



**Minutes of the Annual Alderbury Parish Council meeting  
Tuesday 18th May 2021 at 7.30 pm  
Village Hall, Rectory Road, Alderbury**

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

**In attendance:** Wiltshire Councillor Richard Britton and Steve Milton (Parish Clerk)

**Public Question Time**

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Cllr Mernagh reported that an area of Longford Estate land in the village was being offered for sale to developers. Cllr Britton informed the Council that the area of land in question had been subject to an unsuccessful planning application in the past and that access had been the main reason for refusal.

Cllr Diprose reported that 2 people had been witnessed acting suspiciously in the village. This had been reported to the Police together with the partial registration number of a silver RAV vehicle the individuals were driving. Cllr Mernagh reported that hedge plants had been stolen from a property in Southampton Road, the culprits had been seen in the act of removing the plants. The Chair recommended that all councillors [sign up to receive alerts from Neighbourhood Watch](#) and [the Neighbourhood Alert Service offered by the Police](#).

**Report from Unitary Cllr Richard Britton**

The Chair congratulated Cllr Britton on his re-election and paid tribute to his service to the community over many years. Members of the Council joined Cllr Hartford in congratulating Richard. Cllr Britton reported that the Annual Wiltshire Council meeting had taken place this day and that Downton councillor, Richard Clewer had been elected as Leader. Cllr Clewer was a member of the Southern Wiltshire Area Board and this was good news for the local area. Cllr Britton and been re-elected as Chair of Southern Wiltshire Area Board and also elected Chair of the Southern Wiltshire Planning Committee and the Wiltshire Local Government Pension Scheme. Cllr Britton reported that he had referred recent concerns about Wiltshire Council's planning portal to the officer responsible ([Sally Canter](#)).

**Council Business**

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Cllr Fuller – in the Chair

**5936. Election of Chair**

**RESOLVED:** that Councillor Elaine Hartford be elected Chair of Alderbury Parish Council for the 2021/22 civic year.

[The Declaration of Acceptance of Office](#) was signed by Cllr Hartford and the Clerk.

Cllr Hartford – in the Chair

**5937. Election of Vice Chair**

**RESOLVED:** that Councillor John Fuller be elected Vice Chair of Alderbury Parish Council for the 2021/22 civic year.

[The Declaration of Acceptance of Office](#) was signed by Cllr Fuller and the Clerk.

**5938. Apologies for absence**

All councillors were present.

**5939. Declarations of interests and dispensations**

There were no declarations

**5940. Minutes**

Cllr Lawrence sought clarification about the recording in the minutes of responses to questions asked by members of the public during questions time. The questions were recorded in the minutes but responses, decisions or follow-up actions were not. The Clerk explained that it would be illegal for the Council to take a decision on a matter that had not been included in the agenda and subject to the statutory three clear days' notice. However, the Clerk would often take action on matters following the meeting under delegated powers, after hearing the views of members but these delegated decisions did not form part of the formal minutes. Alternatively, the clerk would include an item in the next agenda for decision.

**RESOLVED:** that [the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021](#) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**5941. Declaration of Acceptance of Office following Elections on May 6<sup>th</sup> 2021**

Councillors signed the [declaration of acceptance of office as an elected member of Alderbury Parish Council](#) and this was duly witnessed by the Clerk.

**5942. Councillor responsibilities and work with external bodies 2021/22**

**RESOLVED:** that Councillors responsibilities and appointments to outside bodies be approved as set out in [the schedule now available on the Council website](#).

**5943. Appointment of Internal Auditor**

**RESOLVED:** that Lightatouch be appointed for the duration of this Council.

**5944. Review of Banking Arrangements**

The Council noted that Lloyds Bank did not feature highly in comparisons of banks ranked in terms of ethical investment.

**RESOLVED:** that a review of banking providers be undertaken with a view to switching to a bank with a higher ethical investment rating and that Lloyds be retained in the interim period.

**5945. Review of Insurance Arrangements**

**RESOLVED:** that Came and Company be retained for the current year.

**5946. General Power of Competence (GPC)**

The Clerk explained that following the elections the Council was now eligible for the [General Power of Competence conferred on qualifying councils by Part 1 of the Localism Act 2011](#).

**RESOLVED:** that Alderbury Parish Council hereby declares that it meets the criteria set out in the Localism Act 2011 and Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 and consequently adopts the General Power of Competence.

**5947. To consider and approve the Parish Council's annual subscriptions.**

**RESOLVED:** that the following memberships and subscriptions be approved for 2021-22.

- Council for Protection of Rural England £36
- National Association of Local Councils (including Wiltshire ALC) £888
- Information Commissioner (ICO) £35

- Society of Local Council Clerks (Fellowship) £251
- Corporate Governance Institute (ICSA) £150

**5948. Council Policies and Procedures.**

**RESOLVED:** that [the policies and procedures currently listed on the Council's website](#), be reconfirmed and reviewed periodically during the current civic year – starting with the cemetery regulations and fees.

**5949. Alderbury Parish Council Forward Plan 2021-22**

In connection with this item, the Council agreed that it would be a good idea to have an annual report from the Village Hall Management Committee on future Annual Parish Council agendas.

