

## **ALLER PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2019 7.30pm, Aller Village Hall

Present:

Mr D Mayor (Chair)

Ms A Mitchell

Mrs E Major

Mr R Bates

Mrs M Lockyer

Mr S Bishop

Cllr G Tucker

Cllr C Paul

Miss E Meecham (Clerk)

1 Member of the Public

The meeting commenced after an Open Session for Aller Parishioners only, during which the issue of the recent traffic incident was raised. It was noted that there were several members of the parish that helped during the incident.

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

- 1. Apologies for absence** - Apologies were received from Mrs Morrison.
- 2. Declarations of interest** - Mrs Lockyer declared an interest in item 13.1.
- 3. Minutes of last Parish Council Meetings** - The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record.
- 4. Crime and Disorder**
  - 4.1 Aller Crime statistics - No statistics have been received by the clerk. The meeting noted that on 7 September tract was stolen from North Curry.
- 5. County Councillor report** - Councillor Paul gave her thanks to the Parish Council for working so well with Curry Rivel regarding the footpaths. Councillor Paul informed the meeting that there is a small amount of funding available under the improving life scheme from Somerset County Council this money can be divided between up to 4 Parish councils, therefore, if the Parish Council have a scheme that is Health and Well-Being orientated they could receive up to £500 if they submit a successful bid. The Council raised their concerns regarding the low level of policing in the area.
- 6. District Councillor report** - Councillor Tucker gave his report to the meeting in which he informed them of the District Council's recent discussion of their investment strategy. At the time of this meeting £73 million had been invested in approximately 12 schemes with a reputed return of 7% nett, when all costs are taken into consideration this return will be 3%. Councillor Tucker also informed the meeting that he is leading the scrutiny of the Climate Emergency Strategy and also sits on the countywide task and finish group, he reported that South Somerset District Council are ahead of others in the creation of their strategy. Councillor Tucker reported that he is now Chapter 8 trained and able to be involved in setting up and moving of the SID.
- 7. Finance** - It was unanimously agreed that £10,000 should be moved to the savings account, the clerk is to arrange a letter to be sent for signatures.
  - 7.1 Receipts – none.

7.2 Cheques for authorisation – HMRC, Clerks salary, R Leitch £257.50. -All agreed unanimously.

## **8. Planning**

### **Applications:**

19/01588/FUL – Land At Aller Court, Church Path, Aller, Langport TA10 0QR. Siting of a welfare container, spares container and private switchgear to the west of the constructed solar park. - Following discussion the Parish Council unanimously agreed that they had no objection subject to an appropriate FRA being submitted.

19/01587/S73A - Land at Aller Court, Church Path, Aller, Langport TA10 0QR. Application to amend planning condition three approval 14/04300/FUL to allow lifetime of solar park from 25 years to 40 years. - A discussion was held. It was noted that the original concerns were allayed by the 25 year expiry of the proposal. The council noted that climate change is a serious concern but there is uncertainty regarding the harm of an additional 15 years. The council unanimously agreed the following wording: "Whilst still of the opinion that the site is too large and in the wrong place the Parish Council see little point in objecting to this proposed extension of time. However, the Parish Council would like to see the previously imposed conditions fully adhered to or enforced in a timely manner"

19/02197/HOU – Bath House, Church Path, Aller, Langport TA10 0QW. Proposed first floor side extension over existing single storey side extension to provide an additional bedroom. - Following discussion the Parish Council unanimously agreed that they had no objection to this proposal.

19/02294/FUL - The Old Dairy, Chantry Farm, High Street, Langport TA10 0QN. Change of use of two areas of land from agricultural use to domestic garden and associated new boundary treatment. - The Parish Council have no observations on this proposal.

## **9. Highways** - Aller Drove repairs have been started. The work to High Street doesn't seem to have made much difference to drainage issues, this should be raised with the Highways team. The resurfacing that was supposed to happen to High Street has never happened.

Church Path, there is overhanging vegetation, one house has dealt with it, however there is one property that hasn't.

There has been some fly tipping at Little Hook Drove which needs to be reported, however it is thought that it is privately owned land and therefore South Somerset District Council would not clear it. Mrs Major will report it to South Somerset District Council.

## **10.Lengthsman scheme** - Nothing to report.

## **11.Aller Recreation Area** - The Playday went well and the weather was kind, it may be repeated next year.

## **12.Aller Village Hall** - The next committee meeting is this coming Friday, it has still been impossible to get any quotes for the rendering of the hall. The new heaters have been installed.

## **13.Village/Community issues**

13.1 Aller Cemetery - The Parish Council wish to give thanks to those people who have address the identified issues, confirmation has been received regarding works to be done to other areas. Mr Mayor will send out rules from other parishes with a view to updating the Aller rules.

Consideration needs to be given to the fees as they haven't increased since May 2016 and they need to be reviewed. It was suggested that an

approximate 10% increase would be appropriate given the three years fee freeze, however, the established differentials would be maintained.

A quote has been received for a seating area in the corner of the cemetery, unfortunately it is proving difficult to get others. The received quote is for £1200 plus VAT (£1440). It was agreed unanimously that the order should be placed. Mrs Lockyer and Mr Mayor were thanked for the work they have done in the cemetery.

- 14. Martha Bond Charity** - Mrs Lockyer has collated a lot of information regarding Martha Bond, a copy of which she intends to place inside the Church and one in the Village Hall. The necessary form to close the account has been completed by the two signatories, this needs a covering letter and to be posted. The Clerk is to write the covering letter and post.

**15. Correspondence for information [to be tabled]**

Notice of intention to name one road. - Noted.

- 16. Any other urgent matters raised by permission of the Chairman.** - It would seem that the Village Hall is not included in the postcode database, there is a fee of £100 payable to South Somerset District Council to include it. There may be an opportunity from the South Somerset District Council area North Community Fund for funding to cover this, it was suggested to contact Debbie Haines. The Aller Harvest Supper is being held at the Beer Cider Company to raise money for the Church on October 5. It will include a four-course supper starting at 7 PM and tickets cost £20 each. There will also be an auction of produce and a raffle.

It was agreed that a bid to fund a table tennis table and accessories and a new noticeboard be submitted to Somerset County Council for their Improving Lives scheme.

- 17. There being no further business the meeting closed at 9 PM.**

**Date and time of next meeting – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019 7.30pm**

*Clerk:* Emma Meecham 15 Meadow Road, Yeovil, Somerset, BA21 8PB