

## Approved minutes for a Meeting of Alderbury Parish Council held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at St. Marys Hall, Whaddon.

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

**In attendance:** Mrs Alison McGowan (Clerk), Unitary Cllr Richard Britton, Alasdair Jones-Perrott & 1 resident.

**Apologies:** Cllr Reeder.

Cllr Hartford opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed everyone to the January meeting of Alderbury Parish Council, the first of 2017. She wished everyone a 'happy new year'.

### Members of the Public

A resident expressed disappointment that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on the same evening as the Gardening club meeting. It has happened for the last three years. She asked if the booking secretaries of the hall could liaise. The Chairman confirmed that unfortunately the date has been set for 2017 but the residents comments would be taken into consideration when setting the meeting next year. Cllr Mernagh confirmed that a parish diary would be very useful for residents and that one can be set up via the parish website. The clerk was asked to publicise this facility in a forthcoming article for the Fountain. **Action: Clerk.**

Cllr Hughes joined the meeting at 7.32pm.

### Report from the local Police Team

The latest police report had been sent to all councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Hartford reported that targeted police patrols were active in the Alderbury rural beat area, following a recent series of overnight burglaries to sheds/outbuildings and linked thefts of garden power tools. Recent offences have been reported in Landford, Whiteparish, Alderbury, Pitton and Winterslow. Police officers are carrying out stop checks and searches of any suspicious vehicles and/or persons, patrols to focus on areas close to the county boundary. Residents are reminded to review the security of sheds, garages and outbuildings and consider improving locks/padlocks and fit an alarm and/or security lighting. Take photos and record the make, model and serial numbers of tools and equipment.

### Report from Wiltshire Councillor Britton

Cllr Britton had sent his apologies prior to the meeting, as he would be attending the Grimstead Parish Council meeting first and come over to Alderbury for the second half of the meeting.

### 4897. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve the reasons given.

Cllr Reeder had sent his apologies prior to the meeting as his wife is unwell in hospital. Cllr Diprose had also sent her apologies as she would be late arriving due to work commitments.

### 4898. Declaration of Cllrs Interests

None.

### 4899. Council meeting minutes

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December as a true record of the meeting without amendment.

### 4900. Budget for 2017/2018

Following discussion, Cllr Richardson proposed to approve the budget, seconded by Cllr Considine. Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve the draft budget for the next financial year – 2017/2018.

### 4901. Precept for 2017/2018

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve a proposal to increase the annual precept amount by 5% for the next financial year to £46,944.00. The next financial year will be the first time that the 'top up grant', previously

paid as part of the precept by Wiltshire Council is removed. For a band D property the increase in precept will mean a rise of £2.38 for the year.

The clerk was asked to include this information in the next article for the Fountain.

**Action: Clerk.**

#### **4902. The Great British Spring Clean**

Alderbury Parish Council resolved that it would like to take part 'in principle' in the event, but a co-ordinator for the event would be required. The clerk was requested to outline the details in the next edition of the Fountain and ask for a resident (s) to come forward to help support and co-ordinate the event.

**Action: Clerk.**

#### **4903. Youth activities in 2017**

Alderbury Parish Council requested that the clerk should approach the various leaders of youth groups in the village, for young people aged 11-19, to see if there is interest in selecting activities for their members to take part in during the year.

**Action: Clerk.**

Cllr Britton joined the meeting at 8.04pm.

#### **4904. Parking on pavements in the village**

Cllr Britton mentioned that he is currently talking to the Police and Crime Commissioner about the issue and that a note is being designed with the police logo which could be put on offenders windscreens.

The clerk was requested to write a letter to Mears, Wessex Care and J&L acquisitions to request that their employees refrain from parking on the pavements in Alderbury. The notes outlined by Cllr Britton could then be used when they have been produced. The chairman asked cllrs to notify the clerk if they see other companies that should receive the letter.

The clerk was also asked to outline the issue in the next article for the Fountain magazine.

**Action: Clerk.**

Cllr Hartford welcomed Cllr Britton to the meeting.

#### **4905. Maintenance update**

The Parish Steward, supplied by Wiltshire Council, works in the village one day each month and the Chairman liaises with him regarding a list of tasks that have been identified in advance.

