

ALBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL [2021]

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of Albourne Parish Council

held on: Tuesday, 7th September, 2021 at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Graham Stafford (GS) – Chairman
Cllr Nikki Ernest (NE)
Cllr Joy Parks (JP)
Cllr Di Smith (DS)
Cllr John Drew (JD)

In attendance: Councillor Judy Llewellyn-Burke (MSDC), and four members of the public.

-
- 1. (2021/067) - Councillor GS formally opened the meeting, welcomed those present, and received apologies for absence.** Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Suzanne Sawyer, and Jerry Butler, and the reasons accepted. Apologies for absence were also received from the Clerk, Iain McLean.
 - 2. (2021/068) – Declarations of interest.** There were none declared on this occasion.
 - 3. (2021/069) – Adjournment for any questions or issues raised by members of the public.** None were raised.
 - 4. (2021/070) – Approval of Minutes.** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3rd August 2021 were duly approved and will be signed, as a true record, by the Chairman, as soon as possible.
 - 5. (2021/071) – To receive reports (if any) from WSCC Councillor Joy Dennis (JD), and MSDC Councillor Judy Llewellyn-Burke (JLB).** JLB advised that a particular area of MSDC activity is maintaining and encouraging the use of leisure centres for well being reasons. On this issue JLB advised that the Council is having to draw on reserves to keep the leisure centres operational which is costing c£1.4m more than during pre-covid times. JLB also reported that consultation is underway in connection with the possibility of using the second runway at Gatwick for flight take off and landings. Cllrs expressed the view that this would not be consistent with government environmental targets or north/south levelling up aims. JLB further reported that consultation in connection with the proposed Rampion 2 offshore wind farm is underway. One particular concern JLB noted is the safety implications of the application for an onshore storage battery site. JLB confirmed that the existing dog bin contract is for seven years. Given

that there is no further capacity in this contract to empty additional bins, and that no other contractor is available, it was suggested by Cllr JD that if the Church Lane bin is a priority then perhaps it could be added to the list of bins to be emptied in place of another on the list. The Clerk will pursue this with the relevant officer at MSDC.

6. (2021/072) – Planning matters.

6.1 One planning application was considered, and the plans and relevant policies presented and discussed. It was therefore **RESOLVED to comment to MSDC as follows:-**

PROPERTY	PROPOSAL	AGREED RESPONSE
AE/DM/21/2843 – 9 Leyfield	Replace conservatory with a single storey extension.	Albourne Parish Council has no objections to this application.

6.2 On the Village Gateways – Cllr JD presented the sub-group’s recommendations for the gateways signs as follows:-

B2116 – Western Approach to Village Area. Remove “*Albourne Please Drive Carefully*” sign from the north side speed limit pole. Attach “*Albourne – Mind Your Speed*” signs to the north and south side gateways. **B2116 – Eastern Approach to Village Area.** Attach “*Mind Your Speed*” signs to north and south side gateways, and circular repeater 30 mph speed limit signs to both gateways above these signs. **Church Lane.** Recommendation – remove “*Unsuitable for HGVs*” sign from south side 30 mph speed limit sign and attach suitably sized “*Unsuitable for HGVs*” signs to both north and south side gateways. Cllr JD further advised that the estimated cost of these signs is £234 + VAT. It was also recommended that WSCC Highways should be required to replace the missing Church Lane 30 mph speed limit sign on the north side pole and to attach 40 mph speed limit signs to the reverse of both signs. In discussion members of the public (Magnolia Court residents) expressed a preference for having the word “*Albourne*” on the eastern approach gateways to reflect the wording on the western approach gateways and to warn drivers that the village area was being approached. A counter argument was put against having “*Albourne*” on the gateways at this location on the grounds that a number of signs directing to the village from the east already exist, and that some residents may feel excluded. Following discussion an alternative recommendation for the eastern approach gateways was put with “*Albourne*” added to “*Mind Your Speed*” and this was agreed by Councillors. All other recommendations were agreed. It was also agreed, however, that all recommendations should be put to WSCC Highways for approval of size wording and materials. **Speed Indication Device** – JD reported that Stocksigns had advised that the USB socket has been repaired and that the SID will be returned with Bluetooth download facility fitted shortly. **Redundant Road Signs** – a date from Nick de Souza (WSCC Highways) for a meeting to review proposals for replacement signs is awaited. **20 mph Speed limit Proposal** – update awaited, following rejection by WSCC Highways of the Traffic Regulation Order containing the request.

6.3. No report on this occasion.

7. (2021/73) – Finance report and matters.

7.1 The financial summary and the Bank reconciliation for the month, were received, noted, and approved.

7.2 The invoices were presented for payment, and it **was RESOLVED to agree and to make the following payments:-**

AMOUNT	PROCUREMENT	PAYEE
£427-83	Clerk's salary + on costs (August 2021)	West Sussex County Council
£30-00	Grass cutting in the Millennium Garden and bramble clearance round notice board at the Village Hall	Brian Truran

8. (2021/074) – Current issues. It was agreed that the Parish Council did not have an appropriate site for a textile bank in support of the Children's Air Ambulance service. The Clerk will respond accordingly.

9. (2021/075) - Councillors exchange of information/new matters.

Cllr JP presented quotations from Adie Rowe for hedge trimming work in the Millennium Garden as follows, (i) for cutting hedge next to school, top and side, and clearing up/taking away rubbish – £250, (ii) for cutting hedge both sides from gate to corner, strimming and removing leaves - £100, (iii) for cutting hedges from gate up to school entrance next to path - £80, (iv) For digging out hedge from gate to corner and supplying and erecting 3 bays of 2 rail post and rail fencing £520. It was agreed that quotations from an additional contractor for the above work should be obtained. Cllr DH reported the following: the gap in the hedge at Hunters Mead has become wider. The fencing adjacent to the safer to school pathway is becoming weaker. The B2116 west side pavement between Softech House and Butts Cottages is overgrown. The trees on the Softech property need trimming back as they are obscuring the B2118 traffic lights. The poisonous black locust growth in Barn Close (properties 4 and 6) is increasing. Action – on all the above, the Clerk will raise the concerns with WSCC, MSDC, and Softech as appropriate. Two oak trees in the millennium garden have fungal leaf spot disease. Action - Cllr SS will raise with MSDC as to the clearance of leaves. Cllr GS raised the issue of damage to the B2116 shortly after it had been top dressed. Action – Richard Speller to be contacted regarding remedial repairs. Cllr GS also reported that Cllr JB has proposed the acquisition of a voice recorder, at a cost of £20-30, which could be used to download discussions at PC meetings to a memory stick from which minutes could be written. This was agreed, as was the suggestion that a wi-fi connection for the Village Hall be investigated.

The meeting closed at 8.10 p.m.

SIGNED.....Graham Stafford/Jerry Butler
Chairman/Vice Chairman

NEXT ORDINARY MEETING: TUESDAY, 5th October 2021 @ 7.00 p.m.