

**Draft minutes for a meeting of Alderbury Parish Council held on
Tuesday 3rd March 2015 at St. Marys Hall, Whaddon at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllrs Hartford (Chairman), Mernagh, Considine, Diprose, Taylor, Clarke and Sell.

In attendance: Mrs Alison McGowan (Clerk), Wiltshire Councillor Richard Britton, Inspector Minty, Alasdair Jones-Perrott, Alison Whalley (Planning Specialist) and 5 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllrs Reeder, Hughes, Richardson and Sell.

Cllr Hartford opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed everyone. She expressed her apologies for the incorrect date shown on the agenda which originally stated Tuesday 4th March until it was brought to her attention by a resident.

Members of the public

A resident commented that the surface water drains along Southampton Road, outside the Recreation Field need to be cleaned out. The Clerk was requested to raise this with Wiltshire Council.

A resident of Eyres Drive raised concern that the road sweeper has not been around Avon Drive and associated roads for some time. Leaves shed by a number of trees are causing concern as a result. The Clerk was asked to raise this with Wiltshire Council. The same resident also confirmed concerns about parking in Eyres Drive which is causing problems for refuse collection team. Cllr Hartford confirmed that a meeting has been arranged with Julie Wharton from Wiltshire Council to visit the site and discuss potential solutions

A resident commented that rats seemed to be more common this year and was concerned about the increase. The Clerk was requested to ask residents to take precautions around their own properties. **Action: Clerk.**

Report from Wiltshire Councillor Britton

The main highlight has been the adoption of the budget proposals. A 0% increase has been proposed by Wiltshire Council. One of the key priorities is the care of the elderly and young people who have been taken into care. Over 3,000 elderly people are totally looked after by Wiltshire Council and this number is rising rapidly.

Cllr Taylor joined the meeting at 7.40pm.

An application for a Solar Farm at Bake Farm, Coombe Bissett was reviewed and approved last week by the Southern Area Planning Committee. The original size of the solar farm had been reduced and the planting plan altered.

4449. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve the reasons given.

Prior to the meeting, apologies had been received from Cllr Hughes due to work commitments, Cllr Reeder who has recently had an operation and Cllr Richardson who was on holiday. Cllr Sell had also sent his apologies as he would be late arriving. Alderbury Parish Council resolved to accept the apologies for the reasons given.

4450. Declaration of Cllrs Interests

Cllr Clarke declared an interest in agenda item 4465.

4451. Council meeting minutes

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve the draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 4th February 2015 as a true record without amendment.

4452. Firs Road Development

A letter, which had been circulated to all Cllrs prior to the meeting, was read by Alasdair Jones-Perrott which confirmed that technical surveys and design work are in the final stages, and it is anticipated that an application will be made in the spring.

Cllr Clarke raised concern about the number of cars which would be generated by the site. It was estimated that 75 cars would result from the 50 houses proposed, leading to an estimated 150 extra journeys a day.

Cllr Mernagh asked how discussions had progressed with the Pre-School after an initial meeting organised by Chris Whalley. It was confirmed that no further conversations have taken place, however it could be possible to discuss the future of their building.

The proposed site is outside of the housing policy boundary and Alasdair confirmed that Longford were interested to talk about wider benefits that the development could potentially bring to the village. It was raised whether for instance the Guide hut could be replaced, to add a kitchen or an area that could be used for other purposes when not used by the Guides. Alasdair commented that a 30 year lease for Alderbury Football Club is very attractive to support the club and that the Club would like the new site and need new facilities. Cllr Britton asked if it was true that if the planning application was not approved, the football club would not get their new site. Alasdair confirmed that this would probably be true. Cllr Mernagh confirmed that he would welcome a conversation regarding Community benefit from the proposed site, but he felt that a large number of those who play for the football club are not from the village and would welcome something of benefit for the wider village community.

Cllr Hartford asked if the proposed development would include housing for older people. Alasdair confirmed that the current plan did not include single storey dwellings, but it could be considered if it was required by the residents.

Boards to show potential designs of the properties were shown. It is currently proposed that the development will include 2, 3 and 4 bedroom properties. Some of the properties would be affordable housing.

