



# ALBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Serving Farley Green, Brook, Little London & Newlands Corner

## PARISH OF ALBURY

### NOTICE OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Local Government Act 1972

Minutes of a meeting of Albury Parish Council held on

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm**

In the **Memorial Library** for the transaction of the under mentioned business.



#### **Public question time:**

Mr Hogben reminded the meeting that it had been three years since the “pinch points” had been installed in the Street, and there had been no further developments as far as slowing the traffic was concerned. He had now learnt that residents were not to be invited to the next meeting of the traffic committee and he was concerned that those most affected would not be involved in decisions.

The Chairman advised that it was not the intention to exclude residents however, as it is widely agreed that the “pinch points” had not worked and that The Street was not the only part of the parish experiencing traffic problems, it is important to firstly achieve a cohesive plan of action for the whole parish. Mr Hogben was of the view that smaller groups with resident involvement should look at the individual problems of each area and suggest solutions.

The Chairman advised that, following the elections, a framework will be laid down to deal with the issues.

#### **AGENDA**

**Present:** Cllr J Rowland (in the Chair), Cllrs J Brockwell, S Dennis, P Gellatly, G Robinson, P Webb, P Yeoman  
County Cllr K Taylor  
Rev'd Pearson  
3 members of the public

**In attendance:** The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

Members received a presentation from Graham Richardson (GR) and Sonya Graham, (SG) Broadband for the Surrey Hills (B4SH).

GR explained that B4SH is a community benefit society, a not for profit company. Everyone involved in the society is a volunteer except for SG, company secretary and administrator.

Everything is done as inexpensively as possible – for example, there are no expensive way-leaves, and all excavations are soft dig.

They have now gone live in Staple Lane, down to Silent Pool. They are now at the Bothy and plan to go live in the next two to three weeks.

Cllr Rowland asked how they would deal with the system going down. GR advised that the company supplies a telephone hotline, using network management engineers to identify where the outage is. B4SH will meet with the Albury Heath community on the 25<sup>th</sup> March and hope to meet with other areas of the community shortly. They are actively seeking more support and sponsorship within the parish in order to be able to effectively proceed.

Cllr Rowland said that it would be very helpful to have a better idea of how it worked and how much it cost per household. There are an increasing number of people working from home and this would seem the ideal time to launch this service.

- 26/19      **Declarations of interest:** none were made.
- 27/19      **Minutes of the Meeting held Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019:** were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the chairman.
- 28/19      **Matters Arising**  
 Other than those contained in the agenda.  
 16/19:04/19: *Posts on Farley Green:* the Clerk advised that she hoped this was moving to a resolution.  
 16/19:05/19: *Albury Shops:* members to receive an update from Cllr Rowland. Cllr Rowland had talked to the owner of Albury Village Stores, who advised that business had increased since Christmas.  
 A25: Cllr Brockwell asked Cllr Taylor for an update on the proposed hatching on the A25. Cllr Taylor advised that he had received a commitment that this would be done before the end of March.
- 29/19      **Chairman and Clerks matters arising**
- a) *Forward Planning:* the Chairman has asked for the following to be considered:
    - i.        what do members think the Parish Council has achieved in the past year
    - ii.       where and how can we improve and what are our objectives for the next Parish Council term (4 years)
    - iii.      how do we enable better interaction with the Parish
 Cllr Rowland wished to review the past year before the elections, as this would help inform the new Parish Council. **Agenda item:** April meeting.
  - b) *Annual Assembly:* Cllr Webb believed that residents would be interested to understand more about recycling. It was agreed that it was probably too close to the meeting to find someone to come out and talk on this subject.  
 The Clerk advised that Adrian O'Loughlan from SALV had agreed to come and give a short presentation, but needed to leave by 7.30pm. She proposed that the meeting starts by seating all attendees with a drink by 7.15, for the SALV presentation, and that the meeting breaks after an hour for refreshments. This was agreed.  
 The Clerk advised that the Mayor will also attend, and that there will be the usual presentations by village organisations. She was asked to invite tonight's speakers from B4SH, as they would appreciate the wider audience of the Annual Assembly
  - c) *Parish defibrillators:* the Clerk advised that the age of the current defibrillators was starting to be an issue, with regard to their current locations. The defibrillator at Westonfields will not work, despite two changes of battery and new pads, and is awaiting diagnostic work from Cardiac Science. The defibrillator at the William IV is also not working, and does not respond to a new battery or pads. She had been advised by Cardiac Science that the fact that they are not in heated boxes is most probably the reason for these failures.  
 Members noted that the other three defibrillators, at the library, in the bus stop at Farley Green, and at Newlands Corner, are all still working, but they are in more sheltered positions.  
 The Clerk also advised that the next generation of defibrillators must be kept in heated boxes in order to work. It was agreed that she would investigate the cost, with a view to proceeding with the necessary changes throughout the parish. Proposed by Cllr Dennis, Seconded by Cllr Webb, with all in favour.  
 Rev'd Pearson kindly agreed that the defibrillator at Westonfields could be relocated to a position at the church, where the box could be wired into their electricity supply and kept warm.
  - d) *Letter from Royal Mail in response to letter sent by Parish Council:* The contents were noted, that Royal Mail currently has no plans to close the Sorting Office at Pratt's Stores for the foreseeable future and it was agreed that the content would be added to Albury Matters, in order to keep residents informed on the current status of the post office.