**RESOLVED:** that [the Forward Plan](#) be adopted.

**Planning Matters**

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**5950. [PL/2021/04410](#):** Works to Trees in a conservation area - T1 - Horse Chestnut tree - pollard beyond old cuts to 6m - 7m – Cherrytree Cottage, Old Road, Alderbury, SP5 3AR

**RESOLVED:** that Alderbury Parish Council supports the advice and recommendations that may be submitted by Wiltshire Council's Arboricultural Officer but notes that two trees are indicated on the plan – this submission relates on to T1.

**5951. [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

**RESOLVED:** that having reconsidered this matter now that the detailed plans are available, Alderbury Parish Council supports the application subject to the inclusion of conditions to ensure compliance with Policy 62 of the Wiltshire Core Strategy, as follows:

- (1) Off road parking should be provided on the area of the site to the NE of the school on land adjoining the Alderbury Football Club pitches. This will enable parents to drop off children safely without contributing to the obstruction of Firs Road at peak times. This measure is required to address the road safety issues at the school and pre-school entrance. Details should be submitted for approval by the LPA following further comments from the Parish Council.
- (2) A scheme should be introduced to remove on-street parking in the vicinity of the school and pre-school entrance on Firs Road. This is required to address the additional traffic associated with the development of land to the North of the site and the increased vehicle movements and associated road safety dangers this will cause on Firs Road. Details should be submitted for approval by the LPA following further comments from the Parish Council.
- (3) Safe school crossing points should be provided on Firs Road to serve the additional off-road parking required by (1) above and to serve families from Avon Drive using the paths through the adjoining woodland to access the schools. Details should be submitted for approval by the LPA following further comments from the Parish Council.

5952. [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, Grimstead Road West Grimstead SP5 3RQ

**RESOLVED:** that Alderbury Parish Council objects to this application for the following reasons:

Alderbury Parish Council is concerned that this application is being considered as 'brown field' development, when the previous planning permission required the site to be returned to arable greenfield land following cessation of the previously approved use. This condition was never enforced after the previous use finished. Therefore, Alderbury PC believes this application should be treated as a development of greenfield land. Notwithstanding this, the Council urges Wiltshire Council to **REFUSE** the application for the following reasons:

- (1) The application represents an over intensification of the use of the site that will have a detrimental impact on the environment and local community. Therefore the application, by virtue of its scale, impact on neighbouring properties and lack of adequate supporting infrastructure, is contrary to Policy 34 of the Wiltshire Core Strategy.
- (2) The nature of the operation will give rise to noise, pollution and possible contamination of watercourses that will have an adverse impact on the local landscape, habitats and biodiversity and is thus contrary to Policy 50 and 51 of the Wiltshire Core Strategy.
- (3) The traffic generated by the development will have a detrimental impact on highway safety by virtue of significantly increased HGV movements on substandard village roads. The development will increase highway safety dangers in the vicinity of the development contrary to Policy 62 of the Wiltshire Core Strategy.

## Community Issues

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### 5953. Maintenance update

Councillor Hartford reported as follows:

- Fly-tipping at Shute End – the rubbish has now been removed by Wiltshire Council
- Fly-tipping at Spiders Island – she would investigate a complaint received.
- Sign at Southways – this had now been repaired
- Broken Fence at the Village Hall – this had now been repaired
- Broken slab Football Pavilion at the Recreation Ground – the football club had still not accepted liability for the repair. The Clerk was in the process of clarifying legal liabilities with the Club. Members considered that it may be necessary to close the pavilion due to the safety risk associated with the uneven veranda surface.
- Long grass at The Sandringhams – she had received a complaint about the grass cutting on the estate. She was investigating to find out if this was Wiltshire Council's responsibility.
- Foster Lane – the new street sign was not yet in place despite the completion of 5 dwellings. The developer's advertising hoarding still referred to the development as 'Runnymede.' The Clerk would chase up the matter with Wiltshire Council.
- Bus shelter, Whaddon – the broken polycarbonate panel had now been replaced.

5954. **To receive reports from Cllrs representing Alderbury Parish Council on outside bodies.**  
There were no reports

**5955. Correspondence**

The Clerk reported that he had received a request from a local trader wishing to site a fruit and veg stall in the Village Hall car park – on a weekly basis. He had informed the person concerned that the car park was controlled by the Village Hall Committee and that a similar request to site a milk machine in the car park had been turned down pending an assessment of demand for parking spaces once the newly refurbished hall has been reopened. Members expressed concern about the impact of additional traders on the existing shops in the village.

**5956. Dates of future meetings**

The following dates were noted:

- Thur 20<sup>th</sup> May (APM)
- Thur 3<sup>rd</sup> June
- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July
- Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> August (prov)
- Wed 8<sup>th</sup> September
- Thur 7<sup>th</sup> October
- Mon 1st November
- Tue 7<sup>th</sup> December
- Wed 5th January 2022
- Thur 3rd February 2022
- Mon 7th March 20

The Chair, Cllr Hartford, closed the meeting at 9.36pm

Signed as a correct record

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Chair

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Date