

**Minutes of a meeting of Alderbury Parish Council held on Thursday
4th February 2021 at 7.30 pm via the Zoom virtual conference platform**

Present: Councillors Elaine Hartford (Chair), Ken Bath, Michael Considine, Kim Diprose, John Fuller, Michael Huntley, Mel Lawrence, Darren Mernagh and Barry Sloan

In attendance: Wiltshire Councillor Richard Britton, Steve Milton (Parish Clerk) and one member of the public

Questions or statements from members of the public

Mr Carley raised several points:

- *Development at Wagtails* – concerns regarding new drains
- *Hedgerow trees* – suggested retaining some hedgerow trees.
- *Lyme Disease* – concerns
- *Flooding* – need for a map of existing drains

Report from Unitary Cllr Richard Britton

Updated the Council on:

- Wiltshire Council was meeting to set its budget and council tax on 25th February
- Wagtails – The appeal had been deferred until 31st March at the earliest.
- Three Crown will be marketed as a going concern with the ancillary land included. This will test the market and ascertain its future viability as a public house.
- Police and Crime Commissioner had confirmed a precept increase of £15 per Band D property in 2021/22.

Council Business

5851. Apologies for absence

Apologies were submitted from Cllrs Adam Hughes (online social engagement) and John Ridd (work commitments).

RESOLVED: to approve the absence for the reason given.

5852. Declarations of interests and dispensations

Cllr Mernagh and Considine declared indirect interests in the matter recorded under minute 5857 below as they were both acquainted with the applicant, they remained in the meeting but did not speak or vote on the application.

5853. Minutes

RESOLVED: that the [minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 6th January, 2021](#) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair at the earliest opportunity.

5854. Maintenance update – The Chair, Councillor Hartford, reported as follows:

- a) In accordance with the decision at the last meeting, the Chair had met with Tree Menders on site to agree an amended schedule of works to the oaks at Oakwood Grove Amenity Area. A revised price for the works has been received in the sum of £5,330. The Council was concerned about the costs and asked for two additional quotes for the works to be obtained.

- b) Drain clearance had been agreed with Wiltshire Highways – priority drains had been identified in Southampton Road, Shute End and Tunnel Hill. The Vactor had been operating in Alderbury during the week commencing 1st February.
- c) Banks encroaching onto the footpaths along Southampton Road had been reported to Wiltshire Highways. It had been agreed that the Parish Steward would focus efforts on the northern end of the village where the paths were most restricted.
- d) The Chair reported that the pedestrian gate into the Recreation Ground needed repair or replacement as did the gate into Oakwood Grove Amenity Area from Southampton Road. It was agreed that the Clerk would secure repairs.
- e) Councillor Sloan reported that the snow wardens had been mobilised during the recent snow fall. Members thanked the snow wardens for their efforts and undertook to have the grit bins checked and refilled.
- f) The Clerk reported that he had spoken to the owners of the pond at Matron's Farm and it was not possible to grant public access at this time.

5855. Alderbury Wildlife Project

At the request of Cllr Fuller, the Council considered the Clerk's report (previously circulated). The Council had previously expressed concerns about the impact of new developments on the natural environment and had been working hard to prevent the loss of trees and wild habitats within the parish. The Council would continue to use its planning powers to resist the loss of trees and hedges but considered it should be taking a more proactive role. It was noted that the national COVID-19 lockdown made it unrealistic to undertake rewilding projects in the Spring, so works would need to be postponed until Autumn.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the proposals set out in the Clerk's report be adopted and plans be prepared for an Autumn tree-planting and rewilding project; and
- (2) That Wiltshire Wildlife Trust be engaged to assist with the project.

5856. Village Hall Project – The Council received a progress report from Cllr Fuller (previously circulated). The full Project Team had met twice since the last Council meeting and was now meeting every two weeks. The costings for all the items not yet completed had been carefully scrutinised and the most cost-effective solutions for certain items had been agreed, including pre-finished internal doors. As part of this process, it had been possible to secure sufficient savings to cover the cost of resurfacing the leaking flat section of roof between the hall and the social club. Based on the latest forecast figures for overall costs, the project remained within budget and the final details had been signed off to avoid delays. The Council thanked Cllr Fuller for his report.

Planning

5857. [20/11113/FUL](#): Two storey rear and side extensions, single storey front extension and associated works - Tara's End, Southampton Road, Alderbury

RESOLVED: that Wiltshire Council be informed that Alderbury Parish Council raises no objection to the above proposal.

5858. [20/11232/FUL](#): Change of use from storage, processing and distribution of lime, to storage, processing and distribution of horticultural products, with the addition of one building - Lime Yard adjacent to Grimstead Road, West Grimstead.

RESOLVED: that Wiltshire Council be informed that Alderbury Parish Council objects to the above proposal for the following reasons:

- (1) The proposal will generate a significant increase in the number of HGV movements onto an unsuitable rural highway network to the detriment of highway safety;
- (2) The intensification of the use of the site with associated processing and vehicular movements will generate additional noise, pollution and nuisance to the detriment of local property owners

5859. [21/00342/TPO](#) - Work to TPO Trees, T1 – Oak Pollard, T2 - Oak reduction of 25%, Crown raise & minor thin - Land North of Ridge House, Southampton Road, Alderbury for Alderbury Parish Council.

