ALMELEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
Held on Wednesday 9th January 2019 at 7.30pm in Almeley Village Hall

Present: Councillors: Liz Tucker (Chair), Bee Held, James Edwards, John Hope, Allan Payne and Barry Hall.

In attendance: Emma Thomas – Clerk

Public: 5

1. **To receive apologies for absence**
   Apologies were RECEIVED and ACCEPTED from Cllr. Martin Skyrme

2. **To receive declarations of interest and written requests for dispensation**
   None declared

3. **To approve the minutes of the previous meetings – 14th November and 10th December 2018**
   The minutes of both meetings were APPROVED and signed by the Chair.

4. **Open session**
   4.1 To receive a report on Herefordshire Council matters from Ward Cllr Roger Phillips
   Cllr Roger Phillips sent his apologies.

   4.2 To receive views of local residents on parish matters
   The following items were raised by parishioners:
   - Where is the parish defibrillator sited? *In the pub.*
   - In previous minutes and action was taken to form a working party to tidy the villages. Did this ever happen? *Adverts were placed in the Offa Tree News and the noticeboards but no one volunteered.*
   - Posters with police contact details were given to the PC for displaying.
   - There were concerns raised that Kington Post Office may close in the near future.

5. **Finance**
   5.1 To note January bank balance and finance report and sign both. – Appendix 1
   The clerk REPORTED that finances and budget spend were well in hand. The report was APPROVED and along with the bank statements was signed as evidence of bank reconciliation and budget monitoring.

   5.2 To consider the clerks expenses £30.56 – previously circulated
   5.3 To consider the clerks salary – January
   5.4 To consider invoice from Autela for Payroll Services £46.80
   5.5 To consider invoice from HALC for clerk election training £5.15
   5.6 To consider invoice from Almeley Village Hall for hall hire £18.00
   It was RESOLVED to approve all of the above invoices for payment and the cheques were signed.

   5.7 To consider the 2019-20 draft budget and precept – Appendix 2
   It was RESOLVED to approve the draft budget and precept for 2019/20

   5.8 To consider further funding from the Parish Council for a "fun Evening" for all.
   This item was deferred to a date in the future.

   5.9 To consider the "Green Spaces Funding".
   It was RESOLVED that the clerk investigate whether the commons or The Batch would be eligible for a grant from this fund.

6. **Planning – to note application determined by Herefordshire Council**
   The following application was NOTED.

11/06/18 5.1	181472/181474	Barn at Logaston Common Farm, Logaston, Woonton, HR3 6QJ Proposed change of use of barn to form ancillary letting accommodation	Support	Approved with conditions

7. **NDP –**

7.1 To receive an update on the examination and subsequent "fact check".

The clerk REPORTED that the examination was underway and the draft report had been submitted to the NDP steering group and NDP consultant for a "fact check". This had been returned to the examiner and the final report was now awaited.

8. **Parish Maintenance**

8.1 To consider any lengthsman or footpaths jobs that need undertaking.

It was RESOLVED that Cllr Allan Payne would look at the following issues raised:

- Stile by Mountain View needs attention.
- The double stile by the Old Shop needs sorting out.

The clerk reminded Cllr Allan Payne to submit his invoices as soon as possible so that she could claim the P3 grant money.

8.2 To consider any highways issue that needs reporting

The following issues were NOTED for logging:

- All grips need clearing
- The drainage by the cricket pitch needs looking at.
- The roads need sweeping.

It was REQUESTED that the clerk arrange a day for the Locality Steward to do her annual tour of the parishes looking at highway issues.

9. **To consider speeding issues in Woonton and Almeley**

It was REPORTED that the clerk had met with Balfour Beatty to discuss speed issues in Woonton. She had RECEIVED and email today with specific recommendations and costings of various traffic schemes. It was RESOLVED that the clerk should email this to Councillors and Woonton parishioners in order that a manageable plan be put together for consideration at the next Council meeting in March. It was RESOLVED that the clerk should send an email to Yvonne Coleman of the S106 department at Herefordshire Council, expressing the wish that should any funds become available the PC would like highway, speed and traffic issues to be considered.

10. **To consider the telephone box contract.**

The clerk REPORTED that she had spoken to BT. The Council could do as it wished with the phone box. It was RESOLVED that Cllr Liz Tucker would try to find someone to do regular H&S checks on the phone boxes for reporting to the clerk.

11. **To consider "Outstanding Updates and Actions Sheet**

None

12. **To consider agenda items for next meeting – no discussion**

Elections

13. **To note date of next scheduled meeting – 13th March 2019**

NOTED

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed: _____ Dated: 13th March 2018