

ALBURGH PARISH COUNCIL

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

1. Welcome by the Chairman – Cllr Thompson welcomed Cllr Croucher, Cllr Gibson, Cllr Price, Cllr Hall, Cllr Hackett and Mrs. Loveday, clerk and 8 members of the public.

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

3. **To receive any declarations of interest from members on any item to be discussed at this meeting** – Cllr Croucher declared an interest in No. 12 Planning.

4. **To approve and sign the minutes of the last parish council meeting held on 18th July, 2024.** 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**

Discussion on parking at the bottom of Station Road at the Dove. This was reported to Highways last month, a parishioner said that they would also report this.

6. **To discuss matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting which are not on the agenda** – None

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

8. **To discuss any correspondence received**

Alburgh Town Lands Estate Trustees

The parish council elect trustees (a total of 5 at any time) to attend the annual Town Lands meetings. The allotted terms for 3 of the trustees have come to an end and so they need another 3 volunteers. It was agreed to elect 2 to stand again (which they are happy to do) and Mark Thompson will become the third trustee. All in agreement.

Picnic Bench on Playing field

We have received an email from David and Jane Denny asking why the picnic bench in memory of Jonathan and Matthew had been moved to the other end of the playing field but then relocated back nearer to the original site. This was not done with parish council consent. We are aware of its importance and have spoken with the group that moved it. We will organise to bolt this down again and the other picnic benches on the playing field.

Repairs at Homersfield Picnic Site

The volunteers that do work at the picnic site have asked about getting some bags of postfix to carry out some repairs. This has already been agreed.

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

Date will be arranged for cleaning the swings and installing bird spikes.

Cllr Hall did inspection, all good, less litter around and lot less litter at Homersfield Picnic Site.

The repairs to the play equipment will be carried out.

10. **Village Items**

Update on Film Showings

The last film showing of Wonka had a good turn out. Our next showing will be Fall Guy in September. There is not much of a selection of films to choose from; we will see if there are any other options available.

Millennium Garden Update

Shed - We have obtained quotes for a shed which will be in the region of £400.00. Cllr Thompson will ask the village hall if they would like to go halves with us.

Gazebo - Cllr Price will look in to costs of this.
Signs – look really nice. Thanks was given to Cllr Croucher and millennium ladies.

Village Questionnaire

Cllr Croucher has circulated the questions for discussion. A few amendments were discussed and agreed on. The Village hall committee will also look at this. To be confirmed and agreed next month. Distribution, etc will also be discussed next month.

Garden/hedging suggestions/ideas and ragwort clearance quote

Ragwort at Wortwell allotments - Ian Smith has been to look at this. After discussion, it was agreed to cut this down. Ian smith will get us a quote. He asked about turning it into a conservation area.
Ian has enquired about renting the allotment next to where the pétanque court will go. He would like to see it looking nicer and would keep it clean and tidy. It was agreed that he would not be charged for this. Allotments to go on October agenda.
Discussion on trimming the heights of the hedges and making hedge on roadside lower. We will look at the hedges in day light on Saturday and come up with a plan.
At the far end of the playing field there is a gap in the hedging. Discussions on whether we should make it a proper entrance. Check with Highways.

Speed Camera Batteries

Battery has now been received and will be installed.

11. Other Parish Council Items

Village Gateway Signs

Our order has now been placed with Norse. Time frame to be advised.

Approval of Complaints Policy

All councillors have received a copy of this which was duly approved.

Vacancy for Parish Clerk

We have had one person showing an interest. Clerk will speak with her.

Training

We have received a few options for whole parish training. Date selected was 12th November, 2024.

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

Applications received:

Ref: 2024/1357, Little Barn, Station Road, Alburgh. Retrospective proposal. All councillors support this application.

Ref: 2024/1555, 4 Pagan Terrace, The Street, Alburgh. Councillors had no further comments.

13. Finance: To approve payments to be made

Clerk Salary £620.14 for 2 months

Moviola, for supply of film £75.95

Ian Smith for grass cutting for June £240.00

Westgate Fasteners parts for playground £6.00

Online Playgrounds parts for play equipment £66.20

Receipts

SNC Adopter Payment for Recycling £200.00

Proceeds from Film Night £130.50

SNC Litter Pick £220.00

14. To receive items for the next Agenda, 3rd October, 2024.

Allotments

Cllr Thompson thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.47pm.