

MINUTES OF ALTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING HELD TUESDAY 9th NOVEMBER 2010

Present:

Councillors P Davies (Chairman), P Burgess, , Mrs S Winter, and Mrs M Davies

In Attendance

Michelle Cheatele (Clerk), 3 members of the public

10/180 Apologies for absence

Cllrs B Noye and M Bassenger

10/181 Declaration of Interests

None

10/182 Public Forum with respect to items on the Agenda

There was some background explanation and discussion regarding the purpose of Althorne Community Together ("ACT") and the formation of the Parish Plan, the action plan has been sent other stakeholders and members of ACT who were present felt they had received a couple of positive responses so far.. The Chairman outlined the format of the meeting.

10/183 Althorne Community Together Action Plan

Cllr P Davies provided Cllrs with a copy of the Parish Plan questionnaire's independent analysis regarding the items to be discussed.

The items the Althorne Parish Council ("APC") were asked to comment on and it's responses are as detailed on the attached page.

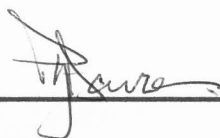
10/184 Any Other Business

Cllr P Davies has sent the grant applications off for the overspill car park at the Recreation Ground, Cllrs thanked him for his work. RES have submitted their application re wind farm at Turncole Farm, members to be advised of date of next meeting to look at the application and will advise their attendance to the Clerk.

10/185 Closure

The Chairman closed the meeting was closed at 9.40pm

X



Chairman of Althorne Parish Council

Action	Discussion	Response
2.1 Investigate the possibility of computer literacy classes	There was some discussion regarding the APC role in forming clubs. Hiring of the Parish Hall is a Parish Hall Trustee issue and should be addressed directly to them	Request APC be removed from the Action by column of the Action Plan. Proposed by Cllr P Davies, seconded by Cllr Mrs M Davies, 3 in favour, 1 abstention
5.2 Explore the possibility of Althorne becoming a conservation area	There was discussion regarding the time scale and scale of such an undertaking. It was felt there was no mandate from the parish to consider such a request as it was not mentioned in the questionnaire analysis	Request APC be removed from the Action by column of the Action Plan. Proposed by Cllr Mrs M Davies, seconded by Cllr Mrs S Winter, all in favour,
6.1 Explore the possibility of publicising planning applications	It was agreed that the responsibility for advertising planning applications is Maldon District Council's ("MDC") responsibility, APC publishes the Public Notice it receives on its notice board and on the minutes and agendas for meetings. Cllrs Mrs M Davies and Mrs S Winter will produce an article explaining the planning process as it affects Althorne for the AVN.	Request APC be removed from the Action by column of the Action Plan. Proposed by Cllr Mrs M Davies, seconded by Cllr Mrs S Winter, all in favour,
6.2 Approach MDC with view to reinstating policy of advising neighbours of new planning applications.	There was some discussion regarding MDC policy, the councillors were in support of changes to notifying neighbours but the decision regarding changes was MDC's.	APC will write to MDC supporting a policy change to advise neighbours of new planning applications. Proposed by Cllr Mrs M Davies and seconded by Cllr M Davies
6.3 Publicise Parish Council meetings on all notice boards	It was agreed that the PC do advertise it's meetings on its only notice board and will continue to do so. Once an additional notice board has been purchased and erected in the lower end of Althorne meetings will also be advertised on this.	Request APC be removed from the Action by column of the Action Plan. Proposed by Cllr Mrs S Winter, seconded by Cllr P Davies, all in favour
6.4 Parish Council website to continue	There was some discussion and agreed that the website is a voluntary function and the webmaster will continue to do it until they wish to withdraw their services, whereupon someone else may take on the role. APC pays for the hosting of it.	Request APC be removed from the Action by column of the Action Plan. Proposed by Cllr Mrs M Davies, seconded by Cllr Mrs S Winter, all in favour

