

Approved minutes for a meeting of Alderbury Parish Council held on Thursday 6th April 2017 at St. Marys Hall, Whaddon.

Present: Cllrs Hartford (Chairman), Mernagh, Clarke, Hughes, Considine and Pace.

In attendance: Mrs Alison McGowan (Clerk), Kate Derbyshire, Wiltshire Council and 4 residents.

Apologies: Cllr Richard Britton, Cllr Diprose (late arrival).

Cllr Hartford welcomed everyone to the April meeting and opened the meeting at 7.30pm.

Members of the Public

A resident raised concern about a growing traffic hazard, with lorries parking opposite the entrance to the trading estate in Whaddon. The resident has witnessed several 'near misses' at the site. Last Tuesday it was reported that 6 lorries were parked along the main road, 5 of which belonged to one of the companies on the trading estate. Traffic is forced to pull out over the white line and with traffic coming in and out of the estate, it is quite a hazard. The resident has seen 4 lorries parked along the road over the weekend too. The clerk was asked to speak to the company at the trading estate to ask them to refrain from parking on the highway. The issue could also be brought to the attention of the local PCSO, Tina Roylance.

Action: Clerk.

Report from the local Police Team

Cllr Hartford read from the latest parish police bulletin. There have been a number of ongoing non-dwelling burglaries and targeted patrols are carrying out stop/checks and searches of any suspicious vehicles and/or persons, patrols to focus on areas close to the county boundary. Local officers are holding regular intelligence sharing meetings with colleagues from Hampshire and Dorset to co-ordinate investigations.

There have also been targeted patrols and the circulation of crime prevention advice following recent thefts of lead from the roofs of rural buildings, which is likely to be driven by a recent increase in scrap metal prices. Recent offences have been committed in Whiteparish and Landford.

Report from Wiltshire Councillor Britton

Cllr Hartford read from an email from Cllr Britton:-

Had I been with you I would have reported as follows:

- 1) Council business has slowed almost to a standstill during this pre-election period of Purdah.
- 2) However, I continue to work on Area Board matters – especially to work out how best to take forward the outcomes of the JSA evening and the voting at the last AB. Needless to say, no PC or individual has come forward in response to my appeal for project ideas.
- 3) I have again visited Nightwood. The present holdup is that we are awaiting a decision/action by the Environment Agency regarding the bund and its possible removal because of asbestos. There is, of course, no point in In Excess putting in a retrospective application for the bund if it is to be removed anyway.

4952. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve the reasons given.

Prior to the meeting apologies had been received from Cllr Diprose as she would be late arriving due to work commitments and Cllr Britton as he had to attend a Planning Committee meeting.

4953. Declaration of Cllrs Interests

Cllr Considine declared an interest in agenda item 4956.

4954. Council meeting minutes

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 7th March 2017 as a true record of the meeting with no amendments.

4955. Chairman's announcements

Cllr Hartford announced that sadly she had received the resignations of three parish councillors who would not be re-standing for the elections. Cllr Richardson, as cllrs were aware had relocated the previous day and would therefore be unable to continue as a cllr. Cllr Sell has resigned due to increasing work commitments and Cllr Reeder due to frustrations with Wiltshire Council and their cut backs in village maintenance services. Cllr Hartford expressed her gratitude to each of them and confirmed that the Council will miss them. They have all made a significant contribution during their time on the Parish Council. The clerk was asked to write to each of them.

Wiltshire Council has published a list of the councillors who stood for the parish council elections. There were 9 residents applying for 11 positions in the Alderbury parish and therefore each has been elected as uncontested. The parish council will be welcoming two new members, John Fuller and Maureen Lawrence. Mr Fuller was at the meeting as a resident and expressed his apologies for the May meeting. **Action: Clerk.**

4956. Proposed play area at Matrons College Farm

Following discussions, Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve (with one abstention) to request an equivalent financial contribution towards a new play area at Spiders Island, instead of installing a new play area at the Matrons College Farm site. The clerk was requested to contact Cllr Richard Britton regarding the decision initially and to agree the next steps. **Action: Clerk.**

4957. Road signs at the end of Old Road

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve Wiltshire Council's suggestion to remove two of the road signs at the end of Old Road where it joins Southampton Road, as they are no longer appropriate. **Action: Clerk.**

4958. Skate park safety inspection

An inspection report by an independent company had been completed for the skate park and a copy had been sent to all cllrs prior to the meeting. The clerk was requested to forward a copy of the report to the insurance broker for their comments. A copy of the report has also been sent to the supplier for their comments. Alderbury Parish Council resolved to delegate responsibility for any required decisions on the matter to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman following the meeting, to avoid any delay.

Action: Clerk, Cllrs Hartford & Mernagh.

4959. Neighbourhood Watch signs

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve a request from the Alderbury Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator to purchase 5 new signs at a cost of approximately £150.00 to display throughout the village.

4960. Village maintenance update

Cllr Hartford reported that a mattress has been left along Old Road at the Shute end junction. The clerk was asked to report it.

