

**Minutes of the Meeting of Alderbury Parish Council
held on Monday 4th July 2022 at 7.30pm
in The Fountain Room, Alderbury Village Hall.**



Present: Councillors Elaine Hartford (Chair), Ken Bath, Kim Diprose, John Fuller, Mike Huntley, Mel Lawrence, John Ridd and Barry Sloan,

In attendance: Wiltshire Councillor Richard Britton, PC Pete Jung, Steve Milton (Parish Clerk), and four members of the public.

Public question time

Ken Carley:

- Reported a further incident of hedge cutting during the bird nesting season.
- Expressed some concerns about the adequacy of drainage works at the new development at Firs Road.

Wiltshire Councillor Richard Britton

- Informed members that there were still some problems with recycling collections due to staff shortages at the contractor, Hills Waste. The advice was to leave the bins out on collection day, and they will be collected as soon as crews are available.
- Explained that Wiltshire Council's budget situation was better than first feared. Additional budget allocations had been made as follows:
 - £200k for additional white road lines
 - £500k for increased mechanised (Vactor) drain clearance
 - £150k for improved enforcement of street scene issues such as litter, dog fouling, etc.
- Explained that there was no news on the planned resurfacing of Southampton Road. Members were extremely concerned about the poor state of the surface which was now dangerous – particularly for cyclists and motorcyclists. The HGVs bringing in materials to the Junction Road/Firs Road development were contributing to the rapid deterioration of the road. It was agreed to send a letter to Wiltshire Councillor Cabinet Member for Transport Mark McLelland urging action and making him aware of the increasing dangers.

PC Pete Jung, Wiltshire Police

- Reported on a burglary and several petty thefts in the village.
- Cllrs raised the issue of a noisy motorbike driving around the village. Pete agreed to pay a visit to the owner.

6203. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Adam Hughes (holiday), Darren Mernagh (personal commitment) and Michael Considine (childcare).

6204. Declaration of Cllrs Interests and dispensations

There were no declarations.

6205. Council meeting minutes

RESOLVED: that [the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 9th June, 2022](#) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

6206. Village Maintenance Update

The Chair, Cllr Hartford reported as follows:

- Rotten and broken white railings at Old Road. The Clerk was asked to email Wiltshire Council requesting repairs.
- Folly Lane noticeboard requires replacement. The supports are solid, but the backing board is now rotten and detached. The Clerk was requested to seek quotes for the replacement of all four noticeboards.

- Damaged fence between the village hall car park and the recreation ground. **The cross member** had dropped and needs replacing.
- Trees overhanging grave plots at the cemetery. Need pruning back. It was agreed to go ahead with the works subject to any necessary permissions.
- Cllr Ridd raised the installation of new telegraph poles all over the village by Openreach to provide fibre broadband. It was agreed to publish the customer help number in The Fountain.

6207. Activities for Young People

Cllr Diprose reported that the Council had been asked to allocate £350 to support a programme of four events for young people at the Recreation Ground over the Summer holidays. The events were scheduled to take place at 6.30pm on:

- 28th July • 2nd August • 4th August • 9th August •

Wiltshire's Southern Area Board had offered to fund 50% of the cost of the programme from its youth budget and it was hoped that the Rural Youth Outreach Officers will be on site during the sessions. The Board's selected activity provider was [Buzz Action Foundation](#).

RESOLVED: that the Council agrees to allocate £350 to support the Summer Activity Programme.

6208. Wildlife Friendly Alderbury – Projects 2022

Cllr Lawrence reported that the Council's forward plan included the following projects for Autumn 2022:

- Oakwood Grove Open Space – Phase 1 works: native hedgerow and tree planting
- Spiders' island – Mini Forest
- Southampton Road Verges: Wildflowers (scarifying and seeding)

[A map showing the location of the proposed projects is now online.](#) The Council had £1,500 set aside for these works. Ken Carley reported that the Men's Shed might be able to provide bat and bird boxes. This offer was accepted, and Mr Carley was asked to follow this matter up with the Shed organisers.

RESOLVED: Subject to the outcome of consultation with nearby residents, quotations be sought for the hedging, trees, and wildflower seed.

6209. Southampton Road Allotments

The Clerk reported that he had submitted a letter to Formula Land (Alderbury) setting out the Council's position. This letter had been shared with the allotment holders. Subsequently, he had spoken to Mr Robert Leckie, Director of the company - the new owners of the allotment land and the Council's licensee. The conversation had been constructive, and Mr Leckie had expressed a desire to resolve the issue quickly and in a manner that was acceptable for everyone. He explained that he would develop a proposal and agreed to meet with the Council and representatives of the allotment holders to discuss this once available. The Clerk further reported that the National Allotment Federation had confirmed the allotments were not afforded any statutory protection. The Council agreed that the meeting with Formula Land (Alderbury) should go ahead in July as planned.

