

Alfreton Town Council

Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 19 October 2021 at 7pm at Alfreton Leisure Centre

**Present:**

Councillors: G Dolman, M Kerry, S Swain (for part of the meeting – see 120/21 below) J Walker (Deputy Town Mayor who took the Chair in the absence of the Town Mayor who had given his apologies) S Walker and K Wood

Officers: D T Holmes, Clerk to the Meeting, Tina Crookes and Vic Johnstone

# ORDER OF BUSINESS

## 111/21 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors:

M Bennett – illness

C Dale – Training course

J Gdula – holiday

H Jowett-Frost – holiday

S Marshall- Clarke – holiday

C O’Brien illness

A Richardson – illness

C Robinson – work commitment

D Taylor – illness

## 112/21 To receive any declarations of interest from Members

## Interests were declared by Councillor J Walker. Item 110/21i i. To consider a report on Staffing matters and 115/21 To ratify Planning Applications - Councillor J Walker will leave the meeting during the discussion and voting on these items

## Councillor S Walker declared a Personal interest in item 114/21 as an Elected Member of Somercotes Parish Council To receive correspondence from Somercotes Parish Council, no confidence vote in Amber Valley Borough Council as Local Planning Authority

## 113/21 Recording and Filming of Council and Committee Meetings

Noted

## 114/21 Public Participation

There were none

## 115/21 To consider any items which should be taken in exclusion of the press and public

**RESOLVED**

That the following items are taken in exclusion for the reasons shown below

a. 110/21 f. To receive a report and recommendation on Japanese Knotweed because of the commercially sensitive nature

b. 110/21 g. To receive a report on a proposal to create a Community Hub (see minute Ex6/21) because of the commercially sensitive nature

c. 110/21 h. To receive a report and recommendation on Council Emails because of the commercially sensitive nature

d. 110/21 i. To consider a report on Staffing matters due to General Data Protection Regulations

## 116/21 To hear from a representative of Derbyshire Police should one be available

There were no officers available to attend the meeting.

At this point in the meeting members considered an invitation from Amber Valley Borough Council agenda item 110/21 refers, for a Town Council representative to attend their Crime and Disorder Meeting on Wednesday 17 November 2021.

**RESOLVED**

That the Town Mayor or is representative attend the meeting and that the Town Council submits a question to the meeting. ‘An explanation for the apparent disconnection with the Town Council relating to the response to matters raised with the Police and attendance at Town Council meetings.

## 117/21 To read and consider the Minutes of the Meeting of Alfreton Town Council held on Tuesday 20th July 2021 & Tuesday 10th August 2021 copies had been circulated to each Member with the summons to attend the meetings; the Minutes may be taken as read.

**RESOLVED**

The minutes were approved as a correct record

## 118/21 After consideration to approve the signature of the Meeting Minutes of Tuesday 20th July 2021 & Tuesday 10th August 2021 by the person presiding as a correct record

**RESOLVED**

That the minutes, of both meetings are signed as a correct record

## 119/21 To dispose of business, if any, remaining from the last meeting

There were none

**120 /21** **To consider the co-option to fill a vacancy in the East Ward**

**RESOLVED**

That Sharlene Swain is co-opted to fill the vacancy in the East Ward.

Following a brief recess, during which she signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office which was countersigned by the Proper Officer, Councillor Swain joined the meeting and participated in its business and voting

## 121/21 To receive and consider reports and minutes of committees

Events Committee held on 4th October 2021

Members received a report on actions and amendments to the programme

**RESOLVED**
a. That the report is received, and the recommendations contained therein are approved

b. That the Town Council’s thanks are recorded for the work undertaken by the Members of The Events Committee and the supporting Joint Town Clerk

## 122/21 To receive and consider additional agenda items in the order in which they have been notified.

a. To receive an update on Regeneration/ Welcome Back Fund

**RESOLVED**

That owing to the absence of information this matter is referred to a meeting of the Town Council to be held on 26th October 2021

b. To consider Grant applications from Methodist Homes Association £750.00 & Sleetmoor United £1823.00

