

Approved minutes of a meeting of Alderbury Parish Council held on Wednesday 7th November 2018 at St. Marys Hall, Whaddon.

Present: Cllrs Hartford (Chairman), Mernagh, Fuller, Considine, Lawrence, Clark, Sloan and Bourne.

In attendance: Alison McGowan (clerk) and 4 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllrs Diprose, Pace, Hughes and Unitary Cllr Britton.

Councillor (Cllr) Hartford opened the meeting at 7.31pm and welcomed everyone to the November meeting.

Questions or statements from members of the public

Mike Huntley, President of the Alderbury and District Branch of The Royal British Legion, with great regret in this Armistice Centenary year, announced that the process had started to close the Branch. Efforts to recruit new active members had not been successful leading to it no longer being viable and therefore obliged to close.

He also announced the retirement of the Branch's long serving Poppy Appeal Organiser. Attempts to replace her have also met with a lack of success, hence there was no door-to-door Poppy Appeal collection this year. The Poppy Appeal in Alderbury and the surrounding villages has always been a great success, in recent years annually raising in excess of £4000. It is a great shame to lose this significant annual contribution to help those whose sacrifice and service to our country has left them and their families often in great need. Should anyone wish to take on this extremely worthwhile task for 2019, please contact Mike Huntley on 01722 711438. The clerk confirmed that she would also include this information in the next article for the Fountain and it was also suggested that a notice should be put up in the village shop and post office.

Cllr Sloan joined the meeting at 7.32pm.

A resident raised concern regarding maintenance on the Spiders Island estate. The resident has complained a number of times to Wiltshire Council as he has been told that there is no longer any budget for this work. He reported that part of a tree that had come down has been removed and that a member of WC staff did come out and collect litter. There are still weeds around the garages that need to be removed. Cllr Hartford confirmed that the parish council only has access to the parish steward for 1 day a month for the whole village, however a query has been raised regarding whether he can potentially spend more time in the village to help with issues like this.

Report from the Community Police Team

Prior to the meeting the latest crime report had been circulated to all cllrs.

Local policing priorities include vehicle crime, patrols to target rural crime and poaching and speed enforcement checks to support local Community Speed Watch (CSW).

During October there were two incidents within the parish. On Whaddon Business park a catalytic converter was stolen from a van and on a separate day tools were also stolen from a van in Whaddon.

Wiltshire Police are holding a public consultation meeting in Salisbury on Wednesday 21st November to seek views of local communities in the south of Wiltshire regarding Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.

Report from Unitary Cllr Richard Britton

The following report had been circulated to all parish cllrs prior to the meeting:-

I do hope councillors will accept that I do not lightly or casually miss Parish Council meetings. Deciding on priorities is always very difficult.

October has been a quiet month for me and, as a result I don't have a lot to report.

Nightwood: Nothing to report. I am chasing our legal department and may have an update in time for your meeting.

Matrons College Farm: Tim Leech's death is a complicating factor which may lead to additional delays. Otherwise I am still very much on top of planners to ensure that the variation of the s106 goes hand in hand with a separate agreement concerning the transfer of money to the VH project.

Boundary Review: Councillors will be aware of the outcome of the council's consultation. Proposals have gone to the Boundary Commission and a response is expected in February. Whiteparish PC is making their own representations to the Commission objecting to the divisional arrangements linking Whiteparish and Downton. I have advised WPC that they are unlikely to get very far with their objection unless they have alternative proposals to put forward - which they don't. The grouping of Alderbury, the Grimsteads, Pitton and Farley, and Winterslow would make this division one of the largest (it would exceed the electoral proportional representation average by 11% against the Commission's recommended limit of +/- 10%).

Fly-tipping: There has been a new outburst at Gays Drove East Grimstead. Disappointingly there is no progress to report on the legal proceedings but I am assured that the matter is on-going.

Case work: Dominated by planning issues in Whiteparish.

Cllr Hartford added that Cllr Britton would be attending the inquiry next week regarding the planning application for 50 houses on Land off of Firs Road in Alderbury.

5325. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve the reasons given.

Prior to the meeting apologies had been received from Cllr Diprose due to a work commitment and Cllrs Hughes and Pace due to family commitments. Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve the absences for the reasons given.

5326. Declaration of Cllrs Interests and dispensations

Cllr Considine declared a personal interest in agenda item 5336.

5327. Council meeting minutes

Alderbury Parish Council resolved (with 2 abstentions due to absence) to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 9th October as a true record of the meeting, without amendment.

