



## **Minutes of a Meeting of Aldercar & Langley Mill Parish Council**

**held at Neal Court Community Room, Andrews Drive, Aldercar at 6.30 pm on  
Thursday 27 October 2016**

### **Present**

Councillors Miss G Becks, C F Booth (Vice-Chairman), S Brown, M J Fowkes (Chairman), Miss M Fowler, Miss S Fowler, Mrs E Hamilton, Ms T Langton-Ballard and S Oakes.

### **Also Present**

Mr A Sharpe (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer) and Councillor P Jones.

### **131/16 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors T Knowles and C Morrison.

Councillor Gration also sent his apologies.

### **132/16 Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Ms T Langton-Ballard declared an interest in Planning Application AVA/2016/0917.

### **133/16 To determine if any items of business should be taken with the public excluded**

**RESOLVED** that no items of business should be considered with the public excluded other than the report on staffing matters previously notified on the agenda.

### **134/16 Public Speaking**

#### **(a) Public Matters**

None.

#### **(b) Police Matters**

There was no Police Report to this meeting. The Chairman had attended a Crime and Disorder Improvement & Scrutiny Committee meeting at Amber Valley

Borough Council on 5 October and raised the issue of Police attendance at Parish Council meetings.

**(c) Borough Council Member Reports**

Councillor Mrs E Hamilton attended the meeting and gave an update on a number of issues affecting the village including antisocial gatherings, planning matters and caravans at Parliament Square.

Councillor Gration submitted his apologies to the meeting.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

**(d) County Council Member Report**

Councillor Jones attended the meeting and gave his monthly report on matters relating to Derbyshire County Council and in particular where these affected the residents of Aldercar and Langley Mill was tabled. The text of the report was as follows-

**“Help for local Community Group**

I was pleased to help the bingo group who meet at the Children Centre on Bailey Brook Drive to obtain 7 folding trestle tables and 15 meeting chairs from redundant stock that the County Council had. It is nice to see this furniture being recycled and helping one of our valued community groups.

**Heanor Hospital**

The contract to build the new Heanor healthcare building on the site of the former Heanor Memorial Hospital has been awarded to East Midlands firm A&S Enterprises Limited. A&S Enterprises are based at Lancaster Court, Lancaster Park, Burton upon Trent, and have an established track record in the construction of NHS healthcare premises.

The start on site is now expected to be in early November with plans for a turf-cutting ceremony to be announced soon. The project will take 12 months to complete.

The total cost of the project will be around £3.5m, incorporating not just the building costs but all the associated costs of fitting out, preparing and opening the new building ready for patient care.

Derbyshire Community Health Services NHS Foundation Trust is leading the project, as the organisation responsible for the redevelopment of health services on the site of the former Heanor Memorial Hospital.

**New building for Local School Derbyshire School**

Students and staff at Aldercar High School are settling into a brand new state-of-the-art building thanks to our funding.

The £7.4m project has replaced the timber-framed main school block on Dalton Close, Langley Mill with a new three-storey building.

The new building includes specialist rooms for food technology, design and graphics, two art rooms, two science laboratories and three science classrooms, three fully equipped ICT suites and a media room.

It also boasts a multi-purpose hall with retractable seating as well as lighting and sound equipment so that it can be used for performances. There will also be a separate dining room and kitchen, offices, work preparation areas and staff and student toilets.

### **Winners of our social care garden competition revealed**

Residential homes and day care centres are celebrating after their gardens won awards in a competition we organise each year.

- This year marked the 21st year of the annual gardening competition, which attracts a wide range of entries from groups of people who use our day services or live in residential or children's homes. Care home staff worked closely with residents of all ages to help transform their surroundings using baskets, centrepieces, plants and flowers to brighten up borders and pots.
- Florence Shipley Day Centre in Heanor scooped two first prize awards, Table Decoration and Tubs, Boxes and Baskets.

### **Telephone scam warning for Derbyshire residents**

We're warning residents about scam phone calls being made in our name.

Concerned residents have contacted our trading standards team to report that they have received phone calls where the caller claims to be from Derbyshire County Council and wants to speak about an accident they may have had.

During the conversation the caller may quote a legitimate council phone number to make the call seem genuine.

The number from which the scammers actually call is reported to be a London code (0207) but it is highly likely that the calls are being made from an overseas call centre, and that those responsible have merely purchased a UK number.

### **New-look vehicles will save us cash**

New-look work vehicles will save us nearly £500,000 cash.

Our fleet currently consists of 483 vehicles, of which 440 are orange in colour.

Depending on type and what they are used for, vehicles typically last between five and 10 years.