30/19 **Police matters:** Crime statistics December 2018: The Street, 1 drugs, 1 violence and sexual offences; Trodds Lane, 1 anti social behaviour, 1 drugs, 2 criminal damage and arson, 2 public order; Drove road, 1 anti social behaviour;

31/19 **Committee reports:** to receive brief reports on the following:

Highways, byways: Cllr Brockwell

- a) VAS: Bahram Assadi has recommended that the VAS equipment remains in the Parish for between 3 and 6 months
- b) the VAS is now installed. Cllrs Brockwell and Gellatly will replace the battery shortly.
- c) Footpaths: **Agenda item:** April meeting

Traffic: Cllr Robinson

Cllr Robinson confirmed that an update would be given at the April meeting, following the meeting scheduled for the 11th March.

Outdoor maintenance: Cllr Yeoman

- a) Patrick Giles had contacted Cllr Yeoman to advise that he had a little surplus funding. Cllr Yeoman asked him to cut back the hedges in Water Lane, which has been done.
- b) Farley Green pond: Land and Water advised that the pond could not be dredged because it is lined. In addition, the silt will most likely be contaminated, as some of the water comes from road run-off. The vegetation clearing will start with the new contractor in a couple of weeks.
- c) There are a number of potholes on the access lane from August Lane. Cllr Yeoman will obtain a quotation to fill them with a load of hard core. **Agenda item:** April meeting.
- d) Trees on Birmingham Lane: these appear to be vulnerable, after the lane was cleared back by unknown contractors. The Clerk will refer this to the Estate.

*Recommendation:* Members **resolved** that the traffic working group is taken into the Highways and Byways committee, and that a meeting of that committee will take place on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March, at 7.30pm.

*Recommendation:* Members further **resolved** that the meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> March decides the terms of reference of the group, once it has included traffic and whether the traffic element should be a sub-committee of that committee.

*Grass cutting contract:* Quotations from two contractors for the grass cutting contract for Farley Green and the Recreation ground had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Members resolved to award the contract, for one year only, to be reviewed by both parties at the end of the year, to Mint, both because their prices were approximately half of those of the second contractor, and also as it is a local company. Proposed by Cllr Yeoman, Seconded by Cllr Brockwell, all in favour

Open Spaces: Cllr Rowland

Cllr Rowland had decided against recommending exercise equipment be located at Albury Heath, as it would be susceptible to vandalism. He would prefer to see more equipment in the Recreation Ground, and also at the Riverside Amenity area. **Agenda item:** April meeting.

