

**Minutes of a meeting of Alderbury Parish Council held on Monday  
5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7.30 pm via the Zoom virtual conference platform**

**Present:** Councillors Elaine Hartford (Chair), Ken Bath, Michael Considine, Kim Diprose, John Fuller (Vice-Chair), Adam Hughes, Michael Huntley, Mel Lawrence, Darren Mernagh, John Ridd and Barry Sloan.

**In attendance:** Wiltshire Councillor Richard Britton, Steve Milton (Parish Clerk) and six members of the public

**Questions or statements from members of the public**

---

Phil Spooner asked if the Council could incorporate the [Great Big Green Week](#) 8 – 26 September, 2021 into its Wildlife Friendly Alderbury Project. He explained that the event was a national week of events celebrating action on climate change. The Council supported the proposal.

Mike Hiley of Alderbury Scouts asked about the development at Junction Road and the provision in the outline plans for a new guide hut. His comments are recorded under minute 5925 below.

Mr Carley raised the following points:

- Scientific research relating to trees.
- Wiltshire Council planning portal – seems to be incompatible with some web browsers.

**Report from Unitary Cllr Richard Britton**

Cllr Britton reported that he had nothing to report as the elections were taking place the following day. This would be one of the biggest elections undertaken in the UK and the count would not be finished until the following Monday evening, when the Police and Crime Commissioner results would be known. The Wiltshire Council results were due on Saturday.

**Council Business and Updates**

---

**5915. Apologies for absence**

All councillors were present.

**5916. Declarations of interests and dispensations**

Cllr Considine declared a personal interest in the matter set out under minute 5919 below and took no part in the discussion.

**5917. Minutes**

Councillor Lawrence asked if responses to questions raised at the meeting could be recorded in the minutes. The Chair responded that this was normally the case.

**RESOLVED:** that [the minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2021](#) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair at the earliest opportunity.

**5918. Maintenance update**

The Chair, Cllr Hartford, reported as follows:

- a) The light illuminating the school warning sign on Southampton Road was not working. The Chair had reported the matter to Wiltshire Council.
- b) David Marshall of the Alderbury Gardening Group had approached her for some funding to buy bedding plants. She reported that £200 was included in the budget for this.

- c) A temporary fix had been made to the fence behind the bus shelter at the Village Hall. Mr Fencing had ordered the timber required in order to carry out a full repair in due course.
- d) The drain cover in Grimstead Road was still causing concern to residents due to partial collapse. The Chair had raised the matter with the Parish Steward.
- e) The Grimstead Road sign and the footpath sign have been damaged and need replacing.
- f) There had been a persistent problem of fly-tipping at Shute End. This had been reported to Wiltshire Council by local residents and the Clerk.
- g) Litter was becoming a problem and the bins in the Recreation Ground were overflowing.

Councillor Sloan reported that one of the Southway road sign supports had rotted away and needed replacing. The Chair said she would take a look and get it repaired.

#### 5919. Alderbury Wildlife Project

The Council had previously agreed to devote the Annual Parish Meeting to the launch of the Wildlife Friendly Alderbury Project. Wiltshire Wildlife Trust (WWT) Wild Landscapes Team had been commissioned to coordinate the project and they would be providing a presentation and Q&A session at the meeting on 20th May at 7.30pm. Prior to the meeting WWT, would undertake a tour of the village to carry out an initial feasibility survey of key habitat sites. Following promotion in the Fountain Magazine, 12 volunteers had asked to be involved in the project with a further offer of support from the Scouts. The Chair had sent a personal invite to each of the volunteers inviting them to participate in the launch event. It was hoped that some activities would be possible following the launch – setting up a Facebook page as a first step.

**RESOLVED:** that a promotional leaflet be printed and distributed ahead of the Annual Parish Meeting at a cost not exceeded £250 and volunteers be invited to assist with delivery.