Now when vehicles need replacing they will be white, saving between £1,000 and £2,000 per vehicle – adding up to a total saving of £455,000 over an eight-year vehicle replacement cycle.

Our 44 gritting and other emergency response vehicles will continue to be distinctive orange for visibility reasons.

### **Derbyshire road accident injuries at lowest for 30 years**

The number of people injured in accidents on Derbyshire's roads is at its lowest for 30 years.

The 2015 Derby and Derbyshire Annual Casualty Report has revealed the total number of people who were injured on roads across the county and Derby city was 2,997 – the lowest number recorded since 1975.

The number of people killed was 25 in total, with 324 serious injuries reported, which was the second lowest for the same period.

For Derbyshire roads alone a total of 2,237 people were reported injured, of which 23 died and 301 were seriously injured.

At the meeting councillors will also be told that we've earmarked £530,000 for future road safety initiatives to make Derbyshire's roads even safer.

### **Survey highlights satisfaction with our services**

Residents who use our adult social care services have praised the standard of care and support they receive in a national annual satisfaction survey.

Every year, councils across England carry out a survey to find out what people think of the services they provide or buy in from other organisations.

The results help local authorities to better understand how services affect people's lives and may help to shape the way these could be offered in the future.

The results revealed that 70% of Derbyshire respondents were 'extremely or very satisfied' with the care and support they received.

This compares to an average of 65% for the 18 other similar authorities that Derbyshire is compared with.

Meanwhile, 95% of the 500 people who returned a questionnaire feel support services help them have a better quality of life.

And 93% agree that services offered by us help them have control over their lives.

### **Could you be a countryside volunteer?**

Could you spare some time to work as a volunteer looking after Derbyshire's countryside?

We've drawn-up a new set of guidelines which we hope will encourage more people to volunteer.

The proposed guidelines aim to standardise and formalise procedures for volunteer groups to help out with a range of tasks on our countryside sites, rights of way and greenways.

Local people can **take part in a public consultation** and tell us what they think of the proposed guidelines.

The public consultation closes on 14 November 2016.

### **Apply for your child's secondary school place**

Parents of year six pupils living in Derbyshire can now apply to us for their child's secondary school place for September 2017.

Around 8,200 year six primary school children who were born between 1 September 2005 and 31 August 2006 have been sent information on the application process.

**You can apply for your secondary school place online.** The deadline to submit applications is midnight on Monday 31 October 2016.

Applying online is quicker and allows parents to make changes to their application at any point up to the closing date. Anyone who applies online will receive an email to confirm their application has been received.

Parents who do not have access to the internet can Call Derbyshire on telephone: 01629 533190 between 8am and 8pm on weekdays and 9.30am and 4pm on Saturdays.

When completing the application form parents will be asked to list, in order of preference, the three schools they would most like their child to go to.

Parents can still choose to complete a paper form by telephone: 01629 537499. This must be returned to the admissions and transport team at the address shown on the form by the closing date of Monday 31 October 2016.

Although parents have a legal right to express preferences they have no automatic right to a place at any particular school.

Applications submitted to us after the deadline will not be considered until places have been allocated to those children whose parents did return their form on time.

Parents who fail to meet the deadline may find that the school they want their child to go to is full.

### **Have your say on proposals to change record office hours**

People are being encouraged to have their say on proposals to change the opening hours at the Derbyshire Record Office.

We've launched a six-week consultation into our plan to reduce the normal opening hours at the Record Office from 41 to 30 hours per week.

People are now being asked to consider the proposal to reduce the opening hours, along with three options on how this could be achieved.

The Derbyshire Record Office is currently open Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 5pm and every Saturday from 9.30am to 1pm, and last year 19,500 people visited.

The proposal to reduce its opening hours is just one of the measures the council is considering so that it can meet its overall budget cuts target for 2016 to 2017.

If changes are made to the opening hours at the Record Office a cut of up to £125,000 could be made, which would include a staffing restructure.

The reduced opening hour's proposal is followed by three options for the public to consider, which are:

- to close all day on Monday
- to close all day on Wednesday
- to close all day on Friday.

All three options include the Record Office opening on the last Saturday of each month from 9.30am to 1pm, rather than opening every Saturday as it does currently.

### **Gardening company boss fined £500 for Trusted Trader logo offence**

A gardening company boss has been fined £500 after continuing to display the logo of a scheme designed to give consumers confidence, despite having his membership withdrawn eight months previously.

### **Waste less, live more**

Residents across the county are being invited to 'Waste less, Live more' this week by taking part in activities that are good for people and the environment.

More than 30,000 people have already signed up for the national initiative led by Keep Britain Tidy and we are supporting the campaign.

