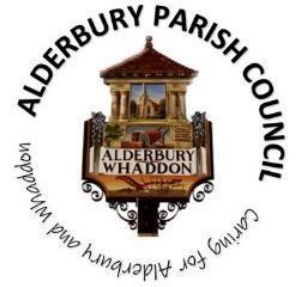


**Minutes of the Meeting of Alderbury Parish Council held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023 at 7.30pm in The Fountain Room, Alderbury Village Hall.**



**Present:** Councillors Elaine Hartford (Chair) (EH), Kim Diprose (KD), John Fuller (JF), Adam Hughes (AH), Mike Huntley (MH), Mel Lawrence (ML), John Ridd (JR), Barry Sloan (BS), Alex Wilkinson (AW)

**In attendance:** WC Cllr Richard Britton (RB), Liz Holland (Clerk) and 4 members of the public.

**Public open time**

- Representatives from the Southampton Road Allotment Association (SRAA) thanked Cllrs Hartford and Wilkinson for attending the recent AGM and described the meeting as 'positive'. They stressed the need to maintain safe access to the allotments but want to work together with APC to achieve a solution. They recognised there had been difficulties recently in maintaining a working relationship. Whilst not all the underlying matters can be put aside, there is a determination to now move forward.

**6510. Reports**

- a** Wiltshire Councillor Richard Britton began by thanking everyone for their good wishes. He reported:
- Staff relations at WC have been under some strain due to union negotiations around unsocial hours payments. These are now resolved with 2 of the 3 unions involved, so matters should improve.
  - WC has taken powers to deploy ANPR. These devices may be used at bus lanes, box junctions and even schools, as some examples.
  - National Highways has still not put forward plans for improvements to the A36 as it enters Salisbury in the south. There are some worries that budget problems could impact any decisions
  - A decision on siting the new police HQ is on hold, with 3 sites still in contention
  - There has been an influx of planning applications from some big developers anticipating the change in the law which would take the required identified housing land supply -from 5 years to 4 years, which would impact Wiltshire.
- b** PC Harry Murphy sent a written report:
- On 13th October on Clarendon Road there was an attempted vehicle theft in the early hours of the morning. The (unknown) suspect opened the passenger side door of a parked vehicle on the driveway before being challenged by the owner. They got into a small white van and drove off in the direction of Farley. Fortunately, nothing was stolen.
  - On 21st October on Tunnel Hill there was graffiti sprayed over trees and fencing. No suspects have been identified however it is believed that it was youths in the area at the time.
  - On 26th October there was reported anti-social behaviour in The Sandringhams. Enquiries are ongoing at this time to progress matters.

**6511. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Considine and Dent.

**6512. Declaration of Councillors' Interests and dispensations**

There were none

### 6513. Minutes

The [minutes](#) of the meeting held on October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023 were **APPROVED** and signed by the chair.

### 6514. Matters arising not on the agenda

The action log was reviewed and **NOTED**. The clerk will again sign up those councillors who missed the Parish Online login information first time round. **ACTION: clerk**

### 6515. Planning

- a **RESPONSE** to the draft WC Local Plan - councillors favoured the wording suggested by Cllr Britton and asked the clerk to add something on the effect on air quality from queuing traffic and that 'the village has become the bypass'. RB sent: "Alderbury Parish Council notes that National Highways and its predecessor agencies have for many years considered the A36 Alderbury By-Pass to be operating well beyond its capacity. It is therefore concerned that there does not appear to be any evidence of a dialogue between Wiltshire Council and National Highways regarding the continuing adverse impact of housing development in Alderbury on this overloaded road – particularly in a northerly direction where a three-mile journey between Alderbury and the Petersfinger Park-and-Ride site can take up to half-an-hour during peak times. So it seems to the Parish Council that this failure properly to consider the impact on the overloaded A36 of continued housing development in Alderbury represents a flaw in the justification in the Local Plan of continued housing development in Alderbury" **ACTION: clerk**
- b **RESPONSE to PL/2023/08967 trees at Highway Bank, Clarendon Road** No comment - councillors will defer to the opinion of the tree officer
- c **RESPONSE** to an invitation for a meeting with Formula Land (FLA) prior to them submitting their planning application – views varied but concerns were raised about adhering to the code of conduct on accountability and openness and on future charges of pre-determination. The meeting will be declined and the clerk was asked to write to FLA asking for a meeting which meets these criteria:
- i APC will minute & chair the meeting
  - ii APC will arrange the meeting at a time convenient for a majority of councillors ie in the evening
  - iii The meeting will be open to the public and councillors will attend as members of the public
  - iv Councillors need 5 days' notice of plans
  - v FLA to provide a formal presentation
  - vi Councillors may use the information shared at the meeting in both their own personal responses to the plan and at a later discussion when APC agrees its response. Any views expressed at the FLA meeting are their own and the minutes will record this **ACTION: clerk**