5328. Maintenance update

The bus shelter at the bottom of Lights Lane seems to have been targeted with a ball bearing which has broken one of the bottom panels. Cllr Hartford has been to sweep up the broken glass. Cllr Sloan added that he had been contacted by a resident in the last week reporting that they had seen two or three young people with a slingshot by the village sign which could be linked. It has been reported to the police.

The bus shelter lights in the shelter outside of the village hall and the opposite side of the road are not working. Six of the wooden posts have been replaced around the War Memorial Green. The posts have also been completed at the Sandringhams.

Some of the pavements appear to have been patched in Waleran Close.

SSE has re-energised the electricity supply ready for the Christmas tree lights.

Cllr Hartford is still concerned about some trees and vegetation that is overhanging the pavements in places.

Residents are responsible up to the pavement.

5329. Letter from residents in Oakwood Grove

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to respond to a letter from residents in Oakwood Grove regarding tree work in the amenity area, to confirm that the parish council is keen to preserve trees in the village and does not have any plans to remove any trees, following recent tree work, from the Oakwood Grove amenity land. The parish council will not approve for residents to remove trees on this land.

Action: Clerk.

5330. Parish Emergency Plan and Flood and Snow Plan

Prior to the meeting a draft Parish Emergency Plan and a Flood and Snow Plan for the village had been circulated to all cllrs. Following discussion, Cllr Sloan requested that all cllrs should respond to him with any further amendments or ideas in the next few days so that a final version can be approved at the next meeting.

Action: All cllrs.

5331. Neighbourhood Plan

The clerk was requested to contact Wiltshire Council to see if someone would be available to attend a future parish council meeting to review the benefits of a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish of Alderbury and Whaddon and answer questions raised. If it is not possible during the evening, a small group of cllrs could meet with a representative during the day and report back to a future meeting. It would be beneficial to identify another

village in the Salisbury area that is a similar size to Alderbury and Whaddon and has completed a Neighbourhood Plan to be able to exchange thoughts and ideas.

Action: Clerk.

5332. Matrons College Farm Development

The agenda item was not discussed as cllrs agreed that it was no longer relevant.

5333. Future meeting dates

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve the proposed future meeting dates from April 2019 – March 2020. The dates will be published in future editions of the Fountain and on the village website.

Action: Cllr Mernagh, Clerk.

5334. Christmas Tree Light switch on

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to organise a Christmas light 'switch on' event on Saturday 1st (the preferred option) or Sunday 2nd December at 4.30pm with refreshments afterwards, depending on the availability of the village hall. Cllr Considine will design a poster to promote the event. It was suggested and agreed that the head boy and head girl of Alderbury and West Grimstead primary school, would be asked if they would be available to switch on the lights. A group of volunteers will meet at 9am on Thursday 29th November to decorate and erect the tree at Waleran Close. The clerk was asked to contact Mr Hogan and Mr Light to check if this date would be suitable for them.

Action: Cllr Considine, Clerk.

5335. Purchase traffic cones for use within the parish

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to purchase 15 large traffic cones at a cost of £150.00 to use within the parish for events during the year.

Action: Clerk.

5336. Salisbury Live Goes Rural grant application

Following discussion, Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve a grant application from Salisbury Live to support a free music event at Alderbury Sports and Social Club and Village Hall on Saturday May 18th. The parish council agreed to grant £750 for the event, as it did for the event in 2018.

Action: Clerk.

5337. Planning applications

Concern was raised by Cllr Lawrence regarding an increased number of planning items on the agenda each month. Separate parish council planning meetings were discussed, however it was decided that the applications would continue to be reviewed at monthly meetings.

Planning To respond to Wiltshire Council on the following planning applications:-

5338. 18/0914/FUL – Pinewood, Firs Road, Alderbury, SP5 3BD – Two storey side extension.

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to respond with 'no objections' to this planning application.

5339. 18/09791/FUL – 4 Waleran Close, Alderbury, SP5 3BH – Single storey rear extension.

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to respond with 'no objections' to this planning application.

5340. 18/09834/FUL – Homelands, Rectory Road, Alderbury, SP5 3AD – Construction of attached oak framed carport with space for one vehicle and a small storage room.

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to respond with 'no objections' to this planning application.

5341. 18/10004/FUL – 7 Old Chapel Close, Alderbury, SP5 3EZ – Proposed single storey rear extension.

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to respond with 'no objections' to this planning application.

To note the following tree applications:-

5342. 18/09495/TPO – Rivendell, 12 Clarendon Road, Alderbury, SP5 3AS – Copper Beech tree – crown raise to 7m, 5 beech trees – crown raise to 6m and remove rubbing branches, Ash tree – remove lateral (south side) at 7m.

