

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held on 20th November 2017 at 7.45pm at the Jubilee Hall.**

Present: - Cllrs Marcus Fry (MF) (Chairman), James Sumner (JS), Paul Caddick (PC), David Morgan (DM), Steve McMillan (SM), Anne Curtis (AC), Steve Blick (SB), Shirley Holloway (SH).

Graham Smith (Clerk)

1. Apologies for Absence

James Sumner (JS), Maggie Tyrell (MT), Chris Casey (CC)

2. Evacuation Procedure

The evacuation procedure was noted

3. Declaration of Interests

None

4. Public Participation

Bill Brimacombe (Ecotricity), Mrs Savage (Olveston PC),.

5. Minutes and matters arising from previous meetings

5.1 Acceptance & signature of minutes for Parish Council Meetings from 16th Oct 2017

17.043 Resolved: The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held from Monday 16th Oct 2017 were accepted and signed by the chairman.

5.2 Matters Arising:
None

6. Review and Recommendations from Committees

6.1. **Planning**– (Meeting 16th Oct / 6th Nov) – (SM) reported on the meetings as detailed within the Planning meeting minutes.

6.2. **Playing Fields & Open Spaces** – (Meeting 6th Nov.) (AC) reported on the meetings as detailed within the PF & OS meeting minutes.

6.3. **Footpaths & Allotments** – (No meeting)

6.4. **Finance and General Purposes** - (Meeting – 6th November) - Cllr James Sumner absent – No report given.

7. Representatives Reports

7.1. **Police Matters** – Police Sergeant Adrian Fallows (AF) introduced himself to Cllrs as the new sergeant responsible for Severnside, Thornbury & Alveston Areas.

(Cllrs) were informed that the frequency of police reports would be monthly but there would be one generic police report covering all areas for all community groups and councils this is to encourage officers to spend more time out of the office.

(AF) reported 11 (dwelling & non dwelling) burglaries in the area last month two of which were in Alveston. There were 16 reports of criminal damage and 17 thefts from inside vans, 36 reports of violence against persons and several issues relating to youths and anti-social behaviour.

(SH) mentioned that the press have been overly sensational in reporting crime in the area which has resulted in residents feeling unnecessarily unsafe. (AF) stated that he was trying to gain more control of what does go out in the media. He is also endeavouring to increase awareness among residents relating to reporting of crime and stating that it is far more important to report suspicious behaviour before the crime than to report it in hindsight. He also wishes to focus on improving

neighbourhood watch schemes as (in answer to (DM) question) resident awareness and communication is integral to being able to reduce crime. This includes ensuring that parents are aware of where their children are and what they are doing when not at home. A vast amount of the reported anti-social behaviour is due to large gatherings of youths.

(AC) reported that there were significant issues at St Helens School and pick up and drop off times relating to parents irresponsible parking and parking on pavements. (AF) stated that pavement parking becomes unlawful when the vehicle causes an obstruction. (Clerk) informed (AF) that there were issues with drivers parking on the Millennium grassed areas and then pulling straight out onto the A38 and if traffic was exceeding the speed limit at this point there would inevitably be an accident. (AF) stated that this was an issue with parents and schools everywhere and was a result of changing habits but unfortunately Police resources are not sufficient to address the problem head on although police can be sent intermittently to observe the problem however it is common that the problem does not occur when police officers are present although monitoring traffic speed at this junction may be required.

(PC) enquired what police resources are available to Alveston residents to which (AF) replied that located in Thornbury was himself 2 PC's and 2 PCSO's and emergency response is covered from Emersons Green or Patchway with a response time of 20 minutes. 20 police per shift report out of Patchway however, if there was a major incident police are drafted in from neighbouring areas.

- 7.2. **South Gloucestershire Council** – (SH) reported that the South Gloucestershire Council's (SGC) Local Plan and JSP plan have been passed with all Alveston Green Local space as designated has been approved. A more contentious issue is the JSP with approval having been considered and made for a "Garden Village" development at Buckover. Despite the new Metro Mayor registering an objection for his election mandate he made no comment at the JSP discussions. Buckover will be proposed and go out to public consultation shortly.
- 7.3. **St Helens School**– No report given (CC) stated that she would attend the December meeting with a full report.
- 7.4. **Alveston Community Forum** – (Clerk) informed Cllrs that the Annual Community Forum Christmas at the Parade is due to take place on Saturday 2nd of December at 10AM.
- 7.5. **Jubilee Hall** – No report
- 7.6. **Youth Centre** – (SM) reported that the Youth Centre application for Grant Funding had been submitted to the Parish Council and the Youth centre committee had acknowledged the extension to the deadline.
- 7.7. **Other Representative Reports** – (PC) reported that the next meeting of the Community Engagement Forum (formally Safer & Stronger Communities Group) will take place at the Armstrong Hall on the 6th December.

