

## ALLER PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at 7.30pm, Aller Village Hall

Present:

Mr D Mayor (Chair)

Mrs M Lockyer

Mrs E Major

Mr R Bates

Mr S Bishop

Ms A Mitchell

Cllr C Aparicio Paul

Cllr G Tucker

Miss E Meecham (Clerk)

0 Members of the Public

The meeting commenced after an Open Session for Aller Parishioners during which no issues were raised.

#### AGENDA

1. **Apologies for absence** - None
2. **Declarations of interest** - None
3. **Minutes of last Parish Council Meetings** – Unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
4. **Crime and Disorder**
  - 4.1 Aller Crime statistics – The statistics for July were given by the clerk.
  - 4.2 Speedwatch – Nothing to report.
5. **District and County Councillors reports** – Cllr Tucker gave his report which included information regarding the recent full council meeting at SSDC, the changes to the Langport and Somerton Links scheme, funding available through the LEADER programme and the poor communication surrounding the road closure.
6. **Finance**
  - 6.1 Finance statement [Clerk] – Noted. Clerk to chase the payment from The Pound.
  - 6.2 Receipts - Cheques for authorisation - HMRC, Clerks salary, Clerks expenses - £9.10, M Lockyer expenses - £23.82, Fine Memorials overcharge - £25, Grant Thornton - £180, R Leitch £257.50 – All agreed unanimously.
  - 6.3 Audit – Audit report given by the clerk
  - 6.4 Automatic enrolment pension – The clerk informed the meeting that the Council are fully compliant with the Pensions Regulator requirements.
7. **Aller Recreation Area**
  - 7.1 Aller Bonfire – Mr Mayor gave the background to the previous events. Emma Maltby has agreed to organise this year's event. Historically the PCC has insured the event but not the preparation or clean up. As the insurance arrangements for the recreation ground have changed the Parish Council agreed to close the area for the duration of the build, event and clean-up and hand it over to the bonfire committee subject to the appropriate insurance and cover being in place.
8. **Planning**

**Applications:** 17/03209/FUL, Land at Aller court Farm, Church Path, Aller – Revised siting and increase in height of the private substation, DNO substation, spares container, welfare unit and composting toilet (Retrospective) – Mr Mayor gave the background to the application. The council discussed the current application and it was agreed that it was a shame that the issues now being addressed with the retrospective application weren't identified earlier. The council agreed that they had no comments to make on the application.

## **9. Highways –**

- 9.1 High Street Closure – Cllr Aparicio- Paul informed the meeting that she has asked for additional signage and has been assured that the communications team at SCC will make it clear that businesses in Aller are still open for business. Mr Mayor informed Cllr Aparicio-Paul that he has been trying hard to work with the Highways department for the last month and has been repeatedly directed to the foreman on site – someone that has proved very difficult to find. It would seem to Mr Mayor that nobody is taking ownership or responsibility and all his efforts have been in vain. There are various issues that have not been addressed. It is also distressing that Aller will suffer yet another road closure in the near future when the works to Ridley Hill take place.
- 9.2 Mrs Major reported that there had been a tree down on Aller Drove, it was initially moved onto the verge and has been moved further out of the way.
- 9.3 The HGV sign at Beer Corner still hasn't been erected, Mrs Major will chase this, particularly with the current road closure in place.

**10.Lengthsman scheme –** The report from Craig was read to the council.

**11.Aller Village Hall –** The Village Hall committee have a meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> September, after which the hearing loop and PA system will be demonstrated.

The issue of the wall was raised, there seems to have been some progress on the potential start date for the development 'behind' the village hall. The development will start with badger management work, then the fencing and new boundary, it has been agreed that this initial work will include a further discussion about the wall and car park.

## **12.Village/Community issues**

- 12.1 Links scheme – Mrs Lockyer and Mr Bates attended a recent meeting and the message seems to be 'wait and see'. It has been confirmed that something needs to change but core passengers that will continue to need help will need to be identified and practical solutions found.
- 12.2 Footpath Closure Turn Hill (high Ham Parish) – the latest enquiry has upheld the original order to close the footpath. It has now been closed. Somerset Wildlife Trust own the woodland adjacent to the path and have confirmed that this is open access land and people are welcome to use it.

## **13.Correspondence for information [to be tabled]**

- 13.1 Local Government Boundary Commission Electoral Review – The clerk reported to the council about the public consultation for the Electoral Boundary review.

**14.Any other urgent matters raised by permission of the Chairman - None**

**15.Date and time of next meeting – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm**

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 20:56

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