<p>6.5 Parish Council Notice boards – investigate the possibility of sighting at Garden Close, Recreation Ground, and Riverview</p>	<p>It was agreed that the purchase of an additional notice board was in hand and that the action needs to be more specific in terms of numbers of boards. There was also some discussion regarding the funding of purchase.</p>	<p>Request APC be removed from the Action by column of the Action Plan. Proposed by Cllr P Davies, seconded by Cllr P Burgess, all in favour</p>
<p>7.1 Encourage villagers to keep hedges and verges trimmed</p>	<p>It was agreed that the APC maintains its own hedges and verges and contacts landowners when necessary.</p>	<p>Request APC be removed from the Action by column of the Action Plan. Proposed by Cllr Mrs S Winter, seconded by Cllr P Davies, all in favour</p>
<p>7.2 Litter bins – investigate the possibility of more being provided, perhaps by Post Office, Recreation Ground and Parish Hall</p>	<p>It was agreed that three bins are in the process of being purchased for the Recreation Ground, the Parish Hall Trustees are responsible for the provision of bins at the Parish Hall, and the land at the Post Office is private. There was also some discussion regarding the funding of purchases.</p>	<p>Request APC be removed from the Action by column of the Action Plan. Proposed by Cllr Mrs M Davies, seconded by Cllr P Burgess, all in favour</p>
<p>7.3 Poor mobile phone reception – discuss with BT</p>	<p>It was agreed that this is not an APC responsibility, BT is not a mobile network operator so it's not worth talking to them anyway and the action needs to identify which networks are giving poor reception in our area. It was agreed that individuals to take the issue up with their provider or switch to another provider if not satisfied.</p>	<p>Request APC be removed from the Action by column of the Action Plan. Proposed by Cllr P Davies, seconded by Cllr Mrs M Davies, all in favour</p>
<p>9.2 Campaign for improvements/return of 31X,etc.</p>	<p>It was agreed that APC would continue to support Dengie Bus Users Group</p>	<p>Request APC be removed from the Action by column of the Action Plan. Proposed by Cllr Mrs M Davies, seconded by Cllr Mrs S Winter, all in favour</p>
<p>9.3 Pressure on ECC Highways to improve road condition and pavements in certain areas</p>	<p>It was agreed that APC continues to pressure ECC Highways for have had some successes in getting some of the footpaths repaired. APC have prepared a priority list for the Highways Localism Panel. Althorne Parish Council has prepared a list of issues in priority order for our village for determination by the panel. If ACT have specific areas of concern they need to bring them to the attention of APC to be categorised.</p>	<p>APC will continue to pressure ECC Highways for improvements and will categorise any specific concerns brought to their attention. Proposed by Cllr P Davies, seconded by Cllr Mrs M Davies, all in favour</p>

11.2 Investigate the possibility of different times/ locations for library service, i.e. for school children	It was agreed that there was insufficient information to proceed and that this is an issue that should be taken up directly with ECC	Request APC be removed from the Action by column of the Action Plan. Proposed by Cllr Mrs S Winter, seconded by Cllr P Davies, all in favour
11.4 Advertising for the existence of the Parish Council Website	There was some discussion regarding the results of the questionnaire analysis. It was agreed that the web address would be added to the AVN	Inform ACT that the web address would be added to the Council information in the AVN. Proposed by Cllr Mrs S Winter and seconded by Cllr Mrs M Davies, all in favour
11.5 Investigate sites for notice boards. E.g. footpath map, etc	APC are currently waiting for designs to come from suppliers regarding a footpath map for the Recreation Ground. If possible a footpath map will be reproduced with the Annual Report	Inform ACT that the matter is in hand. Proposed by Cllr Mrs S Winter, seconded Mrs M Davies, all in favour
12.1 Investigate the possibility of a nature trail	There was some discussion regarding where a nature trail could go and the amount of work and cost required to make one. It was agreed that the council would not initiate any investigation	Cllr Mrs S Winter is willing to join a working party if requested to do so. Proposed by Cllr P Davies and seconded by Cllr Mrs M Davies, all in favour
14.1 Repairs made to tennis court	APC are currently in the process of obtaining and evaluating quotes for repairs to be completed	Inform ACT that the matter is in hand. Proposed by Cllr P Davies, seconded Cllr Mrs S Winter, all in favour
14.2 More equipment for older children on the Recreation Ground	APC, with the AllStars Youth Club, have secured funding for new play equipment and skate park which , hopefully will be in place by early 2011	Inform ACT that the matter is in hand. Proposed by Cllr P Davies, seconded Cllr Mrs S Winter, all in favour