

**Parish Of Alfrick And Lulsley Appendix - Minutes of the Meeting of the Council 18/09/2007.**

**Appendix -a**

**Questions for members of the public.**

A parishioner raised the problem of foul effluent seeping into the roadway drains close to Chapel Meadow. Contractors had visited the site but the problem has not yet been resolved. The clerk agreed to write to the Elgar Housing Association who would appear to be responsible for the original construction of the effluent system asking for a quick resolution to this.

**Appendix-b**

**Reports. County Councillor, District Councillors, Parish Paths Warden, Parish Tree Warden.**

**C Smith (County Councillor) had sent the following report;**

Following a recent cabinet meeting to discuss the recent floods it was decided that all culverts should be cleaned out at least twice a year. It would be greatly appreciated if I could be made aware of any particular problem areas so that I could pass on the information into the system at County Hall.

I am to start a regular series of councillor surgeries where residents can raise any individual concerns with me. They will be held at regular intervals at the Nelson Inn Suckley the inaugural being on Monday October 8<sup>th</sup> from 7.00pm to 9.00pm.

**Mr D Fowler - Parish Tree Warden had sent the following report;**

**Fruit Trees for Worcestershire**

Worcestershire has a long tradition of being full of orchards, in fact the County was once known as *the forest of fruit*. Sadly, in recent years most of our heritage orchards, along with many of the traditional Worcestershire varieties, have disappeared. It is thought that up to 85% of our orchards have been lost in the last 50 years.

In an attempt to promote and prolong traditional varieties, Worcestershire County Council is working in partnership with Walcot Organic Nursery to grow these locally distinctive varieties for you to plant in your garden, field or orchard.

Each tree costs £13.50 and is a one year, organic, bare root maiden. The trees are approximately 1.5m tall and are suitable to be grown on into larger bush trees or trained into different forms such as cordons and espaliers. Each order comes with an information leaflet.

Apple varieties available are:

Pitmaston Pineapple (originated 1785), King Charles Pearmain (1876), Worcester Permain (1870), William Crump, Lord Hindlip (first exhibited 1896), Edward VII (1902) and Yellow Ingestre (raised about 1800).  
The pear tree available is: Worcester Black Pear (the famous cooking pear from 16<sup>th</sup> Century).  
Plum trees are: Yellow Pershore and Early Prolific.

An application form *Fruit Trees for Worcs. 2007/2008* can be obtained from:  
The Countryside Centre, Wildwood Drive, Worcester, WR5 2LG. Tel: 01905 766491

Trees can be collected from Drakes Broughton, Pershore, between 26 November 2007 and 28 February 2008.

***Apple Day***

***will be celebrated on Sunday, 7 October 2007, 11.00am – 3.00pm at Worcester Woods Country Park***

**Cllr G Lowe - Parish Paths Warden reported;**

He had installed additional waymarks on footpaths in Old Storridge and was arranging the installation of a gate on the footpath at Workhouse Bank.

Worcester rights-of-Way office was looking for volunteers to take part in footpath marking across the county.

## ALFRICK AND LULSLEY PARISH COUNCIL ~ INFORMAL PLANNING GROUP

NOTE OF MEETING HELD 3 SEPTEMBER 2007 AT 19.00

### ALFRICK AND LULSLEY VILLAGE HALL

**Present:**

Mr R Harrison Harrison Russell (RH)  
Mr J Robinson Owner of land at Leigh Road (JR)

Cllr P Tebbit ALPC (PT)  
Cllr R Jackson ALPC (RJ)

RJ set out the purpose of the meeting and the Terms of Reference upon which the discussions would be held.

The meeting was in response to a letter from RH dated March 2007 seeking to open discussions with ALPC about potential development of further land in the field from which the Chapel Meadow development had been taken. ALPC's initial response had taken some time as the original communication had arrived just prior to the local elections and therefore it was felt appropriate to defer until a new Council was in place and mandated to represent the Parish in this matter.

As background, the Parish has prepared a Parish Plan which deals with, among other matters, Planning and Development. In order to try and meet the objectives set in this section of the Parish Plan, ALPC set up an informal planning group. It is representatives of this group which are engaged in discussions this evening. The informal group is not able or prepared to commit ALPC to any course of action but will report to the Council who will, if appropriate, respond more formally in due course.