**RESOLVED**

i. That a grant of £750 is made to the Methodist Homes Association

ii. That a grant of £1823 is made to Sleetmoor United Football Club with a request that the Town Council’s contribution is acknowledged by an appropriate logo on playing kit.

c. To receive the Completion of the limited assurance review for the year ended 31 March 2021

**RESOLVED**

I.Members **NOTED** that the Town Council has passed the Audit for 2020/21
ii. The Joint Town Clerk and RFO, and the Assistant Town Clerk are thanked for their work on preparing the audit.

d.Town Clerks Correspondence

1.AVA/2021/0696 App address: Land On The Corner Of Aumonier Way And Bunting Close Aumonier Way Alfreton Derbyshire

2.Traffic Island, Mansfield Road

3.Request for information on progress footpath 70 & 71

4.Alfreton Welfare Park

5.Electronic information signs

6. East Midlands Railway

**RESOLVED**

That a press statement is released making the point that the Town Council feels that there is a theme in the above replies/ correspondence which suggests that Alfreton is being ignored in comparison to other parts of the Borough/ County

f. To receive a report and recommendation on Japanese Knotweed

**RESOLVED**

i.To accept and approve the quotation from TP Knotweed Solutions for staged payments over 3 years – upfront payment of 60% of the contract value in Year One £5934.36,20% of the contract value in Year 2 £1,898.60 and a final payment of 20% of the contract value in Year 3 £1,898.60 – Total cost £9731.56 from the Alfreton House and Properties budget

ii. That Officers seek to mitigate the effect of the 60% upfront payment against the risk of the failure of the company delivering the project

g. To receive a report on a proposal to create a Community Hub (see minute Ex6/21)

*Members received a report which sought to inform members of the progress with seeking premises and a suitable delivery partner. Members heard that the owner of suitable local premises was interested in supporting the project by participating in a 5-year lease with the delivery partner. Members also received a detailed Expression of Interest from a local organisation SISU*

**RESOLVED**

i. The Town Council supports the creation of a Community Hub.

ii. That's funds of up to £22,500 are set aside to cover the costs of twelve months rent for 14-16 Institute Lane from the current financial year budget.

iii. SISU are noted as the preferred delivery partner for the project.

iv. SISU submit a formal Grant Application to the Town Council, including their costed Business Case, for the rental costs for 14-16 Institute Lane for the next five years.

v. Payment of any grant award is made in four equal instalments annually, and subject to delivery against an agreed Service Level Agreement.

vi. A counteroffer is made for rental of 14-16 Institute Lane of:

- 6 months introductory rent of £750 per month.

- Rental £22,500 per annum therefore after.

- Tenant lease breaks at 12 months, then every 24 months for the duration of the lease.

- Lease duration ten years.

- Rental review every twelve months from end of month thirty-six, capped at CPI.

vii. The Town Council budgets for expenditure of £22,500 to support the Community Hub for financial years 22/23, 23/24, and £22,500 plus CPI for financial years 24/25 and 25/26.

h. To receive a report and recommendation on Council Emails

**RESOLVED**

1. That the quotation from Edge IT is accepted for a one-off cost of £882 in order to complete the setup of the email accounts and migrate the Council’s data
2. That the quotation from Edge IT for a monthly cost of £128.40 for Office 365 business standard for staff and Office 365 business basic for councillors including SaaS protection for each account

At this point Councillor John Walker, who had declared an interest Agenda Item 112/21 refers left the meeting when it was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Mary Kerry would take the Chair for the following items

i. To consider a report on Staffing matters

**RESOLVED**

a. That the proposed structure outlined in the report and its associated ‘Signposting’ and the development of The Assistant Town Clerk are **NOTED** and **APPROVED**

b. It is **NOTED** that has agreed with staff that they keep a log of time spent on Town Council business also showing the activity involved. It is not intended to be intrusive or restrict employee’s flexibility. That information will be monitored over the next 5 months (up to the end of March 2022) and a report brought to the Town Council meeting in April 2022.

