

Minutes of the Allington Parish Council meeting on 24th November 2009
Held at the Boscombe and District Social Club

Present were – Cllr M Brunton, Cllr P Smith, Cllr G Barnes, Cllr Matt Smith, Cllr Terry Turner, Cllr S.Borrett and Mrs J Tier (Parish Clerk)

Action

2 Members of the Public
Cllr Mike Hewitt

Prior to the meeting Cllr Brunton asked the public if they had any questions or comments to make prior to opening the meeting. There were none, and the meeting duly opened at 7.35pm

1	To receive apologies Apologies received from Cllr J.Smale and Cllr Rob Kitson	
2	Declarations of Interest None	
3	Minutes A copy of the minutes for the last meeting held on 20 th October 2009 were submitted and approved and duly signed by Cllr Brunton. Cllr Turner proposed the acceptance and Cllr Barnes seconded.	
4	Matters Arising Fly-Tipping - Cllr P.Smith confirmed that he would look into fir tree cuttings left on public land by village Ford. Play-ground sign – The clerk confirmed that she had spoken to Rob Kitson and the sign had been purchased and erected. Notice boards – Cllr Brunton confirmed that the 4 new village notice boards had been erected. Cycle Route – Cllr Brunton handed the details of the proposed Allington and Boscombe cycle route to Cllr P.Smith as he is attending a meeting on the matter prior to the Area Board meeting early in December.	
5	Unitary update Cllr Hewitt updated the meeting on the Police camera watch scheme that had been discussed by the Area Boards and the involvement of Parish Councils. Parish Councils had voiced a concern over becoming involved in a system within their own Parish but may be able to take a role in another local Parish. This project is an area board project now rather than an individual Parish project. The proposed cycle routes for Idmiston / Winterbournes / Allington are near completion and these are in preparation for when funding becomes available. A discussion then ensued regarding the likelihood of a change of access to the Allington track from the A338 once traffic flows changed after the development of Countess Roundabout. The likelihood is that the ‘gap’ between the carriageways would be closed, causing inconvenience to village residents. The Parish council asked Cllr Hewitt what action could be taken to avoid the closure. Cllr Hewitt advised writing to Wiltshire Council to put pressure on them not to close the gap. Cllr Borrett	

	asked if the BVAPC could become involved. Cllr Brunton asked the clerk to have this item put if on the agenda for the next BVAPC meeting.	Action: Clerk
6	<p>Discuss closure notice Allington church Cllr Brunton discussed and read out relevant parts of the document that had been received from the C of E Church Commissioners in London regarding the closure of St John the Baptist in Allington. The document in question was not viewed as being accurate. It had not taken into consideration the letter sent from the Parish Council, 25th March 2009, stating the concerns over the proposed closure.</p> <p>The word PARISH was used in several sentences when in fact it should have been PCC. Further, the letter suggests that no interest has been taken in the church with a view to using it as a community building in the future. The Parish Council and the Allington with Boscombe Parish Plan steering committee continue to consider this option but are not in a position to investigate this issue further as the closure has not yet been formally announced.</p> <p>Cllr Brunton has written, on behalf of the Parish Council, confirming concerns about the closure documentation and the Commissioners believe that the Parish Council had significant funds to put toward the conversion of the Church to a Community Centre – which is not the case.</p>	
7	<p>Discuss, review quotes and vote on expenditure The Councillors discussed the three quotes that had been obtained for work within the village on the bus shelters, benches, picnic tables and Cemetery gatepost. The Parish Council decided to repair the gatepost in the Cemetery and authorise work on the bus shelters as these needed most attention. The benches, picnic tables and metal bus shelters will be upgraded in the Spring in the dryer weather. Cllr Brunton proposed the agreed work should be put in hand with Frenchmoor Restoration. This was seconded by Cllr P.Smith with no ostentations from Councillors.</p>	
8	<p>Discuss and review services provided by Community Service Cllr Brunton and the Clerk had investigated a previous suggestion made by Cllr Barnes of using the Community Probation Service. The cost of a visit (up to 6-8 hours) is £15.00. The problem of a toilet facility was highlighted by the Community Service manager. The Parish Council discussed this and were in agreement that the Community Service manager would be responsible for this by ensuring that he gave the team members comfort breaks throughout the day. The possibility of using the facilities at the Boscombe Club is to be investigated. Cllr Brunton proposed an expenditure of not more than £150.00 throughout the year (max 10 visits) on the Community Service visits and that Cllr Kitson and Cllr Brunton would be responsible for organising each visit and project. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Turner. All were in favour.</p>	
9	<p>Review initial budget for 2010 and preliminary discussions on 2010 precept The Clerk produced a spreadsheet for the Cllrs in the form of a draft budget for next year. The Cllrs discussed whether there was a need to increase the precept for 2010. It was agreed that the Cllr's would take the budget figures away for consideration and would further discuss and vote on 'no increase', or a '2 per cent increase' for 2010 at the next meeting.</p>	
10	<p>Planning Applications There were no planning applications</p>	

11 Correspondence received

Cllr Brunton read out the correspondence that had been received.

- Notification of a planning enforcement seminar from Wiltshire Council
- An email from Mr and Mrs Bowden highlighting the problem of Fungi in the children's play area. The Cllr's discussed this and Cllr Kitson is to be asked to look at the issue. It has been an on-going problem and has been removed before but always grows again.
- The Amesbury Area Board meeting is on 8th December and Cllr Barnes will attend.
- A letter had been received from the Standards Hearing Sub-Committee regarding Cllr Stubbs, Chairman of the Bourne Valley Alliance. The hearing ruled that Cllr Stubbs had breached the code of conduct but no Sanctions were taken against him.
- Cllr Brunton received an email from Helen Meyers regarding the gate in the play area which has been damaged and now does not close properly. Cllr Kitson and Cllr P.Smith are looking into the matter.

12 Monthly Financial Report

Cllr Brunton asked the Councillors to look at the monthly financial spreadsheet for approval and sign cheques. Cllr Brunton proposed acceptance of the report and this was seconded by Cllr P.Smith. All Councillors were in favour.

The Clerk then advised that the Mazars report had been received and signed off with a recommendation to initiate a risk assessment. Cllr Brunton has agreed to produce such a document for approval by Councillors at the next meeting.

Cheques & Standing Orders were agreed as follows:

497	Parish Plan	Steering Group	(250.00)
498	Bowden	Cutting of Chalk Pit Grass	(35.00)
499	R.Kitson	Payment of Playground Sign	(36.74)
500	Frenchmore Pine	Notice boards	(850.00)
S/O	Mr T Services (A.G.Bowden)	Grass Maintenance October	(249.16)
501	Jane Tier	Wages – Sept October	(212.34)
502	Mazars	Annual Audit Fee	(155.25)

13 Agree date of next meeting

The date of the next Allington and Boscombe Parish Council meeting is Tues 5th January 2010 at the Boscombe and District Social Club at 7.30pm

14 AOB

There was a brief discussion on the Boundaries of Allington and whether the Earl of Normanton was in the Parish of Allington. The Clerk produced plans that had been sent from S.D.C and confirmed that it was in the Parish of Allington and Boscombe.

The Cllrs then discussed the problem of potential tree root damage to the cemetery wall. Cllrs agreed to look at the problem and discuss options at the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm