



ALDERLEY EDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 13th October 2014

Present: Cllr MH Williamson (Chairman), Cllrs MJ Connor, DG Herald, S Joseph, F Keegan and MW Maczkowiak.

In attendance: 1 member of the press
8 members of the public
Hall Manager, PCSO
Clerk: A Ross

Meeting

Commenced: 8:00pm

1. Apologies for Absence.

Cllrs JD Bergin, MD Lloyd and N Schofield.

2. Declarations of interest and requests for dispensation to discuss, or discuss and vote on a matter in which a Member or co-opted Member has a Disclosable Pecuniary interest (DPI).

None

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 8th September 2014.

Approval proposed by Councillor MW Maczkowiak, seconded by Councillor S Joseph and carried.

4. To discuss parking strategy for the village.

Cllr Williamson gave a summary of the pre-meeting the PC had just had with Cllr Topping, the portfolio holder for Service Commissioning, and Lynne Nixon the Highways officer. They discussed creating a car park on Heyes Lane and extending this into a proper parking strategy for the village and this will hopefully then help with some of the longer term issues in the village. There is an extensive list of areas which need to be addressed, including changing South Street car park to shorter term, and the Parish Council will continue to ask Cheshire East to review the residential parking scheme on Clifton Street. He will produce a report of the meeting and will continue to progress matters over the next 15 months. Cllr Connor commented that she was pleased Cllr Topping was positive about the plans for the car park.

5. To discuss the possibility of appointing a Town Crier.

The Parish Council has been contacted by the Nantwich Town Crier to offer his services to Alderley Edge, Cllr Maczkowiak reported that he had participated in last years Mayfair and she thought it was good fun. It would be an unpaid, honorary position and it was agreed that Cllr Maczkowiak would contact him to progress matters.

6. Update from the 'Projects sub-committee'.

Cllr Williamson gave an update on the meeting the committee had with Arcus and Jones. The building contract is being finalised and the contract specification is almost complete. Work is in progress to divert services to the back of the building and then the demolition phase will begin at the beginning of December. The Doctors lease is being held up by the specification work but an acceptable rental figure has been agreed.

There will be no charge to the precept payers of the village and once the loan is paid off the income will be for the benefit of the village.

Work is still being done on the telephone masts. Arqiva will switch theirs off and the builders will move it and Vodafone have been warned theirs must be moved within the next two months.

Arcus will make a presentation to councillors at some point, the project has a 12 month delivery structure and completion is due for December 2015.

7. To discuss conducting a Parish survey on future plans for Alderley Edge.

Cllr Williamson reported that the Parish Council is aware of the controversy surrounding the Heyes Lane allotment site and thinks it is time a survey was done. He is confident the overwhelming majority of the village support the development of the medical centre and car park on Heyes Lane and would like to get their opinion. He will work on having the paperwork agreed by the end of the week and hopes the results will give the Parish Council confidence that they are acting in the best interests of the whole village.

Cllr Connor agreed that the argument needs to be put into proper context

Cllr Keegan commented that he doesn't believe the Allotment Society petition adheres to Market Research guidelines and has heard from people who believe they were 'door-stepped' into signing it.

All councillors were in agreement that it was a good idea.

8. Reports from Councillors.

Cllr Herald had a meeting with ANSA about improving the park and was asked for suggestions for a wood carving. He also brought up the proposal to have the top office decorated and councillors agreed that the work needs to be done and the Clerk will look at the quotes to see if the Parish Council has the money in the budget. The Clerk will report back to council if she feels she cannot find the money to spend.

Cllr Connor reported that she would like to put £5000 in next year's budget to pay for a statue for the new memorial garden in the cemetery. She also asked for the leaves to be cleared from the steps down into the park.

Cllr Joseph thanked Jim Newns for his work with the Parish Council and presented him with a gift.

Cllr Williamson gave an update on the problems regarding the Christmas tree outside Waitrose. Waitrose want the Christmas tree moved back from its present position to where the notice board is but have no funds to pay for the move and neither do the Parish Council. The options are to have no tree there at all or put the tree in its original position for this year and raise funds to complete the move next year. Cllr Williamson will speak with the manager of Waitrose to try and reach some agreement.

Cllr Keegan reported that the Big Lottery Fund is targeting Town and Parish Councils for park projects and he would like the Parish Council to do some work on this.

Meeting Closed: 8.44pm

ACTION SUMMARY

Undertaken By	Detail	When For
Clerk	Look at quotes for office decoration	As soon as practical
Clerk	Ask lengthsman to clear leaves from steps into the park	As soon as practical
PC	Look at application for Big Lottery Fund	As soon as practical

Councillor MH Williamson
CHAIRMAN