Access to the proposed site is via Firs Road. Cllr Mernagh confirmed that the Head teacher of the Primary School was concerned that the gate next to the school is padlocked in the event of a fire or emergency.

Alasdair confirmed he will look into this. He confirmed that Longford will not develop the site itself if planning is agreed, but the design and layout of the houses will be protected in an agreement.

Cllr Sell joined the meeting at 8.05pm.

It was agreed to form a working party to liaise with Longford. Cllrs Mernagh, Clarke and Taylor will attend from the Council.

Report from the Neighbourhood Police Team

Inspector Dave Minty joined the meeting to provide an update as PCSO Rachel Gunn had been called away at short notice on a Wiltshire wide initiative. There has recently been a cross border operation where police have teamed up with local farmers across Dorset, Avon & Somerset and Wiltshire. It was very successful.

Community messaging is now in place and is a useful tool. Residents can sign up online to receive information from across Wiltshire. It is a secure site and is working well with local schools. Postmen are being encouraged to sign up. The Clerk was requested to put the details of the service in the next edition of the Fountain.

4453. Risk Register

Following discussion, Alderbury Parish Council resolved to request the Clerk to email the document to each of the Councillors to review and respond with any required amendments. **Action: Clerk.**

4454. Asset Register

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to add four items to the Asset register as a result of projects being completed. **Action: Clerk.**

4455. Recreation field

A request was discussed from the Social Club to put a bouncy castle up on the field for an event in August. Alderbury Parish Council resolved to grant permission subject to conditions. **Action: Clerk.**

4456. Annual Parish Meeting 2015

The Clerk confirmed that Alderbury Village Hall has been booked for the Annual Parish meeting on 20th May 2015. This year the agenda will include an update from the Parish Council, an overview of the Community hub project to include resident feedback and a short DVD about the defibrillator and CPR. The Clerk was requested to contact the head of Alderbury and West Grimstead Primary school to see if he would also give a short presentation as he has recently joined the school. The Clerk was also requested to contact each of the clubs and organisations in the village to ask if they would like to have a display at the meeting. **Action: Clerk.**

4457. Maintenance update

The sign has been knocked over in Tunnel Hill. It has already been reported to Wiltshire Council, however we have been told it could take 6 months to attend to it.

The broken spring on the gate into the Recreation field has been removed. Keith is hoping to be able to attend to it later this week, together with the Book Swap.

Fly tipping in Old Road has been raised as an issue, together with mud in Lights Lane.

Cllr Hartford reported that the Gas Board have been working at Old Road and cones have been scattered across the road as a result and equipment strapped to the railings.

The pavement outside of Canal House is very uneven, but not considered to be a trip hazard.

The next Community day in Alderbury will be a week on Thursday. The team will be requested to cut back the hedge alongside the pavement between Oaklea and Castle Lane where it has become very narrow.

Keith Albery has been asked to supply a quotation to repair and repaint the Millennium Sign.

A shopping trolley has been left in Castle Lane, however Wiltshire Council will be unable to collect it from here as it is a private road. Cllr Hartford will check if it is a tesco trolley and if so contact them to collect it.

The local postman has kindly cut back the ivy from the salt bin.

It has been reported that the footpath between Firs Road and Junction Road is very muddy. Cllr Britton also commented that this has been raised with him by a resident. Alasdair Jones-Perrott was present at the meeting and confirmed he would look into it.

Whilst litter picking, a childs scooter has been found at the Recreation Field. Cllr Hartford will put a notice up on the boards with her contact details so that it can be collected by the owner.

Longford Estate will be conducting a litter pick using 40 of their staff between Britford and Downton and along Barford Lane. Wiltshire Council has confirmed they will loan the equipment. **Action: Cllr Hartford.**

4458. Village presentation for Southern Area Board

Cllr Hartford agreed to deliver a presentation on behalf of Alderbury Parish Council on 26th March at the next Southern Area Board meeting about Alderbury and its' community. **Action: Cllr Hartford.**

4459. Youth Project

Councillors requested that the item was delayed to a future meeting for discussion until comparative quotations could be secured for support services to set up and run a youth club in Alderbury. The Clerk was also requested to check with Emma Drage the suitability of the Social Club as a venue as it has a bar.

Action: Clerk.