c. The arrangements during COVID as outlined in the report are **NOTED** and **APPROVED**

d. That the remuneration for work at Events at weekends is regularised to £20.73 an hour for all employees equivalent to the hourly rate at the top of the Joint Town Clerk’s scale (spinal point 36). To reduce the cost effect it is recommended that Officer-attendance at Events is kept to a manageable minimum

## 123/21 To receive correspondence from Somercotes Parish Council, no confidence vote in Amber Valley Borough Council as Local Planning Authority

**RESOLVED**

That Alfreton Town Council communicates with Somercotes Parish Council to confirm its support for this vote of no confidence.

**124/21 To ratify Planning Applications**

The following applications were received

* It was **NOTED** and **APPROVED** that representations are to be made on Application [AVA/2021/1009](https://www.ambervalley.gov.uk/planapps?refval=AVA-2021-1009) - The Town Council requests that consideration is given to any changes made to the windows and asks that they are replaced like for like. The first and second floor windows are quite unique to the period of the building and are mirrored with the building 3 doors away.

No further representations had been offered

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| **Consultation Date - 20/Jul/2021** |  |

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| Ref: | [AVA/2021/0730](https://www.ambervalley.gov.uk/planapps?refval=AVA-2021-0730) |
| Address: | 78 Preston Avenue, Alfreton, Derbyshire, DE55 7JX, |
| Proposal: | Erection of a two storey children's playhouse with swings and slide. Erection of a wooden shed |
| Date Valid: | 20/Jul/2021 |
| Decision Expected: | 24/Sep/2021 |
| Decision Issued: | 16/Sep/2021 |
| Applicant: | Ms Danielle James  78 Preston Avenue, Alfreton, Derbyshire, DE55 7JX, |
| Officer: | Laura Anthony  (laura.anthony@ambervalley.gov.uk) |
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|  | **Consultation Date - 25/Aug/2021** |  |

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| Ref: | [AVA/2021/0951](https://www.ambervalley.gov.uk/planapps?refval=AVA-2021-0951) |
| Address: | 100 Nottingham Road, Alfreton, Derbyshire, DE55 7GL, |
| Proposal: | Proposed two storey side extension and single storey rear extension |
| Date Valid: | 25/Aug/2021 |
| Decision Expected: | 13/Oct/2021 |
| Applicant: | Mr And Mrs M Ozenbrook  100 Nottingham Road, Alfreton, Derbyshire, DE55 7GL, |
| Officer: | Laura Anthony  (laura.anthony@ambervalley.gov.uk) |
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|  | **Consultation Date - 3/Sep/2021** |  |

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| Ref: | [AVA/2021/0894](https://www.ambervalley.gov.uk/planapps?refval=AVA-2021-0894) |
| Address: | Land Adj 77 Flowery Leys Lane, Flowery Leys Lane, Alfreton, Derbyshire, , |
| Proposal: | New two storey detached 3-bedroom dwelling |
| Date Valid: | 3/Sep/2021 |
| Decision Expected: | 22/Oct/2021 |
| Applicant: | Mr H Rajabzadeh  26 Charles Street, Alfreton, DE55 7EA, |
| Parish: | Alfreton   Ward:  Alfreton |
| Officer: | Anne Arkle  (anne.arkle@ambervalley.gov.uk) |
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|  | **Consultation Date - 17/Sep/2021** |  |

