

ALBURGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Alburgh parish council meeting held on Thursday, 7th November 2024 at 7.30pm in Alburgh Village Hall.

1. Welcome by the Vice Chair – Cllr Croucher welcomed Cllr Gibson, Cllr Hall, Cllr Hackett, Cllr Newson, Mrs. Loveday, clerk, District Councillor Chris Brown and 5 members of the public.
2. **To receive apologies from members unable to attend** – Cllr Price and Cllr Thompson, Chairman

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 3rd October, 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 - None

6. To discuss matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting which are not on the agenda
We have been notified by email that Moviola (film Hire), has to make some changes to ensure its continuation in the future which include increases in costs from 1st January, 2025.

Village Gateway signs should be delivered to the depot next week. We will be advised when they will come to us.

7. To receive reports from District and County Councillors

Chris Brown reported:

- A full council meeting was held 3 weeks ago; planning enforcement has been an issue and the performance of this. In the council's budget there was some funding set aside for a planning enforcement officer and to set up an oversight board.
- With the new government policies are changing. There is a need to deliver more housing. The process for this hasn't been worked out yet. No particular time scales.
- Increase in demand for temporary accommodation. The council has additional funding from government along with borrowed money themselves and are now in the process of purchasing additional properties.
- Chris has money left in his Member Ward Fund. We will put in a request for 2 picnic tables for the playing field. The cost of one table is £120.00.

8. To discuss any correspondence received - None

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

Cllr Hall did inspection. All was in good order. Following the inspection report, there are a few minor things that need to be replaced/repared. Cllr Newson and Cllr Hall will repair/adjust the slide and the upper deck and slope on zip wire which need doing. Cllr Hall will get quotes for the materials.

10. Village Items

Millennium Garden Update

After investigation we have found it will be cheaper to buy a shed. Cost approx. £100 for base and £500 for shed. All were happy with this.

Going to park gazebo for now will need to do more fund raising.

Petanque court – Cllr Croucher will check the progress of this with Cllr Thompson.

Finalising of Village Questionnaire

Still waiting for comments back from village hall committee. They will discuss at next meeting.

Lorries travelling through village

It has been noted that there seem to be a lot more lorries travelling through the village. Cllr Croucher has spoken with Sarah Taylor our new Police and Crime Commissioner. Mrs Taylor is the national lead for PCCs on road safety and her intention is to include a review of all speed limits in rural areas in the Police and Crime Plan 2025/29 as there have been no reviews in the last 20+ years.

Update from Highways on village concerns

Gary Overland has been to look at the school and has advised that they would not install double yellow lines here as it would not be appropriate to do so. School Keep Clear markings are already installed along with h bar markings. They could install another length of h bar markings but he does not think that would achieve much. He informs that none of the markings are enforceable, they are advisory only. The clerk will let the school know.

The double yellow lines at Dove Hill also came up many years ago and he is unable to find any record of a TRO for this location, which is why there are no double yellow lines there now. There is no budget to instigate a new TRO which would cost £6000/£8000 and as the Dove would almost certainly object, there is probably little chance that this could be progressed. The sign fixed to the wall of the Dove is not an official sign.

The Give Way sign has been programmed to be repaired.

Works have been programmed to jet and clear all Highways drainage apparatus outside property Dove Meadows.

11. Other Parish Council Items

Vacancy for Parish Clerk

We are in the process of appointing Dave Richardson from Alburgh as the new clerk. There will be a hand over period for a few months until the end of the financial year.

Allotment renewals and quotes for cutting Wortwell allotments

Ian Smith has cut the Wortwell allotment. Renewal invoices have been sent out.

Update from Parish magazine meeting

Cllr Croucher attended the parish magazine meeting in October. Costs of the magazine will remain at £6.00. The minutes were circulated for anyone who wishes to see them.

Update on Police and Crime Commissioner – Sarah Taylor – discussed above.

Car Parking contributions for Harleston

This was discussed and by a majority it was agreed to contribute £100.00.

Reminder of pc training on 12th November, 2024 to start at 7.00pm in the village hall.

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

Applications received:

Ref: 2024/2847 Agricultural Building East of Tunbeck Road, Alburgh. Demolition of existing agricultural building with Part Q approved. Erection of self build dwelling, garage and cartshed with additional residential garden land.

Councillors had no objections.

Ref: 2024/7777 Beech Farm, Tunbeck Road, Alburgh. Replacement of all existing single glazing white timber and Crittall windows with double glazed white timber windows. Councillors had no objections.

13. Finance: To approve payments to be made

Clerk Salary £312.37

Community Heartbeat £162.00

Kris West, website hosting £25.00

Ian Smith for grass cutting for £545.00

Redenhall with Harleston Town Council, car parking contribution for Harleston £100.00

David Bracey Play Area Inspection £120.00

Receipts - None

14. To receive items for the next meeting to be held on Wednesday, 8th January 2024 at 7.30pm in Alburgh village hall

Budget and Precept setting

Cllr Croucher thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.40pm.