

ALBURGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Alburgh parish council meeting held on Thursday, 4th January 2024 at 7.30pm in Alburgh Village Hall.

1. Welcome by the chairman; Cllr Thompson welcomed Cllr Swanston, Cllr Croucher, Cllr Newson, Cllr Hall, Cllr Price, Mrs J Loveday; Clerk, Cllr Chris Brown; District Councillor, 1 member of the public

2. To receive apologies from members unable to attend – None

3. To receive any declarations of interest from members on any item to be discussed at this meeting – None

4. To approve and sign the minutes of the last parish council meeting held on Tuesday, 21st November 2023. The minutes were approved and signed by Cllr Thompson as a correct record.

5. Open Forum for public participation (maximum 10 minutes): an opportunity to hear from members of the public

It has been noted that a parishioner has been using a hose across the road to drain water away from their property. Clerk to email highways to ask if it is okay to do this.

6. To discuss matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting which are not on the agenda

Cllr Croucher is in the process of summarising the results of the village questionnaire and will bring to next meeting.

Clerk to go back to the Alburgh Poors Allotment trustees to clarify the email about them contributing towards the cost of the parish magazine for Alburgh residents. Councillors agreed in principle to this.

7. To receive reports from District and County Councillors

Cllr Chris Brown reported:

- The council is in the process of Budget setting. The funding announced was less than hoped for so there are lots of pressures on the council's budget.
- Full council meeting has been held. Progress is being made on climate emergency.
- Community nature recovery motion has been agreed in December.
- Neutrality talks are progressing.
- Recycling plans schemes to include food waste will be looked at. More details to follow.

8. To discuss any correspondence received

We have been forwarded an email from Alburgh PCC for the tender for annual grass cutting contract for Alburgh Church Yard from Ian Smith. This is for £720.00 for the season from March 2024 to October 2024, plus £400 for strimming in September. The clerk to go back for clarification on costs.

9. To receive inspection reports on Playing Field and Homersfield Picnic Site and discussion on replacing bins on playing field

These have not been accomplished recently due to all the rain we have had. Discussions on our report sheet for the playing field. It was decided to revamp these to make it clearer what needs to be done. Discussion on having QR codes to scan to report problems. Cllr Thompson will look in to this.

We will organise a site visit in drier weather to go round the playing field and make a list of what needs to be done.

The clerk will go back to SNC to organise the emptying of the one Bin on the corner near hedge at playingfield. We will look at replacing the other bins on the playing field in the future and will continue to empty these ourselves.

10. Village Items

Update on Film Showings

The Christmas film Chronicles was not very well attended. Next film is Openheimer in January which will be an afternoon showing. February will also be an afternoon showing. We will go back to evening showings from March.

CLlr Croucher offered to take over the role of the administration side of the film organising. We will look in to Fish and Chip vans, caterers, etc for film nights.

To receive update on boules/pétanque pitch

None at present due to weather

Update on Village Gateway signs

We have applied for funding from the Parish Partnership Fund for 2 village gateway signs. Total project cost is £5,760.00, sum applied for £2,880.00.

Discussion on the "smiley faces" speed signs

CLlr Croucher has spoken to Westcotec who supply these signs. NCC do not allow these signs to be displayed. CLlr Croucher will investigate further.

Improvements to Millennium Garden

This has not been progressed as yet. CLlr Swanston offered to look in to this.

11. Other Parish Council Items

Update on Village Hall Notice Board

Discussions on where to put this. It was agreed that we would put this on the wall of the village hall.

We will organise a meeting to look at exact positioning.

Precept/Budget Setting

Discussion Document has been prepared and circulated. It was agreed to increase the precept to £7,000. All in agreement.

12. To report on planning decisions, applications commented on since last meeting - None

13. Finance: To approve payments to be made

Clerk Salary £468.37

Kris West for website hosting £40.00

Receipts

UK Power Networks Wayleave Payment £47.56

Donation from Homersfield parish council for Picnic Site Litter Bin £100.00

14. To receive items for the next Agenda, Thursday,

Any other items for the next agenda please contact the clerk.

The clerk will contact the Adnams Trust about the surplus grant money for Homersfield picnic site to ask if it can be spent on playing field.

CLlr Price will liase with the village hall caretaker who has agreed to take on the checking of the Defibrillator.

Talks on having a Bus Shelter for the village.

CLlr Thompson thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.15pm.