### **Healthy eating**

Hundreds of children will receive a free, healthy, nutritious meal during the October half term as part of a scheme to ensure they continue to eat well during the school holidays.

We launched the School Holiday Provision scheme in July to offer children healthy, free food and activities during the summer holidays and it will be rolled out again during the October half term.

The school holiday provision scheme provided nearly 8.5 tonnes of food - that's enough for 14,000 meals - and this included over 7,400 pieces of fruit, 9,677 yogurts and more than 1,700 loaves of bread.

The food was provided by East Midlands Fare Share who work to distribute surplus food industry items to community and voluntary groups across the county”

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

### **135/16 Minutes**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 22 September and the Extraordinary Meeting held on 11 October 2016 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

### **136/16 Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman updated Members on matters of interest including the forthcoming trip to York.

The Clerk was asked to write to oppose the Government's proposals on the capping of Town and Parish Council precepts.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

### **137/16 Members Reports**

#### **(a) 3P Youth Project**

A meeting of the three constituent authorities had be held at Heanor Town Hall on 8 September 2016 and it was likely this scheme would end. Further consideration would be required and the Clerk was to arrange a meeting of the Elected Members only.

#### **(b) Derbyshire County Council Town & Parish Council Liaison Meeting**

The next meeting had been called for Monday 31 October 2016.

#### **(c) South Wingfield & Pentrich Revolution Group**

Nothing further to report.

### **138/16 Organisation of Events**

As reported in Chairman's announcements Members **NOTED** the arrangements for the trip to York on 1 December 2016.

### **139/16 Planning and Licensing**

Council considered the following live planning applications –

<b><u>Ref</u></b>	<b><u>Proposal</u></b>
AVA/2016/1052	Mill Tackle, 85 Station Road – Shop exterior replacement
AVA/2016/0833	Lidl, 26 Business Park, Derby Road – Demolition and replacement store

**RESOLVED** that no comments be submitted on the applications listed above.

### **140/16 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils**

The DALC circulars 15 and 16/2016 were **NOTED**.

### **141/16 Finance**

Council considered a list of cheque payments to be made.

**RESOLVED** that the list of cheque payments presented be approved and the budget monitoring report noted.

#### **142/16 Allotments report**

The Chairman gave a brief report on issues relating to the allotment sites.

**RESOLVED** that the report be **NOTED** and the Clerk invite the tenants now identified to meet with the Members of the Allotments Committee.

#### **143/16 Parish Council – Items for Decision/Action**

##### **(a) Roundabout Near Asda**

The Clerk reported on quotations received from Plantscape for a display on the ASDA Island.

**RESOLVED** that the quotations were considered to be too expensive at this time, that the Clerk look into further options and report back to a future meeting.

##### **(b) North Street Car Park Project Update**

The Clerk updated Council on progress on this project. The District Council had asked if the Council was willing to invest more money into the project to enable the resurfacing of the car park.

**RESOLVED** that the District Council be asked to deliver the previously agreed scheme and informed that the Parish Council would not be able to provide further funds.

##### **(c) Christmas Lights**

The Clerk updated Council on the Christmas Lights to be installed this year.

**RESOLVED** that report be noted.

##### **(d) Cromford Road Litter Bin**

The Clerk reported on issues relating to the use of the litter bin on Cromford Road.

**RESOLVED** that the bin be emptied once a week only.

**(e) Auto enrolment of pensions**

The Clerk reported that auto enrolment was now in place and certification would be achieved in the next two months.

**RESOLVED** that report be noted.

**(f) Website**

The Clerk requested permission to seek to provide a new website for the Council for the new-year.

**RESOLVED** that the request be approved.

**(g) Vacancies on the Parish Council**

Council noted that Councillor Miss K Scott had resigned as a Member of the Council and Councillor T Knowles had also indicated that he would be resigning.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

**NOTE – Councillor Knowles subsequently confirmed his resignation.**

**144/16 Date and Time of Next Meeting**

It was **NOTED** that the next meeting of the Parish Council would be held at Neal Court Community Room, Andrews Drive, Aldercar, Langley Mill on Thursday 24 November 2016.

**145/16 Exclusion of Press and Public**

**RESOLVED** that the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting whilst exempt information was discussed.

**146/16 Staffing Matters**

Council were updated of a number of staffing issues relating to contracts and appraisals. Members were also asked to determine the outcome of the Clerk's probationary period of employment. (The Clerk left the meeting during discussion).

Council were also informed of progress towards the office relocation from January 2017.

**RESOLVED** that

- (1) The Staffing Panel be given delegated authority to approve the new staff contracts and also consider the hours for one of the posts.
- (2) The Clerk's probationary period be deemed satisfactory and his continued employment confirmed.