiggins declared an interest in the Dist. Cllr. report.

12.19.1470 Public Forum (10 min. item. Public may address the Council for no longer than 3 mins. per person).

1. Cllr. Osborne (in the Public Forum) asked if a letter could be sent to Colchester Hospital regarding their parking system. Highways Working Party suggested to discuss the subject. Cllr. Hammick mentioned that the first 30 mins were free. A resident spoke on the subject too.
2. Cllr. Brennan (Elmstead Parish Council) spoke regarding the speeding issues on Alresford Road, (Cllr. F. Belgrove declared interest on the Local Highways Panel). Alresford Parish Council agreed to join with Elmstead Market Parish Council and lobby for a speed reduction. Cllr. L. Belgrove commented and supported the suggestion. Cllr. F. Belgrove suggested putting the proposal to TDALC for additional support.
3. A resident was taken aback by the increase in the precept. Cllr. F. Belgrove explained that the likely increase would only be 2.5% for a band D equivalent property (so £2.56 for the year) and that the agenda item would contain more detail. It was also pointed out that the increase in the tax base due to housing development meant tax burden was considerably spread.
4. A resident in St Andrews Close spoke about the Bennetts development, the current sewage system would not cope with the additional housing.

A resident wanted to put a question forward for Cllr. Talbot and Jon Hamlet - All plastic in recycling box, why can't it be distributed appropriately after collection?

A resident asked about the overgrown hedging along Ford Lane going towards The Creek. Cutting had been carried out but not done well in his view. Also he mentioned the branches from a fallen tree sticking out as you approach Wivenhoe Road from Thorington B1027 (on the left).

Action: Clerk to report fallen tree.

12.19.1471 Planning

Council to consider the following application(s)/matters:

(i) Application no.: 19/01675/FUL

Proposal: Proposed pool building

Location: Crestland Wood House, Ford Lane, Alresford

Comments: Any trees taken down, could new trees be planted elsewhere on site. No objection. All in favour. Cllr. Osborne proposed, Cllr. Housden seconded.

Action: Clerk to update planning portal with comments.

12.19.1472 Brett Aggregates private road (from Marsh Farm)

Council to consider residents' complaints of excessive noise and speeding of vehicles and to decide what action to take.

5 residents had complained recently. Suggestions made from residents for the speed limit along the private road be reduce to 10 mph from 20 mph, also for speeds to be properly monitored, and for the road surface to be repaired and

safety barriers be installed. The Parish Council support the residents' suggestions. It was proposed that Alresford Parish Council meet with Brett. Cllr. L. Belgrove suggested to find out what reassurances were given when the road was first in use by Brett, also should the Parish Council carry out their own monitoring of the speeds?

Action: Clerk to arrange a meeting with members from Brett.

12.19.1473 Criminal damage to resident properties at school bus waiting points

Council to consider suitability of pick-up points and make suggestions to school bus company (Horizon).

Cllr. F. Belgrove spoke on the matter. Horizon had spoken to the children concerned. The Colne School was not very forth coming. Cllr. L. Belgrove suggested writing to the Governors of The Colne School.

Action: Clerk to send a communication to The Colne School via the school Governors.

Cllr. Scott, Cllr. Talbot and Jon Hamlet arrived at 8.16pm

12.19.1474 The precept for Alresford, the budget has been approved at a figure of £84,200

The council to consider recommendations from the Finance Committee for an increase in the precept and to resolve to request a precept of £83,200 (£1000 difference to be met from reserve excess).

Cllr. Scott suggested putting the slide information in the Advertiser. Cllr. Scott declared an interest due to a committee he sits on at TDC. Cllr. F. Belgrove thanked the RFO for the briefing paper on this item.

Cllr. Scott and Cllr. Wiggins declared an interest in their District Councillor capacity.

Cllr. F. Belgrove proposed £83,200 for the precept, Cllr. Scott seconded. Cllr. Scott proposed £1000 difference met from reserves, Cllr. Wiggins seconded. All in favour.

Action: RFO to complete ready reckoner and send back to TDC.

12.19.1475 Cllr. Michael Talbot – Portfolio Holder for Refuse waste collections and Jon Hamlet (TDC) to address the council and answer questions from councillors.

Cllr. Talbot – Spoke about the recent changes and what he and Jon Hamlet oversee. There were 2820 calls when the new recycling system was brought in.

The amount of recycling needs to improve. 27% level of recycling, since the new system was brought in recycling had gone up to 39% which was a positive increase.

Cty. Cllr. Goggin arrived at 8.32pm

Cllr. F. Belgrove asked about the flats in Station Road, and why they couldn't have wheelie bins. Jon Hamlet explained how the decision had been made to not have the wheelie bins, but it could be revaluated.