8. Review of PC Standing Orders

Councillors agreed that there were no changes required to the Standing Orders as they stand. (SM) proposed that the Standing Orders be adopted for the following year, (PC) seconded and all Cllrs agreed.

17.044 Resolved: The Parish Council approve to maintain the standing orders (unaltered) for the year 2018/19.

9. Windfarm Launch – Ecotricity

Bill Brimacombe introduced himself as the representative from Ecotricity to discuss the request from the council for the opportunity to increase awareness of the windfarm by holding an opening/launch and inviting local residents to tour the facility. Cllrs agreed that this would be a positive exercise and recommended that (Clerk) liaise with (MF) and Ecotricity PR team to arrange something suitable.

PC171120-01: (Clerk) liaise with (MF) and Ecotricity PR team to arrange an event to create awareness of the Ecotricity Windfarm and community benefits (funding etc).

Action to (Clerk)

Mr Brimacombe (BB) also emphasised that Ecotricity would be willing to Open the Windfarm for escorted tours for local schools and community groups by appointment.

(SH) raised the issue relating to the recent planning application for the installation of Lithium batteries which had been approved by SGC and the concerns this has caused with many residents. (BB) emphasised that they took their duty of care to their workforce on site and to local residents very seriously. With innovation of new battery technology it is possible to store generated power to release onto the grid when appropriate as opposed to generated power going immediately to the grid. This would be the first such installation for Ecotricity however it is common practice for many larger windfarms located around the country. Ecotricity are aware of the necessity to source sustainable batteries and as a result will not look to installing all necessary batteries immediately but looking to a phased installation with no specific start date at present.

10. Agenda Distribution

(Clerk) reminded Cllrs that the distribution of agenda had been trialled electronically over the preceding two months and Cllrs agreed that there were no technical issues and was a better way to receive information /agendas. (Clerk) emphasised that to make such a change to operating procedure would require a resolution from the full Council. (MF) pointed out that some paper agendas should be made available at the meetings for public or for councillors to pick up and write notes. (Clerk) agreed that he would adhere to this request.

(PC) proposed that in future the all agendas can be distributed electronically, (AC) seconded and all Cllrs unanimously agreed.

17.045 Resolved: The Parish Council approve the distribution of agendas electronically.

11. Correspondence11.1. Correspondence for Information11.2. Correspondence for Discussion / Action

(MF) enquired about the correspondence from SGC relating to SGC Better Bus Schemes- Alveston to which (Clerk) replied that this issue would be discussed at the F&A meeting to be held on the 4th December.

(Clerk) informed Cllrs that much of the correspondence listed would previously be printed out and distributed in the boxes issued at each meeting however, in view that the boxes often took several months to be distributed to all Cllrs and often many would not be returned to (Clerk) if would be better if all relevant correspondence be emailed to Cllrs direct. (Cllrs agreed with this procedure).

12. Authorisation of Payments

Payments authorisation bat F & GP meeting by Cllrs Marcus Fry & Anne Curtis

12.1.

Details	Chq. no	£
Grounds Maintenance Contract - Oct	2857	1170.00
Cllr Planning Course	2858	300.00
HDMI Cable – (Jubilee Hall Projector)	2859	9.99
Total Payments		£1,479.99

12.2. Payments authorised by Cllrs Paul Caddick & Anne Curtis

Details	Chq. no	£
Salary – Inspection / Clean	2860	200.80
Clerk – Salary & Expenses	2861	1263.63
Salary – Cemetery Caretaker	2862	106.95
Calls/Rental/BB Quarter Aug-Oct	2863	203.71

Details	Chq. no	£
Jubilee Field Water Usage	2864	29.36
Allotment Usage	2865	188.56
Repair to Play Equipment	2866	92.00
Total Payments		£2,085.01

12.3. Recent Receipts

Details	Ref.	£
Gross Interest	DCR	5.83
Facilities Hire (Season)	Inc2865	551.00
Memorial Plot 80	Inc2866	84.00
2017/18 – Half Season in advance	Inc2867	172.50
Vat Refund	DCR	2,167.07
Precept & LCTR Grant	DCR	27,451.00
Total Receipts		£30,431.40

17.046 Resolved: That all receipts and payments presented to the PC meeting on 16th Oct 2017 were accepted.

13. Website / Helmet

(Clerk) informed Cllrs that due to the Christmas Break information for the Helmet presented at this meeting would not be read by residents until the end of January and may be old news at this point in time, this was acknowledged by Cllrs. (MF) recommended that the information submitted by (AF) (police) should be uploaded to the website as well as information relating to the new Vicar (under AOB).

14. Any Other Business

(MF) informed Cllrs that he recently attended an “introduction to St Helen’s Church new Vicar” where he met with Rev. David Moss and discussed the possibility that the Vicar attend some Parish Council meetings and specifically an up and coming meeting to introduce himself.

Meeting closed at 21.25 pm

**The next Council Meeting is on
Monday December 18th 2017 at the Jubilee Hall**