### 6516. Village maintenance issues

**REPORT** on new issues from Cllr Hartford

- i The Folly Lane noticeboard is deteriorating fast. **ACTION: EH to contact Mr Fencing about fitting the new one**
- ii Gate posts for the recreation ground have been fitted. A new holding mechanism may be needed
- iii The grit bin at the village hall has been flooded **ACTION: clerk to investigate what can be done**
- iv The gate between the cemetery and the Longford's field has collapsed. **ACTION: clerk to speak to Longford**
- v A list for pavement clearance needs agreeing. Clerk reminded councillors the power to authorise this work has been devolved to the clerk and Chair so they only need to let them know. **ACTION: ALL**

### 6517. Allotments

- a. The working group (car park project) reported that if £1,500 is approved by APC (matching the £1,500 already offered by Formula Land) they will meet a local groundworker to assess the possibilities of improving/extending the current entrance hardcore area to the right of the entrance gate up to a total of £3,000. The **PROPOSAL to AGREE** a car park repair plan that

commits APC to up to £1,500 was **APPROVED** by a majority of 8 votes to 1. **ACTION: working group (JF, MH) to meet with groundworker to plan the project and inform the chair of the SRAA of the proposed work, clerk to advise FLA**

- b. Cllr Wilkinson reported on behalf of the working group (SRAA liaison). Cllr Wilkinson agreed with the earlier speaker that the meeting had a positive feel. He had agreed that he or APC will look at the following matters:
- i. Area board grants
  - ii. advertising vacancies on Facebook
  - iii. car park repair money
  - iv. plans for repairs will be discussed with the SRAA directly
  - v. changes to the licence
  - vi. having a project manager for the car park repairs

The clerk will be drafting a management agreement between the SRAA and APC **ACTION: AW, clerk**

#### 6518. **Playground, recreation ground and The Pavilion**

- a **UPDATE** on repairs to playground equipment **POSTPONED ACTION: agenda**
- b **REPORT** on the asbestos survey at The Pavilion – this has been circulated and raises no concerns
- c **APPROVED** training costs for Mike Dent to attend playground inspection training £125 **ACTION: clerk to book**
- d **APPROVED** training costs for clerk to attend grant application training £40 **ACTION: clerk to book**

#### 6519. **Finance**

- a **The PROPOSAL to AGREE** a grant to the bowls club was **POSTPONED ACTION: December agenda**
- b **NOTED** [reserves at 30.9.23](#) £118,206
- c Councillors discussed the draft budget prepared by the clerk and agreed that money needs to be set aside for playground equipment repairs and local grants. The proposed percentage increase looks high but they will wait for better tax base information before deciding expenditure. Clerk will draw up options with different increases once the tax base is known. **ACTION: clerk, agenda**
- d **APPROVED** [the schedule of payments and invoices received](#)

#### 6520. **Highways**

Firs Road: Cllr Fuller reported: he had met 2 officers from WC Highways, the headteacher and 2 reps from the developers. Road markings cannot be put down until the surface is finished. Likely January but the TRO has not been issued yet. The developer has been asked to fund safety measures at the school pupil entrance and at the dropped curb crossing from the pavements but there is no reply yet. In response Cllrs Hughes and Wilkinson said the situation at the school is currently very dangerous, exacerbated by the football club car park not yet being available. The clerk was asked to try to see if things can be moved on any quicker. **ACTION: clerk**

#### 6521. **REPORTS** from Councillors – NTR

#### 6522. **Correspondence**

- a the clerk reported that she had heard from the church who noted the safety concerns raised by the PC regarding the crib scene planned
- b Cllr Wilkinson reported he had been asked about Buzz Action possibly wanting an allotment for work they do with young people

#### 6523. **The Fountain magazine** – the clerk will write based on the meeting and was asked to emphasise the need for caution at school pick up/drop off

**6524. Dates of next meetings**

a. 2023

- i. Extraordinary meeting Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November
- ii. Ordinary meeting 12<sup>th</sup> December The Fountain Room

b. b. 2024

- i. **PROPOSAL to AGREE** the date for the annual parish meeting (APM) 22<sup>nd</sup> May 7.30 was **APPROVED ACTION: clerk to book**
- ii. **CONSIDER** inviting The Wiltshire Victoria County History Group to speak at the APM  
**POSTPONED ACTION: agenda**

The meeting closed at 21:40