#### 5920. Village Hall Project

Councillor Fuller reported that, subject to a final retention payment after 6 months, the project had been completed to schedule and within £600 (0.2%) of the original budget. The building had been handed back to the Trustees in April and it would be used the following day as a polling station. Members thanked the Vice-Chairman for his report and the work he had undertaken over the course of the project.

### Planning Applications

---

5921. [PL/2021/03874](#): Proposed Single Storey Front Elevation – Marteri, Castle Lane, Whaddon SP5 3EQ

**RESOLVED:** No objection

5922. [PL/2021/03896](#): Single storey ground floor front extension - Peri Lydo, Firs Road, Alderbury SP5 3BD

**RESOLVED:** No objection

5923. [PL/2021/03976](#): Single storey ground floor extension – Alma, Firs Road, Alderbury SP5 3BD

**RESOLVED:** No objection

5924. [PL/2021/04204](#): 1 x Ash tree - pollard to 5m 2 x Sycamore trees - pollard to 5m – Goose Green View, High Street, Alderbury, SP5 3DU

**RESOLVED:** No objection - refer to Shane Verrion.

5925. [PL/2021/04201](#): Approval of outstanding Reserved Matters (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) for the erection of 50 residential dwellings, pumping station and replacement guide hut with associated infrastructure, parking, landscaping, open space and works, all pursuant to permission 17/04001/OUT - Land previously occupied by Alderbury Football Club, Alderbury

Nick Barrington, representing the applicant, spoke in support of the application and answered questions raised by councillors.

Mike Hiley of Alderbury Scouts asked if the applicant might agree to vary the terms of the application to include a joint Scout and Guide hut, rather than simply replacing the existing Guide Hut. Nick Barrington, the applicant's agent, agreed to take this back.

**RESOLVED:** Alderbury Parish Council urges Wiltshire Council to refuse the application for the following reasons:

- (1) The design and materials of the proposed dwellings would have a detrimental impact on the rural character of the village by virtue of its uniformly urban and bland brick-finished elevations. The original designs submitted with the outline application were more in keeping with the village setting and included more sympathetic architectural treatments with a more diverse palette of materials comprising brick, knapped flint, timber cladding and render elevations with mixed tile and slate roofing materials. The plans now presented depart significantly from those considered and approved by the inspector at appeal. Consequently, Alderbury Parish Council considers the application fails to meet the requirements of Policy 57 of the Wiltshire Core Strategy 2015 in that:
  - (a) It fails to enhance local distinctiveness and does not respond to the value of the natural and historic environment and consequently it does not relate positively to its landscape setting and the existing pattern of development in this part of the village.
  - (b) Fails to reflect the local context of its village setting by virtue of its urban layout, built form, height, mass, scale, building line, plot size, elevational design, materials, streetscape and rooflines;
  - (c) Fails to meet the standard of 'high standards of building materials;'
- (2) The access to the proposed development creates a very significant highway safety danger for pedestrians and children approaching Alderbury School via Firs Road. The application offers no form of mitigation and therefore is contrary to policy 62 of the Wiltshire Core Strategy because it does not provide appropriate mitigating measures to offset the adverse impacts on the transport network – and particularly vehicle movements at the School entrance in Firs Road. The Council noted that the original outline scheme proposed additional off-road parking and turning space within the Alderbury Football Club grounds. This, coupled with improvements along Firs Road (restrictions and yellow lines) may have helped allay the Council's concerns.
- (3) The Council feels that the drainage scheme proposed fails to take account fully of the impact of the removal of woodland to the east of the site. This has increased the risk of flooding on the development site – particularly on the eastern boundary adjoining the football field. In order to avoid the increased risk of flooding across the site onto the adjoining residential areas and the new football pitches downstream of the site, a more comprehensive drainage scheme and long-term mitigation measures are required. Consequently, the

Council considers the proposal to be contrary to Policy 67 of the Wiltshire Core Strategy in that it does not include comprehensive measures to reduce the rate of rainwater run-off and improve rainwater infiltration to soil.

