

ALDCLIFFE – WITH – STODDAY PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd October 2017 at 7pm The Friends Meeting House,
Meeting House Lane, Lancaster.**

Present: Councillor **Chris Norman** (Chairman)
Councillor **Nicholas Webster**
Councillor **Emma Wolstencroft**
Councillor **Colin Rogers**

Apologies: Councillor **Kevan Walton**

1. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made. All paperwork for Councillors regarding Interests are up to date.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

3. Clerking

It was discussed that the need for a Clerk was growing as the burden was becoming too onerous for the Chair. Person Specifications and Responsibilities for a “Clerk to the Council and Responsible Financial Officer” were circulated. If neighbouring Parishes were unable to recommend a Clerk then one would be advertised for via LALC. Funds to be made available from Parish precept.

Action Point:

Chair to contact LALC to move forward

4. Fibre Broadband for Parish – Sub-committee (S.C.) report

No further progress.

Members of S.C. remain as,

- Councillor Kevan Walton (Stodday)
- Peter Wilson (Arna Wood)
- Phil Leedal (Aldcliffe)

5. Public Right of Way (PROW) – S.C. report

Local resident contact over the Public Right of Way status of Aldcliffe Hall Drive (The Drive).

The Drive has long been considered the safe foot and cycle path through Aldcliffe. This has been commented upon in recent planning applications by residents and visitors alike. Parishioners were concerned that as the Drive did not hold PROW status that the application for this designation should be sought. Councillors felt that this should be considered and a S.C. was created to scope out the support for this and highlight the matter to Parishioners.

Mr T. Dant reported back to the Parish Council with progress.

- a) Over 100 pieces of evidence had been put forward by users of The Drive indicating without doubt that it qualifies for PROW status.
- b) The SC believed that a target date of the end of September to start formally putting together a submission for the Parish council would be reasonable. The final submission to be complete and presented at a Parish Meeting by mid-November as a provisional time frame.
- c) The sub-committee needed clarification as to the Parish Councils intent on moving the issue forward once a report had been produced.

Cllr Rogers made a proposal that the Council should vote to affirm which plan in principle would be supported. These included three proposals,

1. The Parish Council would take the lead in putting forward the proposal to the County Council for adding the Drive to the PROW map.
2. The Parish Council would support the Sub-committee in putting the proposal forward.
3. The Parish Council would not actively support the proposal.

Cllr Webster repeated his, and others, concerns about the Drive being used by horses.

The Parish Council voted in favour of the Parish taking the lead in putting the proposal forward by 3 votes to 1.

Action Point

- The SC will continue its work until reporting to the Parish by December.

Members of S.C. remain as,

- Councillor Colin Rogers (Stodday)
- Dr Stephen Dickinson (Aldcliffe)
- Ms Mollie Foxall (Aldcliffe)
- Mr Tim Dant (Aldcliffe)

6. Access between Lune Estuary Path and Stodday

The track between Stodday and the Lune estuary path need improvement and funding has been sourced to do so. There is a complication with identifying the individual responsible for said track. County Councillor Gina Dowding asked the PC if any locals would be able to identify the owner.

Residents with land adjoining this path informed us that the land has no registered owner with the Land Registry and has become an ongoing issue for users of the path. The possibility was discussed of the Parish Council taking ownership of the land and progressing the works required to improve the track.

Action Point

Chair to scope out the possibility of taking ownership of the land.

7. Hedges overdue pruning causing damage to vehicles – Cllr N. Webster

Hedges within the Parish, notably those running along Stodday Road, are overgrown and causing damage to vehicles and making visibility poor for road users. The Chair had contacted Highways to address the issue but was informed that the legal process to inform landowners and enforce pruning if required was a lengthy one. Parishioners were advised that within nesting season pruning was complicated and avoided if possible. Out of season requests for pruning should be made using the online system (Lancashire County Highways – Report It).

All hedges within the Parish causing concern have been reported using the online system.

8. Parish Newsletter

The benefit of a Parish newsletter to be produced and posted to all Parishioners was discussed. It was proposed that Councillors would all produce a short piece for the newsletter and Cllr Rogers would edit the publication. It was hoped that it could be produced before Christmas.

9. Any other business

a. Fly Tipping

Fly tipping of both builders and garden waste continues within the Parish.

Action Point

Chair to write to County Councillor for support.

b. Hydro Forum

Parish Councillors invited to the upcoming Hydro Forum in December. This will address the issues faced by continued flood risks from the Lune River.

10. Date and venue for next meeting

7pm on 12th December 2017 at the Friends Meeting House , Lancaster.

The meeting ended at 9.45pm.