RESOLVED: Alderbury Parish Council raises no objection.

5860. [21/00535/TCA](#) – Trees in Conservation Area - Woodlyne House, Lights Lane, Alderbury:

- (1) Beech (T1) Crown reduction and raise lower canopy by up to 2 metres.
Hornbeam (G2) Remove hedge plants and replant with Yew trees
- (2) Mixed Broadleaves (G1) Ash/Sycamore- Fell Group of 41 pink dotted trees within curtilage of garden.
- (3) Yew (G3) Group of 5 Yew trees- Crown reduce trees by up to 1.5 metres.

RESOLVED: that Wiltshire Council be informed that Alderbury Parish Council strongly objects to the above proposal for the following reasons:

- (1) that, reflecting the views of local residents, Alderbury PC places a very high value on the rural nature of the village and seeks to preserve and enhance its unique landscape character through the planning process. The very significant loss of trees and hedgerows associated with this proposal will have a highly detrimental impact upon the rural character and landscape setting of the settlement and the conservation area;
- (2) There is no biodiversity or environmental assessment to accompany this application and this should be sought before any further consideration of this application; and
- (3) The large-scale loss of important landscape and habitat is unacceptable, has previously been resisted, undermines planning policy and sets an unacceptable precedent within the conservation area.

5861. [21/00881/TPO](#) - Monterey Pines x 2 - Alban House, 18 Clarendon Road, Alderbury:

- (1) Remove deadwood over 3-inch diameter from both canopies.
- (2) Reduce end weight of lateral limbs (SE) over raised beds and patio area by up to 3 metres on four lowest limbs.
- (3) Consider installing a non-invasive Cobra 4 tonne to (T2) at approximately 10 metres above compression fork (above fourth primary limb) to reduce leverage on compression fork.
- (4) Remove two lowest limbs (W) side over road from (T2).

- (5) Reduce lateral limbs from (S) side by up to 1.5 metres.

RESOLVED: Alderbury Parish Council raises no objection and will support any recommendations made by the Wiltshire Council Arboricultural Officer.

Finance

5862. Budget Monitoring Report Month 10

The Council noted the budget monitoring report (previously circulated)

5863. Bank Balances 31st January 2020

The Council noted the balance of the bank accounts as shown on the bank statement as at 31st January 2020.

Current Account: £86,931.25
Savings Account: £201,751.85

5864. Accounts for Payment

The Council noted recent payments and the invoices received (previously circulated).

RESOLVED: that the following payments be approved:

Description	Supplier	Net	VAT	Total
Architect fees - village hall	Barclay Phillips Architects	1,500.00	300.00	1,800.00
Village Hall Construction Costs	Greendale Construction	42,619.25	8,523.85	51,143.10
Grounds Maintenance Contract	Hurdcott Landscapes	575.00	115.00	690.00
Bin Emptying	ID Verde Ltd	74.96	14.99	89.95
Mobile Phone Contract	O2	14.00	2.80	16.80
Payroll	SGW Payroll	17.00	3.40	20.40
Clerk's training course	SLCC	25.00	5.00	30.00
Zoom monthly charge	Zoom Ltd	11.99	2.40	14.39
Expenses	Steve Milton	24.00	0.00	24.00
Online backup storage & antivirus	Hill Data Systems Ltd	26.45	5.29	31.74
Bus Shelter Cleaning	Simons Window Cleaning	200.00	0.00	200.00
Gardening club - bulbs	David Marshall	100.89	0.00	100.89
		45,188.54	8,972.73	54,161.27

Matters arising from previous meetings

5865. Speed Indicator Device (SID) – The Council noted that Wiltshire Council's Southern Area Board had awarded a grant of £1,000 towards the cost of the new SID approved by the Council. The Council asked Cllr Britton to pass on the Council's thanks to members of the Board.

5866. Reports from outside bodies –

The Chair reported that she had attended the recent local plan meeting convened by Wiltshire Council.

5867. Correspondence – The Clerk reported on the following correspondence received since the publication of the agenda:

- a) As previously reported above, public access to the pond at Matron's Farm would not be possible in the immediate future.
- b) Wiltshire Council had written drawing attention to changes to the way Metrocount surveys would be handled in future.

- c) Temporary suspension of 7.5 Tonne weight restriction on Southampton Road from 8 February 2021 to facilitate repairs to the A36 slip road at Whaddon.
- d) Notification from the Police and Crime Commissioner of his intention to dispose of the Alderbury Police Station on the open market.

5868. The Fountain magazine – it was agreed that the Clerk would provide an article based on these minutes.

5869. The date of the next meeting – the next meeting will take place on Monday 8th March, 2021. Any items for the agenda must be sent to the Clerk by Friday 26th February 2021

The Chair, Cllr Hartford, closed the meeting at 9.03pm

Chairman

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