

**Approved minutes for a meeting of Alderbury Parish Council held on  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at St. Marys Hall, Whaddon.**

**Present:** Cllrs Hartford (Chairman), Mernagh, Richardson, Considine, Pace, Clarke, Hughes, Reeder & Diprose.

**In attendance:** Mrs Alison McGowan (Clerk), Unitary Cllr Richard Britton, 1 resident, Kate and Nick Derbyshire, Wiltshire Council.

**Apologies:** Cllr Sell.

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

**Members of the Public**

None.

**Report from the local Police Team**

The newest Voluntary Police Cadet unit was launched in Salisbury in October 2016. The cadets are young people aged 13-17years old and come from the Salisbury/Amesbury area. 18 cadets are now coming towards the end of their initial training phase and during March they will all take part at an attestation ceremony in Salisbury. The cadets will be attending local Community events this Spring/Summer and will be promoting the work of the Community Policing Team, enrolling people for community messaging and helping with crime prevention initiatives.

Locally there has been a series of overnight burglaries to sheds/outbuildings and linked thefts of garden power tools. Police officers are carrying out stop checks and searches of any suspicious vehicles and/or persons. Patrols will focus on areas close to the county boundary. There have also been several incidents of lead being stolen from the roofs of rural buildings.

Cllr Diprose joined the meeting at 7.32pm.

Cllr Hughes asked why an importance has been put on cross-border working by the Police. Cllr Hartford confirmed that criminal activity does tend to increase close to county boundaries and it was important for the police to liaise with neighbouring forces to catch the offenders.

**Report from Wiltshire Councillor Britton**

The Police and Crime Commissioner panel had its last meeting last week before the elections. It is about to embark on a review of the new community policing model, which will last until the first meeting of the new panel in June, after the elections.

The budget was passed. Mr Walsh had campaigned for more money towards the maintenance of footpaths around the county. The opposition campaigned to move more funds over to the area boards (£100,000 out of the footpath budget), however this would possibly have led to the redundancy of the Rights of Way officer and Cllr Britton confirmed that in the end he voted to preserve the post. The last Southern Area Board meeting before the elections will be held in Downton on 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Nick Cowen, Rights of Way officer, will be doing a presentation about footpaths.

Councillors are in election mode. Purda starts on Wednesday next week. Both councillors and officers will be on guard to avoid meetings for campaigning purposes.

Cllr Britton confirmed that he had no news on Nightwood Farm.

With reference to Hill Billy acre, Cllr Britton has received a note from Planning enforcement to say that the site has been vacated. However, Mr Cooper has complied with the enforcement order, but has moved into an outbuilding on the site. It has taken two years to reach this point and it could take a similar time again to remove him from the outbuilding now. It is frustrating, however the correct procedure has to be followed.

Cllr Hartford confirmed that she had previously raised concern about the weight limit via Alderbury from Nightwood Farm. The clerk has received an email from Mr Hogan to confirm that Inspector Sparrow has written to InExcess to warn them not to use the route via Alderbury with HGV vehicles, otherwise action will be taken.

#### **4932. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve the reasons given.**

Prior to the meeting, Cllr Sell had given his apologies as he was unable to attend due to a work commitment. Alderbury Parish Council resolved to accept his apologies for the reason given.

#### **4933. Declaration of Cllrs Interests**

None.

#### **4934. Council meeting minutes**

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2017, subject to the amendment of two minor typing errors.

**Action: Clerk.**

#### **4935. Reduce the height of the hedge surrounding the burial ground**

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve a recommendation to reduce the height of the beech hedge surrounding the burial ground, by approximately 4-5 feet at a cost of £1500 in late September/October 2017.

The clerk was requested to confirm this to the contractor.

**Action: Clerk.**

#### **4936. Interim Internal Audit report**

The Clerk reported that the internal auditor had completed an interim audit of the parish council accounts from October 2016 – January 2017. The report was circulated to all cllrs prior to the meeting. The only recommendation in the report was regarding signoff of the VAT spreadsheet when a reimbursement claim is submitted to HMRC and the reconciliation to the amounts recorded for the period of the claim.

**Action: Clerk.**

#### **4937. Road sweeping by Wiltshire Council in Alderbury**

Cllr Reeder referred to a recent email from Cllr Whitehead at Wiltshire Council regarding road sweeping. Town centres will be swept monthly and rural areas, such as Alderbury once a year. Cllr Reeder raised several questions regarding road sweeping that he would like answered – what is a priority route? Who checks the route after it has been swept? Why is there such a difference in the frequency of sweeping between rural areas and towns. The clerk was requested to arrange a meeting to ‘walk around Alderbury’ with Graham Axtell from Wiltshire Council and Cllrs Reeder and Hartford, to discuss maintenance issues and agree priorities. Cllr Britton will also attend if he is able to. An update will be given to cllrs at the next meeting to decide if the parish council will need to take any actions as a result of the meeting. Cllrs were reminded that due to reduced budgets, current Wiltshire Council priorities for litter collection and cleaning are only to deliver the statutory requirements.

**Action: Clerk.**

#### **4938. Village Maintenance update**

On his most recent visit, the Parish Steward has filled a pot hole around iron work at the bottom of Shute End, removed some of the weeds on the flyover at Clarendon Road, concreted in the Rectory road sign wooden poles and repaired two lots of ironwork in the pavement in the village.

The Great British Clean up was very successful on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March. The rubbish has been collected as arranged and some additional rubbish was also kindly taken to the tip by a resident who helped on the day. The Parish Council expressed its thanks to all of those residents who took part, especially the couple who co-ordinated the event this year. The Parish Council asked the clerk to write to the Scouting group leader, the primary school and the organisers in particular to thank them for their support. Thanks will also be mentioned in the next article of the Fountain.

