

**Draft minutes for a meeting of Alderbury Parish Council held on
Wednesday 1st April 2015 at St. Marys Hall, Whaddon at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllrs Hartford (Chairman), Reeder, Considine, Diprose, Taylor, Clarke, Richardson, Hughes and Sell.

In attendance: Mrs Alison McGowan (Clerk), Wiltshire Councillor Richard Britton, Hugh Brennan – Managing Director of Hive Energy and 3 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr Mernagh.

Cllr Hartford opened the meeting at 7.32pm and welcomed everyone.

Members of the public

A resident raised various village maintenance queries. Cllr Hartford confirmed that a representative from Wiltshire Council has been out to inspect a stretch of pavement along Southampton Road which has been previously reported and has confirmed that the width meets current regulations. A quotation has been requested to repaint and repair the village map. Cllr Hartford will weed the Millennium Sign.

The Clerk was requested to contact Whiteparish and Grimstead Parish Councils and find out if they currently have someone to oversee village maintenance and if they would be interested in a joint arrangement.

Action: Clerk.

Cllr Britton joined the meeting at 7.40pm.

Report from Wiltshire Councillor Britton

We have entered the pre-election period.

The Matrons College Farm application is on the agenda next Thursday for the Southern Area Planning Committee. Cllr Britton has not received any new information to date regarding the funding for the Medical centre.

Report from the Neighbourhood Police Team

No report received.

4470. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve the reasons given.

Apologies were received from Cllr Mernagh as he is away on holiday. Alderbury Parish Council resolved to accept the apologies for the reason given.

Cllr Taylor joined the meeting at 7.47pm.

4471. Declaration of Cllrs Interests

Cllrs Clarke and Considine declared an interest in agenda item 4477.

4472. Chairs correspondence

The Chairman has received a letter from a resident to thank the Parish Council for taking action following recent issues with rubbish being dumped in Old Road.

4473. Exclusion of Press and Public

The press and public were asked to withdraw from the meeting for item 4492.

4474. Council Meeting minutes

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve the draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 3rd March 2015 as a true record without amendment (4 abstentions as the Councillors were not present at the meeting).

Cllr Britton requested three amendments to the minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 4th February. Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve the three changes. The Clerk was requested to send Cllr Britton a copy of the draft minutes for future meetings.

Action: Clerk.

4475. Proposed Solar Park at Witherington Farm

Hugh Brennan, Managing Director of Hive Energy attended to update the Parish Council on points that were previously raised by the Council and residents.

They plan to put a permissive path around the edge of the development and will be holding another pre-application meeting with Wiltshire Council towards the end of April. They are currently finalising the layout and will then be able to produce photo montages.

If the development does receive approval, Mr Brennan confirmed that Alderbury would receive the same financial contribution as Downton.

It was confirmed that other sites in Downton are being reviewed as alternatives as it must be demonstrated that there is not a better site in the vicinity. Part of the site is north facing and is therefore in the shade for part of the day. Pylons would need to be put underground.

Cllr Richardson asked about traffic leaving the site and travelling to Southampton. It was confirmed that the lorries would come over the flyover at Alderbury and it was estimated that there could be 20 lorries a day.

4476. Best Kept Village Competition

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to take part in the Best Kept Village Competition again this year. Judging takes place between mid May and mid June. Cllrs Hartford and Reeder will lead on the preparations for the competition. The Clerk was requested to forward copies of last years' application to Cllr Reeder.

Cllr Reeder commented that the roads in the village do not seem to have been swept for some time. The Clerk was requested to raise this with Wiltshire Council. He also raised that some of the posts in Old Road needed attention and the Mile post at the Clarendon Road and Folly Lane junction would benefit from being painted. Cllr Reeder agreed to contact the Scouts to see if they could help with preparations for the Competition.

Action: Clerk, Cllrs Reeder and Hartford.

4477. Social Club lease

The Chairman of the Social Club, Steve Kirby attended to seek clarification regarding the ownership of the Social Club. He was encouraged to discuss the issues with the Village Hall committee and to come back to the Parish Council if it needed the Council to be involved as the 'owner' of the Hall.

4478. Parking in Eyres Drive

Cllr Hartford met with Julie Wharton from Wiltshire Council to visit the site. Potential solutions and prices will be sent to the Clerk for consideration by the Parish Council.

4479. Maintenance update

Treemenders have reported concern about the condition of a Turners Oak tree at the Recreation Field. Cllr Hartford has been to look. The Clerk was requested to find out further information.

The herras fencing around the goal posts at the Recreation Field has been pulled apart and left across the field. It has been reported to the football club.

A manhole cover is missing in Grimstead Road and has been reported by a resident to Wiltshire Council. It has temporarily been secured with barriers. The Clerk is following the matter up until it is resolved.

Cllr Hartford noted that half way down Alderbury Hill a sign is missing from a post and on Tunnel Hill a finger post has been strapped to a metal post.

Action: Cllr Hartford, Clerk.

4480. Community Speed Watch

The speed device has been in Alderbury for two weeks. 11 checks have been sent to the Neighbourhood Policing Team in Devizes and Alderbury.