Cllr Hartford confirmed that the sign at the end of Firs Road has been re-installed. The give-way sign at Clarendon Road has also been put back up. The crossways sign at Shute End/Old Road, which was reported last month has also been replaced. The hedge has also been trimmed back, so that the sign is clearly visible. Leaves have been removed at the bottom of Lights Lane near the bus stop. During the last visit, leaves were also cleared away as requested by a resident, between the Copse and the Recreation ground. The salt bin in Tunnel Hill has been cleared and the salt levels checked inside.

#### **Report from Wiltshire Councillor Britton**

Cllr Britton stated that he personally had nothing to say at present about Nightwood Farm but reported that before Christmas Planning Enforcement had chased again regarding a planning application, however nothing has been received to date.

With reference to the Matrons College Farm application, the planning officer had recommended before Christmas that the outline planning application should go back to Committee to be refused as further evidence was needed regarding the funding for the medical centre. It was referred to the legal department and senior WC staff, who have to be guided by the minutes of the Southern Area Board planning Committee. They felt that there are no grounds on which to refuse it. The Committee noted the financial situation of the medical centre. The planners have decided that they have no option but to proceed. John Glenn and Cllr Britton are working together to contact the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to get some certainty about the funding for the proposed medical centre. Cllr Britton still fears that it will be built, but will be left empty.

Cllr Britton reminded councillors that the next Area Board meeting is on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January at Trafalgar School, Downton.

Cllr Hartford thanked Cllr Britton for his report.

### **Finance**

#### **4906. Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017**

The balance as at 30<sup>th</sup> December 2016 was £81,994.39 as shown on the bank statement. The latest VAT reclaim has been paid into the account. A bank reconciliation had been completed, together with an updated budget spreadsheet.

#### **4907. Accounts for Payment**

Alderbury Parish Council approved the following payments:-

<b>Account</b>	<b>Budget category</b>	<b>Total</b>
A McGowan	Clerks salary & associated costs	£847.42
ID Verde (Landscape Group)	Bin emptying x 4 each week (Dec)	£78.00
A McGowan	Expenses (telephone, mileage)	£69.15
<b>Totals</b>		<b>£994.57</b>

#### **4908. Reserves**

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve the latest schedule of reserves as at 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

#### **Matters arising from previous meetings:**

##### **4909. Councillor roles and responsibilities**

Cllr Mernagh reported that he had met with Cllr Hartford to review a number of roles and responsibilities within the Parish Council. Volunteers were requested as each of the roles were discussed. The process of reviewing planning applications was discussed in detail, to include site visits.

Cllr Diprose joined the meeting at 9.01pm.

The clerk was requested to add an agenda item regarding planning onto a future agenda.

**Action: Clerk, Cllr Mernagh.**

##### **4910. To receive reports from Cllrs representing Alderbury Parish Council on outside bodies.**

None.

##### **4911. Correspondence/Clerk's report.**

Shane Verrion, one of the Wiltshire Council (WC) tree officers has been out to inspect a tree which has been cut back in Avon Drive. The tree is in fact the responsibility of WC and has a tree preservation order protecting it, but appears to have been cut back without permission. He has referred the matter to planning enforcement and the neighbouring properties will be written to, to see if anyone knows who completed with work.

A recent planning application has been refused in respect of the Richard Allen House in Old Road, however a resident has reported that the same activities have continued even though the application was refused. The matter is being investigated by planning enforcement at WC.

An increase in the amount of large vehicles and lorries has been reported travelling along Clarendon and Southampton Road in the village. Evidence gathered to date has been sent to WC and the clerk continues to make enquiries about setting up a lorry watch in the village.

The village post office is being upgraded and refurbished. It will be closed from Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January at 5.30pm and will re-open on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 1pm. Customers will benefit from longer opening hours after the refurbishment. Further details can be found on the village website.

The clerk reminded those councillors who are taking part, that the Bowling Club quiz will take place on Friday. The clerk has received an email from Pennyfarthinghomes to re-confirm the parish council's intentions regarding the Public Open Space and proposed play area at the Matrons College site. The clerk was asked to respond in line with the previous resolutions made by the parish council.

The clerk has received an email to promote this years' 'best kept village competition' to enquire if Alderbury will take part again this year.

##### **4912. The Fountain magazine**

Councillors summarised the key themes for the next article as follows:-

- Budget setting – precept for 2017/18
- Parking on pavements in the village
- Lorry Watch
- Great British clean up – a village co-ordinator required
- Youth activities

**4913. The date of the next meeting** is Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2017. Any items for the agenda must be sent to the clerk by Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January.

The meeting closed at 9.21pm.