4460. Proposed Solar Park at Witherington Farm

Councillors were disappointed that Hive Energy changed the nature of the meeting at very short notice. A number of the residents who attended found it difficult to visualise the proposed development without pictures or images of the specific location. At any future meetings it would be important that visual images of the proposed site are included.

Cllr Diprose left the meeting at 9.04pm.

Finance

4461. Year ending 31st March 2015

The balance as at Tuesday 3rd March is £79,926.81.

4462. Accounts for Payment

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve the following payments:-

A McGowan	Staff costs & expenses	£1,164.99
The Landscape Group	Emptying bins x 4 weekly	£78.00
Alderbury Village Hall	Hire for Hive Energy open meeting	£24.00
St. Marys Hall Whaddon	St Marys hall hire for monthly meetings (2014)	£260.00
Bonallack & Bishop	Registration of land (Recreation field)	£264.00
Totals		£1,790.99

4463. Review of the budget

A copy of the budget was given to each of the Councillors. There are three categories where there has been a small over-spend, which were 'Telephone', 'IT Equipment/Printer' and 'Subscriptions'. The amount for all three categories totalled £112.16. Alderbury Parish Council resolved to vire £112.16 from the 'Insurance' category to cover the required amount for each of the three cost centres. The Clerk pointed out that there would be money left over from the current budget which would be moved into the Parish Council's reserves at the end of the current financial year. The Clerk also pointed out that a letter had been received from the solicitor dealing with the lease for the Bowling club to confirm that the final cost was likely to be significantly higher than the amount put aside in reserves and that this would need to be a future agenda item for discussion and agreement.

Planning To respond to Wiltshire Council on the following planning application:

4464. 15/01105/FUL – Whaddon Farm, Old Southampton Road, Whaddon, SP5 3HB – Alterations and conversion of existing plans to provide 2 dwellings, demolition of existing outbuilding and erect new car port. Following discussion, Alderbury Parish Council resolved to support the application.

Matters arising from previous meetings:

4465. Village Hall Storm drains

As the Parish Council's insurance company have dealt with this matter, it was proposed that the issue should be removed from the agenda and no further action be taken at this time. The proposal was seconded and agreed by all Cllrs with one abstention.

4466. Neighbourhood Planning

The Clerk was requested to circulate the individual questionnaires to all Councillors for them to complete with their thoughts, then collate the responses and return to Wessex Community Action to complete the update of the plan. **Action: Clerk.**

4467. To receive reports from Cllrs representing Alderbury Parish Council on outside bodies.

Cllr Hartford has recently attended an Emergency planning meeting and has requested a copy of the slides from the meeting to help Councillors compile the plan for Alderbury. She has also recently attended a Housing Development Plan meeting and can confirm that Alderbury is not an area that the Council is currently looking at for future building. Cllr Hartford has also attended the CATG meeting.

Cllr Clarke reported that the Village Hall Committee would like to be involved in the defibrillator training when it is arranged.

Cllr Mernagh has recently had a meeting with the new head teacher at Alderbury and West Grimstead Primary school to provide a link between the two organisations.

4468. Correspondence/Clerk's report.

The Clerk reported that the defibrillator has now been registered with the Ambulance Service and residents should dial 999 if they need to use the machine to obtain the code to open the cabinet and access the machine. Once opened, the machine will give instructions to the user.

The Clerk recently attended a Parish Collaboration meeting which was attended by 9 other clerks to give feedback regarding the Southern Area Board meetings and receive an update on current projects.

Cllr Hartford and the Clerk recently attended a meeting with Emma Drage and Debra Biggs from Wessex Community Action regarding the youth project for Alderbury.

The next Community day run by Wiltshire Council will be on Thursday 12th March. Councillors were requested to email the Clerk with any suggestions for work on that day.

Last Thursday the Chairman and Clerk met with Tracy Myers from Wiltshire Council to review frequently reported areas of dog fouling in the village. Wiltshire Council stickers are displayed regularly on telegraph poles and it was agreed to put ones up at each end of Castle Lane as it is not possible to put them along the lane as it is an un-adopted road.

4469. The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 1st April 2015. Any items for the agenda must be sent to the Clerk by Monday 23rd March.

The meeting closed at 9.48pm.