

CHAPEL ALLERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council meeting held in the Old School Room, Stone Allerton on Monday 4th March 2019 at 7.35 p.m.

Present: Cllrs F Torrens-Spence (in the Chair), M Wallach and the clerk C Harris

Apologies: Apologies were received from: Cllr P Duggan-Rees, Cllr Fielder and Somerset County Councillor B Filmer. The grave nature of Cllr Fielder's illness prevents him attending and the meeting wanted to record the Parish's immense gratitude to him for his roles as Councillor and Vice -Chair.

There were 4 parishioners in attendance.

88/18 Minutes of Meeting held on 14th January 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2019 were declared correct with no corrections.

89/18 Declarations of Interest and dispensations

Cllr Wallach declared an interest in Tavener Cottage Orchard and it was agreed that she would not participate in the pre-planning agenda item relating to the above property.

90/18 Public participation

Parishioners in attendance were invited to raise any matters. The matter of greater provision of dog waste bins was raised.

91/18 Actions from previous meeting

- (i) Memorial Cross, Land Registration – Cllr Torrens-Spence reported that this has now been completed and that there are now three names recorded at the Land Registry, Cllr Torrens -Spence, Cllr Duggan-Rees and Caroline Harris the clerk. There was no cost to update this information.
- (ii) Increasing the number of Councilors to six – This has been approved by the Licensing Committee and will now go to full council at Sedgemoor for approval. There will then be a lengthy consultation with all those on the Chapel Allerton electoral roll. If we then get approval for an extra councillor Chapel Allerton will not get the councilor until 2023 Parish Council elections.
- (iii) The Clerk reported that the Natwest bank account has now been closed and all the funds transferred to the new Lloyds bank account. A savings account request has also been submitted to Lloyds to earn a nominal amount of interest.

92/18 Planning

(i) To discuss the pre-planning consultation for development of Tavener Cottage Orchard, Stone Allerton

The meeting noted that 15 to 20 people had attended the consultation event at the Wheatsheaf which had been publicised one week before the open evening. Unfortunately, neither the Parish Clerk or any Councillors were able to attend the open evening at such short notice.

Printed photographs of the proposed plans were made available to the Parish Council meeting and comments were invited. Concerns were raised by several people about the lack of space for cars to turn and to access the proposed garage. It was also confirmed that the property is in a conservation area.

93/18

Accounts and Finance

- (i) SLCC Membership** - The clerk reported that the Council is not a member of SSLC (Society of Local Council Clerks) which is a most useful support and training body for clerks, and that it would be desirable to join. The membership is calculated on a sliding scale and would be £97 in total for the next year. Both Cllrs present were in agreement that this was a good thing to join and provisionally approved the payment to be formally ratified at the next quorate meeting.

(ii) Local Council administration Book, by Charles Arnold Baker –

The clerk requested that the council purchase a copy at a cost of £129.99 less 20% discount if purchased through SALC, which again both Cllrs present were in agreement was a good idea and provisionally approved the payment to be formally ratified at the next quorate meeting.

- (ii) To consider requests from Citizens Advice and Mendip Community Transport for funding** – These requests could not be considered at this time as we have used up our precept for this financial year. Clerk to write to each to explain this.

(iv) The following accounts were proposed by Cllr Torrens- Spence and seconded by Cllr Wallach and will be formally ratified at the next quorate meeting.

Clerk wages (C Harris)	£343.74
Clerk Expenses (C Harris)	£48.74

94/18

Footpaths and Highways

- (i)** Cllr Torrens- Spence reported that there will be a Bridleways meeting on 6/3/19 at 7.30pm at Weare Village Hall.
- (ii)** Cllr Torrens-Spence reported that she will be meeting County Councillor Bob Filmer and a Highways officer to look at safety issues concerning Top Road with a view to improving safety on this road.
- (iii)** The clerk reported that the spoil pile on the verge outside Nut

Tree Cottage was reported to SDC Highways department and they have agreed to remove it.

- (iii) Cllr Torrens-Spence reported that there are a number of road closures coming up which are displayed on the PIP notice board and on the Parish Council website.

95/18 To Consider new standing orders

Cllr Wallach reported that this is ongoing.

96/18. Clerk's report

- (i) The clerk reported that she attended an all-day training day called 'The Essential Clerk' which was most informative and useful. Several of the best practice recommendations have been implemented for this meeting including slight changes to the wording of the agenda.
- (ii) The clerk also reported on an election training session held on 1/3/19. A great deal of useful guidance including the timetable which was read to the meeting and the key date of 3/4/19 at 4pm was highlighted for close of nominations. The meeting was informed that the clerk will collect the election pack on the 7/3/19 and that information about how to stand as a Councillor will be on the Parish Council website, in Allerton News and on the PIP noticeboards. Nomination papers will be available from the clerk and the clerk can be contacted by phone or email to address any questions from Parishioners. The clerk also reported that she was planning to offer to take nomination papers to Bridgwater for anyone that wanted her to as they must be delivered in person and cannot be posted or sent electronically.

97/18 Arrangements for Annual Parish meeting

Cllr Torrens-Spence reported that she will be taking over the arrangements for this and organizing the refreshments. Nick Tate will be speaking about updating the Village Design Statement. The meeting was also reminded that the Council are still looking for more people for the Village Design Statement group who will work on the updating of the current VDS.

98/18 Items for next agenda

- (i) Ratification of accounts and finance re expenses and proposed purchases.
- (ii) Standing Orders

Meeting was declared closed at 8.40 p.m.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be on 8th April 2019 at the Old School Room, 7.30pm