- (4) The Development fails to capitalise on opportunities to enhance biodiversity. The representations made by the Salisbury Swift Group demonstrate how the development has the potential to deliver significant biodiversity gains through the provision of swift, bird and bat boxes. Consequently, the application is contrary to Policy 50 of the Wiltshire Core Strategy in that it fails to include adequate measures to deliver biodiversity gains associated with the creation of valuable habitats, ecological networks and ecosystem services.

**5926. [PL/2021/04200](#):** Approval of all outstanding Reserved Matters (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) for the erection of a replacement pre-school building with associated landscaping, informal open space and works, all pursuant to permission 17/04001/OUT - Land adjacent to Alderbury and West Grimstead Primary School, Alderbury.

Nick Barrington, representing the applicant, spoke in support of the application and answered questions raised by councillors.

**RESOLVED:** that consideration of this application be deferred pending receipt of plans of the proposed building and its elevations.

## Finance

---

### **5927. End of Year – Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR)**

In accordance with Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 and proper practices set out in the [JPAG Practitioners Guide](#), the Council noted that it was required to:

- to prepare Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March using the relevant AGAR from;
- to approve and publish the AGAR including the Accounting Statements
- to provide for the exercise of public rights to inspect the accounting statements and
- to publish the AGAR, including the signed external auditor report, by 30 September 2021.

Accordingly, the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) had prepared the following documents for approval by the Council and subsequent submission to the External Auditor, PKF Littlejohn LLP

#### **RESOLVED:**

- (1) that the matters set out in the [Internal Auditor's letter of 16<sup>th</sup> April](#) be noted; [the system of internal control](#) previously reviewed on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2021 (minute 5906) be re-confirmed and [the Annual Internal Audit Report \(AGAR\)](#) be adopted;
- (2) that the [Annual Governance Statement \(AGAR Part 3 Section 1\)](#) be approved;
- (3) that the [Accounting Statements for the Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 \(AGAR Part 3 Section 2 - certified by the RFO\)](#) be approved and signed by the Chair;
- (4) that [the Statement of Variances](#) be approved;
- (5) that [the End of Year Bank Reconciliation Statement](#) be approved; and
- (6) that [the Notice of Public Rights and Publication of Unaudited AGAR](#) be approved and published by the RFO on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

**5928. Budget Monitoring Report Month 1**

The Council noted [the budget 2021/22 and expenditure to 30th April 2021](#).

**5929. Bank Balances 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

The Council noted [the bank balances as at 30th April 2021](#).

**5930. Accounts for Payment**

**RESOLVED:** that payments be authorised as set out in [the Clerk’s Finance Report](#).

**Village Matters**

---

**5931. Speed Indicator Device**

The council noted that the Evolis SID and batteries had arrived. Following checks, Hurdcott Landscapes would erect the device at the previous SID location adjacent to the tennis courts on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May.

**5932. Reports from Cllrs representing Alderbury Parish Council on outside bodies.**

There were none.

**5933. Correspondence**

The Clerk reported confirmation received from the National Association of Local Councils that future meetings of the Council would need to be held face to face. The law permitting virtual meetings had not been renewed by the Government.

**5934. The Fountain magazine**

It was agreed that the clerk would provide a summary of this meeting and details of the Great Big Green Week.

**5935. Dates of future meetings**

- |                                    |                            |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Tuesday 18th May (Annual Meeting)  | Monday 1st November        |
| Thursday 20th May (Parish Meeting) | Tuesday 7th December       |
| Thursday 3rd June                  | Wednesday 5th January 2022 |
| Monday 5th July                    | Thursday 3rd February 2022 |
| Tuesday 3rd August (provisional)   | Monday 7th March 2022      |
| Wednesday 8th September            |                            |
| Thursday 7th October               |                            |

The Chair, Cllr Hartford, closed the meeting at 9.34pm

Signed as a correct record

.....  
Chair

.....  
Date