6210. Junction of Firs Road and Woodlea Grange

Councillor Britton asked the Council to consider a road safety issue referred to him by a local resident. Because of the Firs Road/Woodlea Grange junction design there was poor definition of the boundary between the footway and the highway making it particularly dangerous for children on the way to and from school. Car parking around the junction (mainly school drop-off and pick-up) further reduces visibility and adds to the danger. After discussion between Cllr Britton and the local highways engineer, it has been suggested that yellow lines would help define the junction and remove parked cars, improving safety for road users and pedestrians. Cllr Fuller reported that a traffic scheme was being planned for the pupil entrance (includes 20 mph limit) and, it was:

RESOLVED: to ask the Wiltshire Council highways engineer to include Woodlea Grange entrance as part of the traffic scheme he is working on.

6211. Junction of Clarendon Road and Southampton Road

The Council has been contacted by concerned neighbours about dangerous parking on the South side of Clarendon Road just before the junction with Southampton Road. The cars park half on the pavement and half on the carriageway causing vehicles approaching the junction to pull out into oncoming traffic on a blind bend – [see photo submitted](#). The Council was asked to consider applying to the LHFIG for double yellow lines to be painted on the road in this location. If a scheme is approved the Council will be required to fund 25% of the costs involved. The Council has £2,500 set aside in earmarked reserves for highway projects and subject to the costs falling within this limit, the Council is asked to support an application to the LHFIG.

RESOLVED: that an application be made to the Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Group (LHFIG) for yellow lines on the South side of Clarendon Road just before the junction with Southampton Road

6212. [Planning Application PL/2022/04564](#): Removal of two diseased ash trees subject of a tree preservation order - 3 Silverwood, Alderbury, SP5 3TN

RESOLVED: that Alderbury Parish Council would prefer the trees to be retained and diseased materials pruned out to encourage recovery. However, in this matter we will be guided by the advice of the Council's Arboricultural Officer. If the trees are too far diseased then the Council would not object to felling as a last resort.

6213. [Planning Application PL/2022/02766](#): New dwelling with associated drive, carport/garage and garden amenity space (As approved under planning ref 20/07065/FUL with revised access position) - Resubmission of PL/2022/02035 - Caynton Lawns, Oak Drive, Alderbury, Wilts, SP5 3AJ

RESOLVED: that Notwithstanding the amendments submitted, Alderbury Parish Council maintains its objection to this application for the following reasons:

- (1) The proposed access is located near the end of a private track lying within the curtilage of the adjoining property 'Mere' and leading exclusively to the two properties at 'Treetops'. The track is unsurfaced, is only 2.5m wide, and too narrow for access by emergency, refuse or other service vehicles. It cannot be widened as this land is not within the boundary of the site. The extra traffic generated by the proposed 4-bedroomed house including delivery and business vehicles will greatly increase vehicle movements along the track. In addition, the proposed entry access point for the new development provides inadequate visibility for road users approaching from north, and vehicles egressing the site will have inadequate sight lines to the north. This will significantly increase road safety risks. The application can make no accommodation for this within the current boundary line. The Council considers the proposed access to be unsafe as it will increase highway safety risks to an unacceptable level and should be refused in accordance with Policy 61 (ii) of the Wiltshire Core Strategy 2015.
- (2) The proposed access by virtue of its narrow width and lack of passing places, pedestrian refuges and turning areas presents a danger to pedestrians, cyclists and other road users and is therefore contrary to Policy 61 (i) of the Wiltshire Core Strategy 2015.
- (3) The proposed access by virtue of its narrow width and lack of passing places and turning areas is inadequate to serve delivery and service vehicles and is therefore contrary to Policy 61 (ii) (e) of the Wiltshire Core Strategy 2015.
- (4) The proposed access will involve cutting through a bank and the removal of mature hedgerow. Indeed, the latest revision removes more of the ancient hedge. This will have a harmful impact upon the landscape character of the narrow rural lane and involve the loss of valuable natural habitat. Therefore, the Council considers this application should be refused in accordance with Policies 50 and 51 (i) of the Wiltshire Core Strategy 2015.
- (5) The LPA must satisfy itself that the access proposed can be achieved without third party consent.

- (6) The Council feels that the access issue can most easily be resolved by connecting the existing access to Caynton Lawns to the proposed bungalow along the inside of the existing hedge line. This will avoid removing the ancient hedgerow and resolve the traffic issues.

6214. Budget Monitoring Report – 30th June 2022 (Month 3)

The Council noted [the budget monitoring report](#).

6215. Bank Balances and Bank Reconciliation – 30th June 2022

The Council noted [the bank balances and bank reconciliation statement](#).

6216. Reserves – 30th June 2022

The Council noted [the reserves statement](#).

6217. Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED:

(1) that the [the schedule of payments and invoices](#) be approved

(2) That the [quotation for the replacement of the Council laptop](#) received from the Council's IT provider Hill Data Systems Ltd be accepted.

6218. To receive reports from Cllrs representing Alderbury Parish Council on outside bodies.

No reports were submitted.

6219. Correspondence – there was no correspondence to report.

6220. The Fountain magazine – It was agreed that the following items be included in the next edition:

- Summer Activity Programme
- Availability of Bat Boxes
- Recent Burglary
- BT Openreach telegraph poles

6221. Dates of future meetings:

- Tuesday 9 Aug 22 (prov)
- Tuesday 6 Sep 22
- Wednesday 5 October
- Thursday 3 November
- Monday 5 December

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.31pm

Signed as a correct record

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Chair

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Date