A keep fit banner had been put up along the fence outside of the village hall, however Cllr Hartford asked for it to be removed.

A quote had been secured to replace a number of the wooden posts at the Fountain and War Memorial greens. The electricity cabinet for the Christmas tree has been installed, together with a new electricity supply. The next stage is to install a meter.

A small pane of glass needs to be replaced in the Book Swap.

Cllr Hartford has had a look at the fence at the end of Grimstead Road against the A36, which is in a poor state. The clerk was asked to raise the issue with WC to see if it belongs to them or Highways. **Action: Clerk.**

4961. Maintenance review of Alderbury with Wiltshire Council

Cllr Hartford fed back to the other cllrs following a recent meeting with Graham Axtell and Craig Campbell from Wiltshire Council. Cllrs Hartford and Reeder from Alderbury Parish Council were accompanied by Cllr Richard Britton and a number of aspects of village maintenance were reviewed in Alderbury and Whaddon. As a result of the meeting a list of future actions has been received from Wiltshire Council. Gullies should be cleared and the roads swept once a year. If the parish requires either of these services more regularly, it will need to arrange and finance these from the precept.

During the visit Cllrs raised concern about the road surface in Avon Drive and along Southampton Road. Cllrs were advised to raise the issue via their involvement in the Community Area Transport Group (CATG).

Cllr Diprose joined the meeting at 8.44pm.

Cllr Clarke commented that Alderbury Village Hall would be having the drains in the car park cleaned soon as part of an annual contract. **Action: Clerk, Cllr Hartford.**

4962. Annual Parish Meeting

Cllrs reviewed a draft agenda that had been sent to all cllrs prior to the meeting. Following discussion, a format for the meeting was agreed and the clerk was requested to confirm to the police that the Council would like to go ahead with a presentation by them on Cyber crime. **Action: Clerk.**

Finance

4963. Year ending 31st March 2017

The balance of the account as shown on the bank statement as at 31st March 2017 is £78,330.35. A bank reconciliation had been completed and was signed by the chairman.

4964. Accounts for Payment

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve the following payments:-

Account	Budget category	Total
ID Verde Ltd	Bin emptying x 4 weekly (March)	£78.00
A McGowan	Clerks salary & associated costs	£845.12
A McGowan	Expenses (telephone, mileage) - March	£82.89
E Hartford/Pudsey Diamond	Electrical cabinet for xmas tree project	£361.10
Courtens Garden Centre	2 wooden barrel flower tubs	£69.98
Information Commissioner	Annual data protection registration	£35.00
The Play Inspection Co Ltd	Post installation inspection on the skate park	£354.00
Totals		£1,826.09

It was noted by all cllrs that Cllr Hartford was reimbursed for £361.10 (cheque no. 447) as she had paid Pudsey Diamond for the electrical cabinet required for the Christmas tree project, to avoid a delay as the item was ready for collection.

As a result of the approval of payments, there was an overspend for the year for the following budget categories - Hire of Halls - £49.00, Clerks costs (due to overtime worked) - £1,147.26, telephone - £99.95 and postage - £203.80. Alderbury Parish Council resolved to vire sufficient funds from an alternative category where there was a surplus. **Action: Clerk.**

Matters arising from previous meetings:

4965.To receive reports from Cllrs representing Alderbury Parish Council on outside bodies.

Cllr Considine attended a recent Spiders Island residents meeting. Waitrose has been approached to see if it will provide financial support towards the parking project. Speed bumps before the island are also being considered in addition to the improvements to parking.

Cllrs Mernagh and Hartford attended the Southern Area Board meeting at the end of March. The priorities for the Southern Area Board were selected by attendees from the themes identified at the Joint Strategic Assessment meeting. This included priorities such as the condition of the roads and rural crime. Cllr Mernagh asked the clerk to contact the Scouting Group leader as he understood that they are in need of some additional storage and it may be possible to apply to the Southern Area Board for a grant towards the cost of it. **Action: Clerk.**

4966. Correspondence/Clerk's report.

The clerk reported that there were 9 residents standing as parish councillor and as this was less than the total amount of 11 positions, the residents would be elected as uncontested. Two new residents would be joining the parish council.

Four candidates have been confirmed by Wiltshire Council for the position of unitary councillor for Alderbury and Whiteparish.

The clerk had received a letter from the secretary of the village hall committee, thanking the parish council for its contribution towards new chairs for the village hall.

4967. The Fountain magazine

The following key themes were agreed for the next fountain article:-

- Resignation of three existing parish cllrs
- Fun in the Sun sessions
- Annual Parish Meeting
- 1 allotment available at Southampton Road Allotments
- 9 cllrs appointed as uncontested election in Alderbury, 2 new residents joining the parish council and 2 vacancies.
- Approval for 5 new neighbourhood watch signs

4968. The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 16th May 2017. Any items for the agenda must be sent to the clerk by Friday 5th May 2017.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.