



ALBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Serving Farley Green, Brook, Little London & Newlands Corner

PARISH OF ALBURY NOTICE OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Local Government Act 1972

Minutes of an **extraordinary** meeting of Albury Parish Council held on

Thursday 9th February 2012 at 6.00pm

In the **Memorial Library** for the transaction of the under mentioned business.



Present: Cllr J Brockwell (in the chair), Cllrs P Gellatly, R Hogben, A Kerslake, K Kinnes,
G Robinson, P von Radowitz

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

38/12 **Apologies for absence:** were received from Cllr J Chapman and Cllr N Wenman

39/12 **Declarations of interest:** none were made.

40/12 **Power of Well Being**

Statement of Intent: The Parish Council fulfils the four conditions set out in the Parish Councils (Power to Promote Well-Being) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2008, which are based on some of the criteria in the Quality Parish and Town Council Scheme. The Well-Being Power is very broad and removes the need for local councils to rely on other legislation in order to take particular action.

The four conditions set out in the Prescribed Conditions Order and which are met by the Parish Council are:-

- A qualified Clerk
- A minimum of two-thirds of vacancies on the council filled at the last ordinary elections, further clarified by an indication that when exercising the power, at least two-thirds of members must have stood for election.
- 80% of councillors trained in the use of the Well-Being Power;
- A published statement of intent as to community engagement.

The Parish Council RESOLVED that after allowing a two week period for the Statement of Intent as to Community Engagement to be published, all four conditions laid down in the Parish Councils (Power to Promote Well-Being) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2008 would have been met and therefore they adopt and will be eligible to use the Power of Well-Being from 23rd February 2012 until the day before the next relevant annual meeting. This resolution was PROPOSED by Cllr Hogben, SECONDED by Cllr Robinson with all members in favour.

41/12 **Village Shop and Post Office:**

Members were asked to consider the following:

1. That the Parish Council should use the Power of Well Being, now adopted, and all reasonable endeavours to assist in securing the future of the post office and shop in the village of Albury. This measure was PROPOSED by Cllr Gellatly, SECONDED by Cllr Hogben, with all members unanimously in favour.
2. That a sub committee should be set up for this purpose, and that the sub-committee should have the authority of the Parish Council to negotiate on its behalf with all interested parties, including the Estate and the Post Office. This measure was PROPOSED by Cllr Hogben, SECONDED by Cllr Robinson, with all members in favour.

Members noted the current position as follows:

The Post Office is being run by Harry Patel, a temporary postmaster appointed by the Post Office. Mrs Chapman is running only the Shop daily until 1.00pm, pending deliberations by the Post Office in respect of her continued employment by the Post Office.

The Estate, as landlord, would obviously wish to take a view on the ongoing situation once there is an outcome to the Post Office deliberations

The Parish Council is unable to take any action regarding the future of the shop and post office, as Mrs Chapman continues to hold the lease and continues to run the Shop.

Concern was expressed about the proposal that the Parish Council should invest in stock to keep the Shop

going, while the current situation remained uncertain.

It was therefore **agreed** that the sub committee should be set up in order that a watching brief is kept, and action could be moved forward without delay if appropriate.

The sub committee could start by investigating the set up and constitution of a Community Shop.

Committee members were agreed as follows: Cllr Hogben, Cllr Brockwell, Cllr Kerslake and Cllr Robinson.

42/12 **Councillors Business:** *for noting or raising on a future agenda.*

- a) *Ice of paths:* Mr Balshaw would be asked to grit the footpath through the car park, as this is currently very icy.

43/12 **Date of next meeting:** Monday 5th March: **Mayor's visit.**

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 6.50pm.