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| Ref: | [AVA/2021/1025](https://www.ambervalley.gov.uk/planapps?refval=AVA-2021-1025) |
| Address: | 1 - 3 High Street, Alfreton, Derbyshire, DE55 7DR, |
| Proposal: | Proposed change of use of first and second floor office accommodation to form 2no. self contained flats |
| Date Valid: | 16/Sep/2021 |
| Decision Expected: | 4/Nov/2021 |
| Applicant: | Mr S Ghai  Homelet (TLC Ltd), 1-3, High Street, Alfreton, DE55 7DR, |
| Parish: | Alfreton   Ward:  Alfreton |
| Officer: | Anne Arkle  (anne.arkle@ambervalley.gov.uk) |
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|  | **Consultation Date - 24/Sep/2021** |  |

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| Ref: | [AVA/2021/1009](https://www.ambervalley.gov.uk/planapps?refval=AVA-2021-1009) |
| Address: | Price Less, 88 High Street, Alfreton, Derbyshire, DE55 7BE, |
| Proposal: | Change of use from retail unit to 5 No. apartments with retention of 1 No. ground floor retail unit to frontage |
| Date Valid: | 21/Sep/2021 |
| Decision Expected: | 9/Nov/2021 |
| Applicant: | Mr Arvinder Singh  88 High Street, Alfreton, Derbyshire, DE55 7BE |
| Officer: | Mark Penford  (mark.penford@ambervalley.gov.uk) |
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|  | **Consultation Date - 27/Sep/2021** |  |

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| Ref: | [AVA/2021/1057](https://www.ambervalley.gov.uk/planapps?refval=AVA-2021-1057) |
| Address: | Erimar, 17A Wood Street, Alfreton, Derbyshire, DE55 7JW, |
| Proposal: | Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension to existing dwelling |
| Date Valid: | 27/Sep/2021 |
| Decision Expected: | 15/Nov/2021 |
| Applicant: | Mr B Shaw  Erimar, 17A, Wood Street, Alfreton, DE55 7JW, |
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|  | **Consultation Date - 28/Sep/2021** |  |

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| Ref: | [AVA/2021/0607](https://www.ambervalley.gov.uk/planapps?refval=AVA-2021-0607) |
| Address: | Land To West Of Richford Motor Factors, Dunsford Road, Alfreton, Derbyshire, , |
| Proposal: | Demolition of existing office and storage containers to be replaced by a new office/workshop building |
| Date Valid: | 21/Sep/2021 |
| Decision Expected: | 9/Nov/2021 |
| Applicant: | A-Chem Plant and Equipment Ltd  |
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|  | **Consultation Date - 29/Sep/2021** |  |

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| Ref: | [AVA/2021/1029](https://www.ambervalley.gov.uk/planapps?refval=AVA-2021-1029) |
| Address: | 41 Wycliffe Road, Alfreton, Derbyshire, DE55 7HR, |
| Proposal: | Proposed 2 storey extension for residential use |
| Date Valid: | 29/Sep/2021 |
| Decision Expected: | 17/Nov/2021 |
| Applicant: | Mr Robert Briggs  41 Wycliffe Road, Alfreton, Derbyshire, DE55 7HR |

At this point Councillor John Walker returned to the meeting and took the Chair

## 125/21 To authorise the signing of orders for payment

July£17,189.15

August £9,761.19

September £9,711.48

**RESOLVED**
That the above payments are NOTED and APPROVED

## 126/21 To receive reports from Members who may have attended Outside Bodies meetings

There were no reports received

## 127/21 To consider 4 topics for communication

**RESOLVED**

That the following items are approved as topics for communication

***Loss of Health Care Facility***.AVA/2021/0696 App address: Land on the Corner of Aumonier Way and Bunting Close Aumonier Way Alfreton Derbyshire) (minute 122/21d (1) refers

***Neglect by principal authorities***

Traffic Island, Mansfield Road

Request for information on progress footpath 70 & 71

Alfreton Welfare Park

Electronic information signs

(minute 122/21 d (2, 3, 4 and 5 refer)

***Plans for forthcoming Events***

***Grant Support*** for Methodist Homes Association £750 and Sleetmoor United Football Club £1823