

## ALBURGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Alburgh parish council meeting held on Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 7.30pm in Alburgh Village Hall.

**1. Welcome by the chairman;** As Cllr Thompson was unable to attend tonight Cllr Croucher chaired the meeting and welcomed Cllr Hall, Cllr Price, Cllr Newson, Mrs J Loveday; Clerk, 6 members of the public

**2. To receive apologies from members unable to attend –** Cllr Thompson

**3. To receive any declarations of interest from members on any item to be discussed at this meeting –** Cllr Croucher declared an interest in Agenda Item 12 – Planning.

**4. To approve and sign the minutes of the last parish council meeting held on Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024.** The minutes were approved and signed by Cllr Croucher as a correct record.

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

A resident spoke about how Mill Road verges are heavily eroded which leaves heavy rain water right across the road. There were also discussions on:

- The speed limit on Broad Road as there is a lot more traffic now and there has been a couple of incidents
- HGV's travelling through the village when we have a 7.5 tonne limit.
- Damaged road signs on Broad Road.

The clerk will contact Highways and ask for a site visit to look at these issues and the others reported last month.

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

- Clerk to chase progress on the village gateway signs.
- The batteries for speed cameras – Cllr Hall has this in hand.
- Replacement battery for the defibrillator has been ordered by the caretaker. The costs of this are covered by the maintenance contract.

**7. To receive reports from District and County Councillors –** None received.

**8. To discuss any correspondence received**

As no election request was received for our casual vacancy for parish councillors, we may now proceed to co-option to fill this vacancy. The vacancies will be advertised.

**9. To receive inspection reports on Playing Field and Homersfield Picnic Site**

We have received an email from the volunteers who work at the Homersfield Picnic Site stating that there is some damage to the first 3 posts of the barrier. They would like to dig out the bases and concrete them back in. The estimate is 9 bags of postcrete at a cost of £22.50. The river bank has also been considerably eroded over the last few years and they suggest building a berm out of stakes and branches which would protect the bank. All approved.

Playing field inspection carried out and all is in order. Base ramp, flat deck has been finished. The bridge and swings will be finished shortly. We will ask for volunteers for painting when ready.

**10. Village Items**

*Update on Film Showings*

27 people attended the last showing. The next show is One Life on the 19<sup>th</sup> April. Voting for May to August will be going out in the next week or so.

*Millennium Garden Update*

Cllr Croucher reported:

- Will liaise with Village Hall to arrange a date for a Thai evening meal with bar night to raise funds for millennium garden and gazebo.

- Need to arrange to remove a part of the hedging to make it more open.
- It was agreed that responsible dog owners can use the garden. Dogs must be kept on leads.
- The volunteers would like a small shed to store tools, etc. This will be considered if the volunteers would like to look in to some prices and advise where they could put it.
- They will advertise in magazine for any unwanted tools and volunteers. It would be nice if people could come and chat and ask for advice.
- We have received 2 quotes for fencing around the pond. We provisionally approved a cost of £600 plus VAT. This will be discussed further.
- Clerk to check on any funding available to restore village ponds.
- We have confirmation that we need to have a life ring near the pond. Cllr Price will get quotes on this for next meeting.

#### *South Norfolk Litter Pick*

Cllr Newson and Cllr Croucher are organising this. The date is set for 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2024.

#### *Village Questionnaire*

This has now been published. Councillors will look at 2023 questions and make suggestions for additions/changes in preparation for 2024 version.

#### *Bus Shelter*

Cllr Price has met with two companies to get quotes for a bus shelter. Highways have preferred suppliers so we went with the 2 most local companies. We have received one quote and should get another one soon. First quote was £7,950 plus vat. Highways will part fund this up to 50% which we will look into.

#### *Food Vans*

The Fish and Chip Van came on 29<sup>th</sup> March. This was well supported, although they did run out of fish and there were mixed reviews on the food. It was agreed that we would still keep the booking for the 26<sup>th</sup> April.

#### *Wortwell Allotments*

No further update. Clerk will chase.

#### *Lack of Bus Service through Alburgh*

Cllr Thompson has been looking in to this.

### **11. Other Parish Council Items**

The Annual Parish meeting will be held on 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2024 at 7.00pm and the parish council meeting will follow. Clerk to sort agenda and invites.

### **12. To report on planning decisions, applications commented on since last meeting**

Ref: 2024/0726, Wisteria, Station Road, Alburgh. Proposal: Single storey extension. All councillors support this application.

Ref: 2024/0742, Little Barn, Station Road, Alburgh. Proposal: Variation of condition 2 of 2022/0647 – increase in size to previously approved plans. Before this item was discussed Cllr Croucher left the room and Cllr Price took over the meeting. The remaining 3 councillors supported this application.

### **13. Finance: To approve payments to be made**

Clerk Salary £311.37

Ian Smith grass cutting £240.00

Moviola, for supply of film The Great Escaper £91.35

Moviola, for supply of film A Haunting in Venice £87.25

Waveney Valley Ices for supply of ice creams on film night £54.00

**Receipts** – Members Ward Grant £497.74

### **14. To receive items for the next Agenda, Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2024 – None at present.**

Clr Croucher thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.45pm