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to make 'no comment' about the application and leave the decision to the tree officer as the expert.

5343. 18/09927/TPO – 1 Bracken Close, Alderbury, SP5 3BW – Re-pollard 1 Oak tree.

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to make 'no comment' about the application and leave the decision to the tree officer as the expert.

Finance

5344. Internal Auditor report for the first 6 months of 2018

A copy of the letter from the internal auditor regarding a review of the first six month of 2018 was circulated to all cllrs prior to the meeting. Cllr Hartford thanked the clerk for all of her work on the finances and noted that no actions or recommendations were made in the report, other than to note that the next VAT reclaim is due.

5345. Year ending 31st March 2019

The balance of the bank account as shown on the statement as at 31st October 2018 is £120,168.01. The clerk confirmed that the first CIL payment in respect of the Matrons College Farm development is due to be paid next week. There will be two further payments in April and October next year. The budget spreadsheet, including payments to be authorised, was sent to all cllrs prior to the meeting.

5346. Accounts for Payment

Alderbury Parish Council resolved to approve the following payments:-

| Account | Budget Category | Total |
|-----------------------|--|------------------|
| Utility Warehouse | Parish line - telephone bill (Oct) | £35.83 |
| Hurdcott Landscapes | Grounds maintenance inc. Oakwood Grove (Oct) | £864.00 |
| A McGowan | Clerks salary & associated costs (November) | £882.97 |
| A McGowan | Expenses - October | £154.71 |
| Hill Data Systems Ltd | Online Backup storage and Webroot Secure Antivirus | £31.74 |
| ID Verde | Emptying parish bins (Oct) | £79.94 |
| Mr Fencing | Install 16 posts at The Sandringhams | £256.80 |
| Lightatouch | To carry out internal audit - April/Sept 2018 | £235.00 |
| Mr Fencing | Supply & erect 6 new posts around War memorial green | £72.00 |
| Totals | | £2,612.99 |

Matters arising from previous meetings:

5347. To receive reports from Cllrs representing Alderbury Parish Council on outside bodies.

No reports.

5348. Correspondence/Clerk's report.

The clerk reported that a resident has been in contact regarding whether trees in Castle Lane are covered by TPO's. The clerk has previously contacted WC to ascertain who owns the trees, however they were unable to confirm this. The clerk has confirmed that these particular trees are not the responsibility of the parish council and advised that the resident can cut back any limbs overhanging their garden.

Following the installation of the wooden posts around an area of public open space in The Sandringhams, a resident contacted the clerk for further background about why they had been installed.

A family of a resident in Whaddon contacted the clerk to find out about the availability of accommodation locally over the Christmas period.

Further to the last meeting a response has been received from the local History Society regarding past editions of the Fountain online. The group has removed the online link to historic editions of the parish magazine, that were available for copies up until 2015.

Copies of emails from four residents in Whaddon have been received, unhappy about the latest planning application relating to the Matrons College Farm development and the proposed removal of the requirement to provide a local health centre onsite.

The clerk confirmed that four cllrs are due to attend the planning inspectorate inquiry next week regarding an application for 50 houses on Land off of Firs Road. Cllr Hartford will speak on behalf of Alderbury Parish Council.

Following the recent play equipment inspection at the Recreation Ground, the clerk has arranged for a provider to service the annual play equipment and also attend to a couple of minor issues with the basket swing and zip wire. This should take place within the next 2 – 4 weeks.

There has been a burial in the last month and the clerk is currently dealing with another enquiry.

The clerk reminded cllrs that there is a Wiltshire Council meeting on 29th November from 5.30-7pm entitled 'Focusing on the Future'. There is also a workshop for village flood wardens in Devizes on 14th November if any cllrs are able to attend either of these meetings.

The clerk has been liaising with the PCSO following feedback at the September meeting regarding antisocial behaviour at the Recreation Ground. The PCSO is also liaising with the headmaster of the village primary school. Following a report of antisocial behaviour at the Recreation Ground after dark, the PCSO has also organised for a local patrol to keep an eye on the area during the evenings.

The venue for the forthcoming budget setting meeting for parish councillors will be the Social Club.

5349. The Fountain magazine

The clerk was requested to summarise the key themes of the meeting.

Action: Clerk.

5350. The date of the next meeting is Thursday 6th December. Any items for the agenda must be sent to the clerk by Monday 26th November 2018.

Cllr Hartford closed the meeting at 9.59pm.