Planning and Environment: Cllr Gellatly

- a) Minutes of the meeting held on the 18th February were noted
- b) Cllr Gellatly advised that the new barn in Ponds Lane had been refused.
- c) Cllr Gellatly noted that there was a property on the enforcement list which had been on the list since 2015.
- d) Cllr Brockwell reported that a new scheme is being drawn up for Lampards Yard, comprising 8 units at the back of the property

Village Hall: Cllr Brockwell

Work was continuing on clearing old debts.

Allotments: Cllr Robinson

It was proving difficult to arrange a meeting of allotment holders.

Communications: Cllr Dennis

- a) *Welcome pack:* Cllr Dennis and Cllr Webb had met and Cllr Webb is putting together the new packs
- b) *Albury Matters Newsletter:* This will be published and distributed shortly. Cllr Dennis recorded thanks to the church for allowing it to be delivered with the Parish Magazine.

32/19

### **Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr Dennis reported as follows:

- a) *Housing needs survey:* this had been circulated. It identified the need for roughly 10 affordable homes, with 2 to 3 bedrooms, some for rent and some to own. It was estimated that over the next 15 years 40 families will move in the parish and will be looking for houses of this size, though not all will require affordable homes.
- b) The Steering Group had met with John Dowty (Planning Consultant) in November. He advised that the NPPF had changed what affordable housing could be built in the Green Belt. He had spoken to Dan Knowles: If it is planned to build affordable housing there are two options:
  - i. Community Right to Build: community build on land donated by the Parish Council or a local landowner, affordable housing is built and managed by a local group of people in perpetuity.
  - ii. Neighbourhood Development Order: a piece of land or more than one, identified by the community, would be used for affordable housing, without the need for traditional planning permission. If we were to adopt this option we would be the first in the country to pioneer this!The Steering Group will establish which, if either, of these is more appropriate.
- c) The Steering Group had not yet decided if provision for affordable housing will be included in the NP. They firstly need to establish whether GBC will support either of the above options, should they be a suitable model for Albury Parish.

Cllr Dennis asked that any questions be directed to her, and she will discuss them with John Dowty.

33/19

### **Risk Assessments**

Clerks report had been circulated prior to the meeting and it was noted and agreed by all members. The risk assessment file was available at the meeting for inspection.

34/19

### **Finance**

- a) Cheque list for February 2019: the expenditure for the period of £2109.98 was noted and approved, the clerk was asked to check the BT expenditure.
- b) *Bank reconciliation:* end January 2019 was noted and approved
- c) *Management report to date:* was noted and approved.
- d) *Appointment of internal auditors:* members **agreed** the re- appointment of Mark Mulberry, financial advisor to the Surrey County Association.

35/19

### **Grants to Local Organisations**

Members agreed to award grants of £250 each: to Albury Church PCC; The Hurtwood; Surrey Air Ambulance; the Saxon Church. Guidance regarding the giving of grants to churches had been circulated prior to the meeting

36/19

### **Councillors business:** for noting or including on a future agenda

- a) Cllr Brockwell reminded members of the litter pick on Albury Heath on the 10<sup>th</sup> March.
- b) Cllr Gellatly asked if road closures could be notified on the parish council website.

- c) Cllr Gellatly was concerned at the future of the noticeboard at Little London if the Estate developed the builders yard, and asks members to consider where it might be placed. He also suggested that the location of the noticeboards be advertised on the website.

37/19 **New Correspondence:** *tabled at the meeting.*

a) *Local Council Review*

38/19 **Dates of meetings**

Full Council:	1 <sup>st</sup> April
Annual Meeting	13 <sup>th</sup> May
Planning:	11 <sup>th</sup> March, 1 <sup>st</sup> April
Highways:	11 <sup>th</sup> March
Maintenance:	to be agreed
Communications and Marketing	
Village Hall:	tba, when required
Annual Parish Meeting:	15 <sup>th</sup> April
Parish Council elections:	2 <sup>nd</sup> May
<b>Litter Pick: Albury Heath:</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> March</b>

The meeting closed at 10pm.