Cllrs were encouraged to raise any village maintenance issues with Cllr Hartford, who will then liaise as necessary.

Cllr Pace raised a concern regarding the wooden fence along the gravel track at the bottom of Grimstead Road. Cllr Hartford will look into the matter.

**Action: Clerk & Cllr Hartford.**

#### **4939. Wooden containers for floral displays**

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve a recommendation to purchase 3 wooden planters at a cost of approximately £150.00. Cllr Hartford has been liaising with the Chairman of the Gardening Club, who has kindly confirmed that members will plant up the containers and look after them for this year. Mr Basil Elliot from the Old Forge in Alderbury has also made and donated a planter for the village. This will be placed on Waleran Close. The other planters will be positioned along Southampton Road. The clerk was requested to thank Mr Elliot and the Gardening Club for their support.

**Action: Clerk.**

#### **4940. Skate Park safety inspection**

Members of the Parish Council requested the clerk to contact the insurance broker and supplier regarding the concerns of a resident before any further money is spent on the Skate Park. The clerk was asked to liaise with the chair and vice-chairman regarding a response to the resident.

**Action: Clerk, Cllrs Hartford & Mernagh.**

#### **4941. Christmas lunch**

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to support an initiative by a resident, to provide a community Christmas lunch in Alderbury for residents who may be on their own at Christmas.

#### **4942. Asset Register**

Members of the Parish Council had received a draft copy of the asset register prior to the meeting. Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve the asset register. Two new strimmers had been acquired during the year for footpath work and had been added. The skate park ramps had also been replaced during the financial year, however as this was a replacement for a similar value, no changes were required.

### **Finance**

#### **4943. Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017**

The bank balance as at 28th February 2017 as shown on the bank statement was £79,867.72. A bank reconciliation had been sent to all cllrs prior to the meeting. This was signed by the Chairman.

#### **4944. Accounts for Payment**

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve the following payments:-

<b>Account</b>	<b>Budget category</b>	<b>Total</b>
A McGowan	Clerks salary & associated costs	£881.87
ID Verde (Landscape Group)	Bin emptying x 4 each week (Feb)	£78.00
A McGowan	Expenses (telephone, mileage)	£214.82
Lightatouch	Interim internal audit - Oct 16 - January 17	£146.66
CPRE	Annual subscription	£36.00
HMRC	Quarterly payment	£22.02
<b>Totals</b>		<b>£1,379.37</b>

The approval of the above payments leads to an over spend in the budget categories of telephone, postage and clerks costs. Members agreed to vire the necessary amounts to cover the over spend from another budget category where budget still remains.

**Action: Clerk.**

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

**4945. 17/01248/FUL – Alderbury Village store, Canal Lane, Alderbury, SP5 3NY–** Retrospective application for the re-location of 4 no. Compressor/condenser units from south west elevation to north east elevation. Alderbury Parish Council resolved to support the application, subject to the four parking spaces being retained as shown on the diagram, in front/to the side of the shop.

### **To note the following applications for tree work:-**

**4946. 17/01657/TCA- Well Cottage, Old Road, Alderbury, SP5 3AR–** Apple tree – Fell.

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to support the application subject to another tree being planted to replace it (this does not have to be an apple tree).

**4947. 17/01658/TPO – 9 Eyres Drive, Alderbury, Salisbury, SP5 3TD – T1 – Oak –** Remove all small branches and epicormic growth from trunk to first union. Crown raise canopy to 5.2 metres. Reduce end weight by two metres.

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to note the application and will leave the decision to the tree officer as the expert. If the officer is minded to approve the application, the parish council would expect the work to be conducted by a qualified contractor with the appropriate insurance.

**Matters arising from previous meetings:**

**4948. To receive reports from Cllrs representing Alderbury Parish Council on outside bodies.**

The Chairman of the Spiders Island residents committee attended to give an update on the most recent meeting. The committee are currently applying for funding for a play area to be built. In April a flood report will be completed, before the parking area can be improved. The proposal is to install 10 drive-in bays in the middle island of the development, with grass in the centre.

Following further discussion regarding the play area, the clerk was requested to add an item to the April meeting agenda, to discuss a proposal to re-divert the proposed funding for a play area at Matrons College Farm to Spiders Island instead.

Cllr Clarke confirmed that the new village hall chairs had been received and thanked the Parish Council for its support with the purchase. **Action: Clerk.**

**4949. Correspondence/Clerk's report.**

The Clerk reported that a meeting had taken place with the team supporting the various aspects of installing the new electricity supply and holder for an annual Christmas tree on Waleran Close. The first stages of the work will commence in the next few weeks.

An email was sent by the clerk to all councillors with a link to the forms and timetable of events for the forthcoming Elections. Each councillor will need two residents to propose them for the application form. The forms must be completed and delivered to Five Rivers in Salisbury by 4pm on 4<sup>th</sup> April at the latest.

Cllr Hartford and the Clerk recently attended a training day on Planning in Devizes. It was very useful and encouraged Parish Councils to engage with potential developers as early as possible in the process. They also both attended a free workshop in Salisbury, regarding Community Land Trusts and local housing needs.

Cllr Hartford and the Clerk have also recently attended the Joint Strategic Assessment meeting of the Southern Area Board, to agree future priorities for the area.

**4950. The Fountain magazine**

The clerk was asked to thank everyone who was involved in the Great British Clean up event in Alderbury. It was a great success. Other key themes will be the new planters for floral displays along Southampton Road, confirmation from the parish council that it will support a resident to arrange Christmas lunch in the village hall on Christmas day, for those who may be on their own and a reminder of the forthcoming elections to encourage new members to join the Parish Council. **Action: Clerk.**

**4951. The date of the next meeting** is Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2017. Any items for the agenda must be sent to the clerk by Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.