 **ALBY WITH THWAITE**

**PARISH COUNCIL**

**DRAFT - Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 17th January 2024 – 7pm at**

**The Three Horseshoes, Alby.**

Present:

 Cllr W Cutts (Chairman)

 Cllr. A Mackenzie

 Cllr. C McNamara

 Cllr S Goodley

 Cllr S Jordan

 Cllr. C Knight

 Mrs A Mackenzie (Temporary Clerk) and Mrs C Cutts – Understudy

 4 members of the Public

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr J Toye - NNDC Co Cllr Saul Penfold – NCC Highways

1. **Declarations of interest for items on the agenda:** None
2. **To agree the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 12th October 2023 –** proposed Cllr. C Knight, seconded Cllr S Goodley **– ALL AGREED** Signed by Cllr W Cutts.
3. **To discuss any matters arising**

**Item 4/2 -**  Bus Shelter - The Parish Council is only responsible for the shelter on the Three Horseshoes side of the A140. Erpingham Parish Council is responsible for the one on the Alby Garage side of the A140. Cllr Green – Erpingham P C – will be looking into a Bike stand by the shelter in the Erpingham jurisdiction.

**Item 4/3 –** 20mph speed limit on School Road by Aldborough School. Cllr Cutts had contacted the Head and had had no reply. He will contact her again. The committee felt that it was not needed particularly at drop off and pick up times as it was not possible to speed along the road at that time.

**Item 8/1 –** Cllr Goodley has not been able to deal with this item. It will be carried over to the next meeting.

The gates on Church Lane, Town Green are no longer chained closed and there is now vehicle to the back of the properties. The Housing Association court action was successful.

**5 Reports**

No Reports

**6 Any Other Business**

 Cllr Cutts asked the members of the public if they had any issues to raise.

It was noted that there was heavy duty plastic sheeting on the road side of the pond on Thwaite Common. This was a result of clearing the pond and would be removed at the appropriate time.

The website had not been updated and the minutes and agenda had not been added. As the PC is without a clerk at the moment this had not been possible and would be addressed when a new clerk is in place.

Concerns were raised over the proposed telephone mast site. Please see Item 9/4.

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**7 Finance**

Cllr Cutts has incurred printing costs and requested to be reimbursed £40-00. Proposed Cllr Mackenzie, Seconded Cllr Knights – all agreed

7/1 - Barclays Bank – Online Banking is now possible and up and running. Electronic signatures are now accepted.

No 1 Account has funds of approximately £5,500.00 – actual figure as at 29.12.2023

 £5687.06

No 2 Account has funds of approximately £400.00 - actual figure as at 29.12.2023

 £404.05

Cllr Mackenzie will look into transferring the No 2 Account into No1 Account.

**8 Parish Matters**

8/1 – Jane Wisson decided not to take the post of Clerk.

There is an advert on the NALC website and one application has been received. Interviews will take place in a couple of weeks to give time for further applicants to apply. Applicants will be given training. A probation period will be required and a contract will be in place.

8/2 – Precept – Increase by 5.8%

The new clerk will increase cost as a training cost will be incurred and when qualified it is anticipated there will be an increase in the clerk’s wage.

Cllr John Toye has suggested that Emma Denning should submit the figures.

A discussion was held as to whether an increase in the charge to household should be made. It is currently £41.57 per household.

An increase to the Precept of 5.8% per household was proposed by Cllr Cutts, seconded by Cllr Goodley and was accepted unanimously.

8/3 – Co Cllr Penfold, Highways, has said the footpath from Erpingham to the main road needs shingle. This is Blacksmiths Lane and Bridleway at the Eastern End.

Cllr Mackenzie advised that the top end of the footpath from Aldborough Mill (Scarrow Beck Bridge) to Middle Hill would also benefit from being shingled as this was a very popular route into Aldborough Village. Co Cllr Penfold to be advised and asked to inspect.

8/4 Jubilee Tree. – Mr Fitzpatrick (past Chair of the PC) has the Oak Tree. The PC needs to pay for it and arrange and pay for a plaque. It should not be planted near a road. Cllr Jordan proposed and Seconded by Cllr Knight that it should be near the bench on Thwaite Common and be planted by Mr Fitzpatrick. Passed unanimously.

8/5 – Cllr Cutts has been advised that the Alby Horseshoes Public House is for sale on-line. The current managers have been very accommodating allowing the PC to hold their meetings at the venue. The pc is extremely grateful.

**9 Planning Matters**

Nothing has been notified for 9/1 and 9/2

9/3 - 1 Thwaite Barns is on hold

9/4 -Telephone Mast. If planning is passed there is sufficient public interest for it to go to appeal. It will be heard on the 7th March 2024.

Cllr Toye and Member of Parliament for North Norfolk, Duncan Baker are holding an internet Teams Meeting on the 31st January 2024 to look for a new site. Cllrs Cutts and Mackenzie will be participating from the PC.

**10. Thwaite Common**

Ann Marie Gedge has looked at the pond and will check on the removal of the tarpaulins.

**11 Next Meeting – Wednesday 20th March 2024 at 7pm at the Alby Horseshoes.**

 Meeting closed at 20.20 hours.