4481. Appointment of Internal Auditor for the financial year 2015 – 2016

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to appoint Dr David J. Webb as internal auditor.

4482. Grant Application process

The application form and guidelines were reviewed by Councillors. Alderbury Parish Council resolved to review applications at the February and September meetings and requested the Clerk to amend the guidelines to reflect this. Applications should be submitted to the Clerk in the first instance.

Action: Clerk.

Finance

4483. Year ending 31st March 2015

The balance as confirmed on the bank statement on 31st March 2015 is £78,237.82.

4484. Accounts for Payment

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve the following payments:-

Account	Budget category	Total	Cheque no.
The Landscape Group	Bin emptying x 4 each week	£78.00	254
Alderbury Bowling Club	Grant application - funding towards extension	£2,079.00	255
The IT Shack	Computer Repairs	£170.40	256
A McGowan	Staff costs & expenses	£852.55	257,258,259
C.P.R.E	Annual subscription	£36.00	260
Totals		£3,215.95	

4485. Reserves

Following correspondence from the solicitor, Alderbury Parish Council resolved to increase the reserves for the production of the lease with Alderbury Bowling Club from £500 to £2,000. The Clerk was requested to write to the solicitor to request a breakdown of costs. **Action: Clerk.**

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

4486. 15/00950/FUL – Land and Buildings at Crockford Corner, Grimstead Road, West Grimstead, SP5

3RH – Use of land and buildings as an agricultural contractor's yard to include the storage of plant, machinery, equipment and materials associated with an agricultural contracting business and for the storage and distribution of hay, haylage, silage and other feed stocks.

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to object to the application and requested further information.

4487. 15/02399/FUL – Lynfield, Firs Road, Alderbury, SP5 3BD – Extended garage.

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to support the application.

Matters arising from previous meetings:

4488. Youth Club project

The Clerk attended the recent local youth network cluster meeting with Emma Drage. 3 members of the Social Club Committee attended, together with a Councillor and the youth worker from West Dean. Research is required to establish the required age range of a Youth Club in the village.

4489. Pratten Hut

The loss adjuster visited the Pratten hut almost two weeks ago as part of the Claims process.

There has been a report of a water leak at either the Pratten Hut or Guide Hut. Cllr Hartford has checked and cannot find any obvious signs of a leak. The water board will come out next week and Cllr Hartford will attend the meeting on behalf of the Parish Council. **Action: Cllr Hartford.**

4490. To receive reports from Cllrs representing Alderbury Parish Council on outside bodies.

1) Southampton Road Allotment Association – Cllr Richardson

It was the Annual General Meeting last night. There is currently a tenant for each of the allotments. There is a problem with rats and the Association will talk to Marcus Light to see if the ditches can be cleared to see if it will help the issue.

2) Southern Area Board – Cllr Hartford

Cllr Hartford and the Clerk attended the Southern Area Board meeting on 26th March. Cllr Hartford gave a presentation about Alderbury which was well received. At the meeting it was announced that Jane Usher would receive an award for her contribution to the Community through her work with Phoenix Cheerleaders. It was confirmed that litter picking will be a focus in the next 6 – 8 weeks to include the Alderbury by-pass. Wiltshire Council confirmed that they are currently reviewing the opening hours of Household Waste Recycling Centres in Wiltshire. To save money in the current financial year they may reduce the opening hours or close the sites on specified days of the week. It could potentially save the Council £300,000 per annum.

3) Working party meeting with Longford Estate – Cllr Mernagh

Meetings were held on 20th and 27th March 2015 with Alasdair Jones-Perrott at the request of Longford Estate to discuss what type of developments and support might be viewed as potentially of significant benefit to the community in light of the proposed development off Junction Road and Firs Road. Cllrs Mernagh, Clarke and Taylor attended the meeting on 20th March and Cllrs Mernagh and Hartford on 27th March. Suggestions included improvements to the village hall, support to develop the Pre-School, new access to the School to aid parking issues and replacement of a premise where the Guiding Association can meet. Following discussion Cllr Britton requested that the Clerk record that ‘at no time has he expressed support for any number of houses outside the housing policy boundary.’

4491. Correspondence/Clerk’s report.

The Clerk reported that WIFI is now available at the Social Club in Alderbury.

The Matrons College Farm planning application is on the agenda for the next Southern Area Planning meeting on 9th April.

The Annual Parish meeting will be advertised in the April edition of the Fountain. Invites are in the process of being emailed out to all clubs and organisations in the village.

4492. To approve a salary increase for the Clerk of 1% from 1st January 2015 and a one off pro-rata payment of £100 for December as recommended by NALC and SLCC.

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to increase the Clerk’s salary from pay spine 21 to 22 and approved the salary increase of 1% from 1st January 2015. A one off payment of £100 for December 2014 was also approved.

Action: Cllr Richardson.

4493. The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 5th May 2015. This will be the Annual meeting of the Parish Council. Any items for the agenda must be sent to the Clerk by Friday 24th April.

The meeting closed at 9.54pm.