

ALPHETON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON 6 DECEMBER 2022 AT 7.30PM IN ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllrs M Gray (Chair), R Kemp, J Moore, J Nunn. Also present: Mary Luton-Woodburn, Parish Clerk.

1. To receive apologies for absence Apologies were received from Cllrs G Baker, K Jacobs and T Rix.
2. Declarations of Interest No declarations of interest were made.
3. To approve Minutes of the meetings of 4 October Proposed, Cllr Moore, Seconded, Cllr Gray.
4. Public Forum. No members of the public present.
5. To consider any new planning matters and report on any decisions. No new matters at this time. Application, DC/22/05030 Erection of one and a half storey side extension and front porch, Amicus, Old Bury Road, approved. Tree works at Tye Green approved.
6. To receive an update on the regular locating of the SIDs devices and costs The Parish Council discussed Cllr Moore's paper and noted that no more volunteers had come forward. One SID display would need to be returned to the manufacturer for repair, free of charge, dispatch will incur a cost for the PC. Cllr Kemp proposed that the Council proceed with the contracting of the SIDs redeployments to Sudbury Town Council Warden on the arrangements recommended at an annual cost of £650. The purchase of two new batteries to be met from Cllr Kemp's highways budget. Seconded by Cllr Nunn.
7. To decide on donation for Sudbury & District CAB and review PC view on other charity requests Following discussion the Parish Council resolved to continue to make a donation of £50 to CAB annually but reluctantly agreed to not make any other charitable donations given the limited size of the budget. Proposed by Cllr Nunn, Seconded, Cllr Moore.
8. To approve the annual pay award for Clerks, back dated to April 2022. The Parish Council resolved to approve the annual pay award for the Clerk and the back dating to April 2022.
9. To receive the Parish Clerk's report:

- (i) The Council approved the payment of all items on the schedule of payments. Proposed Cllr Kemp, Seconded Cllr Gray.

Evan Markell, 25 Oct grass cut, as per contract	£ 180.00	PHA 1875 s.164
Clerk's Salary from 1 July – 30 Sept 2021	£ 1,113.84	LGA 1972 s.111
Village Hall hire Dec, meeting	£ 20.00	LGA 1972 s.111
Ian Etherton – grass cutting	£ 70.00	PHA 1875 s.164

- (ii) to review the budget and precept for the forthcoming year April 2023-Mar 2024. The Clerk provided the detail for all items on the budget and the rationale for the Precept request and explained that the tax base for Alpheton has reduced by 1.8% meaning that there is less households paying into the Council tax budget. This is why the % increase looks higher this

Signed

Dated.....

year. This reduction could possibly be because of household exemptions or Local Council Tax Reduction Support for occupants. The increase in precept works out at an amount below £8 per household at Band D. The Council approved the budget and that the Precept amount of £6760.00 be requested and the form signed by the Chair and Clerk. Proposed, Cllr Kemp, Seconded Cllr Gray.

10. To receive District and County Councillors' Reports Cllr Kemp, Cllr Malvisi and Nunn reports were noted.
11. To receive an update regarding the bench in Church Lane It was noted that no further action by the PC.
12. To receive an update on the costs for a replacement dog poo bin in Church Lane including all fixing costs. The meeting noted that the cost to replace the bin lid only was more costly than replacing the whole bin. The post seems to be in need of replacement. Cllr Nunn will ask a local volunteer to see if they might help with such jobs in Alpheton. Other Councillors will also try to seek someone for occasional small repair jobs. The Clerk will approach Evan Markell if other ideas aren't successful. No decision was reached about the type of bin replacement.
13. To agree the reappointment of Evan Markell for 2023 grass cutting season. The PC was very happy to reappoint Evan Markell for the 2023 season. Proposed, Cllr Moore, Seconded, Cllr Nunn.
14. To discuss defibrillators maintenance and budget Cllr Gray reported that a volunteer had come forward to check the pads and they had confirmed that new replacements were needed for one defibrillator in April 2023. Cllr Gray will liaise with the volunteer regarding sourcing the replacements. The Clerk confirmed that the annual budget set aside a small amount each year for this eventuality.
15. To receive an update on the costs for visibility bollards at the entrance to Old Bury Rd. The Parish Council approved the purchase of four safety/visibility bollards to be positioned some 1-1.5 metres from the edge of the road. Cllr Kemp would be able to fund this from his Locality budget. Proposed Cllr Nunn, Seconded Cllr Moore.
16. Date and time of next Parish Council meeting:
Feb 7 2023 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Signed

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