Cllr. Day read out the question from a resident previously asked in Public Questions. Cllr. Talbot explained that it was not cost effective for all plastics to be recycled.

Cllr. Osborne mentioned about the green waste collections and the confusion caused to residents, when residents tried calling the contractor they were not answering the phones. Jon Hamlet explained the problems they had encountered with staff. Any issues with collections calls go to TDC not the contractor now as Veolia's phone system wasn't equipped, TDC's phone system is.

Cllr. L. Belgrove commented, moving forward we should be in a position where we are recycling all plastics.

Cllr. Scott informed the council that there would be a Recycling meeting on 17th February 2020 at TDC Resources Committee, hopefully Veolia would attend.

Cllr. Osborne asked about the recycling banks; how do TDC monitor it, Jon Hamlet explained the banks were weighed before emptying, he would provide information for the councillor.

The Clerk thanked Jon Hamlet and their team for making sure recycling boxes were delivered in a decent time frame for her to distribute to resident new and existing.

Cllr. Talbot and Jon Hamlet were both thanked for attending the meeting and then left.

12.19.1476 Website – Update on new website (existing website to be withdrawn by provider in March 2020)

The basics are on the site already, the rest of the information will be transferred over in the coming months.

12.19.1477 Cockaynes Lane

i) Council to consider options for dealing with the various traffic issues (update on Highways Panel in November) put forward to the Highways Working Party. Cllr. Wiggins had been in contact with ECC Highways.

ii) Litter issues along the lane – The Parish Council are aware of the issues but the problem was catching someone in the act.

12.19.1478 Alresford Parish Council 5 year plan – Update of some of the projects and strategies

i) Playing Field & Play area:

- a) Improvements and additional apparatus
- b) Planting of trees/bushes/shrubs
- c) Improved exterior lighting

- d) Hardcourt surface – upgrade
- e) Support borehole project

ii) Village Public Realm:

- a) Increase ornamental planting where appropriate and review/extend wild flower project
- b) Regular cleaning/maintenance of road signs to be carried out

iii) Pavilion & Car Park:

- a) Improve landscaping of car park (Ford Lane section)
- b) Improve/update heating & cooling systems
- c) Reduce carbon footprint
- d) Upgrade drainage system

12.19.1479 Trade person(s) emergency call-out list

Council to consider the necessity for a contact list.
It was agreed to put a list together.

12.19.1480 Parish Council meeting dates for 2020

Noted.

12.19.1481 Replacement cooker for Pavilion kitchen

Cllr. Scott proposed £500, Cllr. Day seconded. All in favour.

12.19.1482 County and District Councillor's Reports: To receive reports from elected representatives. (5 minutes maximum each Councillor would be appreciated).

Dist. Cllr. Scott report on the following:

- 2,000 trees planted at Rush Green recently.
- Climate Change Committee; 375,000 trees across the county to be planted
- May Flower 400 Project (Harwich)
- Career Track; to help new officers for the District Council
- Family Solutions
- Recycling boxes given to new residents
- Meeting with ECC Highways, inc Cockaynes Lane issues
- Lorries for Taylor Wimpey site
- Sofa fly-tipped in the village

Cty. Cllr. Goggin reported on the following:

- Congratulations given to Cllr. L. Belgrove on her additional appointments at EALC, she's a good example of commitment of a local councillor.
- Park & Ride – Bus ride to remain free but parking to be charged at £1.50 (per person)
- LHP meeting Jan 6th 2020 (new date) December meeting cancelled.
- Footway Repair Scheme, additional work could be applied for.
- Early Years Grant Fund – Children under 5.

12.19.1483 Finance report (monthly) for approval of payments

Cllr. Osborne proposed and seconded by Cllr. Scott. All in favour.

12.19.1484 Clerks report/Correspondence not previously circulated

The Clerk announced that all points needed for the LCAS Foundation had now been acquired. Paperwork to be submitted in the coming days.

Action: Clerk to submit paperwork for Foundation Level.

12.19.1485 Community Speed Watch Report

Speed Watch was not carried out due to road conditions not being suitable.

12.19.1486 PCSO report

Cllr. L. Belgrove referred to the written report.

12.19.1487 Committee and Working Party reports

Cllr. L. Belgrove reported; EALC – Meetings attended at Great Dunmow, Joy Darby will be retiring next year and Charlene Slade who is the existing RFO will be taking up the position from Joy.

A Police survey coming out soon regarding illegal encampments, it was suggested that a Working Party would go through it.

Action: When survey received a Working Party would go through the survey and put together a response.

12.19.1488 Meeting closed at 9.28pm

Chairman/Vice Chairman signed:..... Date:.....