As a key activity, the Planning Group is engaged in formulating a Parish Design Statement and so the timing of discussions may be opportune.

RH agreed that these ToR were understood and stated that his and JR's objective was to engage in early discussions to determine whether there was any potential for common ground and to avoid the level of adverse opinion which surrounded the initial development. He stated that his feedback from Festival Housing was that the Chapel Meadow development had been a success and one indication of its low impact had been that a TV crew looking for the site to film low cost housing could not find the development.

RH also stated that JR may be willing to make a financial contribution to local community project(s) in the event of any additional development of his land at Leigh Road being achieved as a result of dialogue with the Council. Both RH & JR stressed that at this stage they had not formulated any specific plans for further development.

RJ and PT made several points on the low cost housing process

- 1 Evidence of Need ~ the Planning Inspector at the Upper House site public hearing was not persuaded that robust evidence of need had been established for housing in addition to the 8 provided for by the Chapel Meadow development
- 2 Confrontational Process ~ the village was still "licking its wounds" over the way that the process had been wrested from ALPC which had, in good faith, initiated a housing need survey, the results of which seemed to be taken by Elgar Housing and MHDC, added to, and then used to sustain a development process against the wishes of a large number of the local residents and the ALPC
- 3 Local Accountability ~ It was not helpful that there appeared to be an alliance of Elgar Housing, MHDC, the Rural Housing Enabler and a developer seeking to impose a development on the Community
- 4 Development Appearance ~ The general view in the Parish seems to be that the block of flats is out of scale both with the rest of the development and the existing surrounding dwellings
- 5 The ALPC and the community generally may need to come to a view about what might be an acceptable balance in the Parish as between open market housing and social provision. There are already a

significant number of social housing units in the Parish including the Chapel Meadow low cost housing and any further development may imbalance the mix.

In response to point (1) RH expressed the view that the housing need issue was secondary to landscape and highways considerations at the Upper House hearing. JR indicated that he would contact Festival Housing to seek their views about whether there was any substantiated but unfulfilled need for affordable housing in the Parish.

RH suggested that consideration could be given to a mixed development on the Leigh Road field. This might encompass both affordable and open market housing and even some employment use. PT stated that as the site was outside the settlement boundary then such a development would not be possible within current planning policy as only affordable housing is permitted on an exception site outside the settlement boundary. RH expressed the view that the settlement boundary is merely the current boundary and could be subject to change in the future.

**Action:**

- a) RJ to write up notes for presentation and discussion at the meeting of ALPC on 18 September 2007. If felt appropriate, these notes to be supplied to RH/JR
  
- b) ALPC to review the matters raised at this meeting and form a considered response to the issues discussed.

## Appendix-d

Notes on

### Alfrick Village Hall Committee Meeting

Monday 10 September 2007

#### *Treasurers Report.*

£ 150 had been received from Malvern Hills District Council for the hire of the hall for elections. The treasurer had received quotations for the insurance of the hall and, as part of this, insurance for the trustees would be considered. The production of a model hire agreement for the hall will also be investigated.

#### *Building Sub-Committee.*

In a written communication from the grant committee it was stated that because of the volume of applications the decision on our grant would not be made until December 2007; a decision had been expected by now. Of 1,600 initial applications ours is in the last 545 but no further details can be obtained.

#### *Licensing of the Village Hall.*

There is to be a meeting with Malvern Hills District Council to discuss the potential for a joint licensing agreement which has the potential to ease the present restrictions on the sale of alcohol.

#### *Fund Raising Events.*

Events during the summer (Aspects of Alfrick, Village Walk, Treasure Hunt) raised approximately £1,700.

#### *Forthcoming Events.*

- A wine tasting evening is planned for 13<sup>h</sup> October
- Casino Night 20 November
- New Years Dance 12<sup>h</sup> January 2008
- Children's Plays by "Shindig"
  - Pinocchio 18 January 2008
  - In Search of Pontiflunk 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2008

In addition, information on coach private hire has been obtained and it is hoped to run a day trip during this autumn.

#### *Tennis Courts.*

A supply of outer wire has been obtained and it hoped that the working party will be able to shortly spray and remove the moss from the playing surface.

The next meeting will be on Monday 1st October.

(B.J.Fishwick)