

**Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting  
held on Tuesday 11th June 2024 at 7.30pm  
The Fountain Room, Alderbury Village Hall**



**Present:** Councillors John Fuller (JF) Chair, Mike Dent (MD), Kim Diprose (KD), Elaine Hartford (EH), Michael Huntley (MH), Colin Roberts (CR), Barry Sloan (BS), Alex Wilkinson (AW)

**In attendance:** Wiltshire Council councillor Richard Britton (RB), Liz Holland (Clerk) and 2 members of the public.

**Public open time**

- Nothing to report

John Fuller, Chair of Alderbury Parish Council, began by paying tribute to the years Eliane Hartford had put into being APC Chair. He thanked her for her time and for her continuing involvement with the Council and presented her with a gift.

**53.24 ACCEPT reports from**

- a. PC Kelvin Ramsey submitted a written report:
  - i. Highlighted the reduction in ASB in the village
  - ii. Reported 2 crimes – a car driver arrested for possession of cannabis and the theft of a fuel can
- b. WC Councillor Richard Britton reported:
  - i. He is now Chair of Clarendon PC after WC used its special powers to ensure the Council continues to function
  - ii. He was delighted to see the first £1,000 penalty notice issued in Wiltshire for fly-tipping
  - iii. He is dealing with a fencing issue in Spider's Island
  - iv. He continues to lobby for help with ALDE20
  - v. He responded to a question - No progress known on the TRO at Firs Road but he will chase again
  - vi. He responded to a question – The planning enforcement measures at The 3 Crowns do not come into effect until July. There is then likely to be an appeals process

**54.24 ACCEPTED** apologies for absence for this meeting from Mel Lawrence and Michael Considine  
**AGREED** a leave for absence for Peter Jenks until September 2024

**55.24 RECEIVE** Declarations of Councillors' Interests and Dispensations relating to matters on this agenda – there were none

**56.24 APPROVED** [the minutes of the meeting on May 13<sup>th</sup> 2024](#)

**57.24 REVIEWED** the action log – Cllrs Fuller and Wilkinson had completed a line-by-line review with the clerk prior to the meeting. The following points were discussed:

- a. The clerk was asked to give the painter of the white railings at Old Road a deadline for making good or forfeit his payment **ACTION: clerk**
- b. The village hall screen needs to be ordered **ACTION: clerk**

**58.24 Finance**

- a. **NOTED** the bank balances and [bank reconciliation statement at 31.5.24](#) and Cllr Fuller signed it.
- b. **APPROVED** the [schedule of payments and invoices received](#)

**59.24 Village maintenance issues**

- a. New issues
  - i. The gate post at the cemetery needs immediate replacement **AGREED** clerk to ask Mr Fencing to replace it **ACTION: clerk**
  - ii. The metal fence at the village hall car park is damaged **ACTION clerk**
  - iii. The drainage strip at the village hall car park is damaged **ACTION clerk**
  - iv. The posts surrounding the Green may need replacing **ACTION: clerk, EH**
  - v. The equipment installation at the play area/trim trail at Pembroke Gardens is unfinished. **ACTION: clerk to report to management company and clarify their responsibility re the planted and grass areas along the new section of Firs Road**
- b. Because there will be a new electricity contract starting soon, it was decided to **POSTPONE** consideration of new Christmas tree lights and a review of electricity usage until early next year **ACTION future agenda**
- c. The request for additional signage for Old Road was **REJECTED. ACTION: clerk to write to the resident who asked about this**

**60.24 Playground, recreation ground, The Pavilion and youth activities**

- a. Councillor Fuller attended the new Southern Wiltshire Youth Forum arranged by Karen Linaker (KL). It was acknowledged there that youth services in Wiltshire had suffered huge cutbacks over many years and a new approach is needed. No single small PC can afford to take on youth workers so a model which facilitates them collaborating should be considered. **ACTION: clerk to write to KL suggesting this approach would have the support of APC**
- b. After a long discussion it was **AGREED**
  - i. No approach to The Longford Estate on developing fishing access at the canal
  - ii. In the New year, consider approaching them about developing a safe footpath at the northern end of the lake which is much used by families walking to school. **ACTION: future agenda**
  - iii. Consider widening that discussion to how the area could become more of a simple nature reserve
- c. Community Hub Working Group
  - i. Work at The Pavilion should be complete this week. The plan for development of the recreation ground seemed supported at the APM. Cllr Fuller will talk to a neighbouring resident who has expressed concerns about the football goal being near her fence **ACTION: JF**
  - ii. **The PROPOSAL** to appoint Vitaplay to project manage the new playground equipment installation was **AGREED. ACTION: JF, CR and clerk to meet Vitaplay on site**

**61.24 NOTED** no reply from the SRAA to the management agreement sent 16/4

**62.24 Highways**

- a. **The PROPOSAL** to order a new SID unit was **AGREED**. The new location is on Clarendon Road. **ACTION: clerk.**  
Cllr Wilkinson asked if the data from the SID is available for analysis. Confirmed, it is. He and the clerk will attempt to extract it.  
Cllr Britton confirmed that funding for the socket required for an SID can be requested from the LHFIF group
- b. The Football Club have responded to comments about the traffic chaos resulting from their last tournament. This is not a PC matter but councillors were pleased to hear of the changes to be made
- c. **ALDE20 update** Cllr Fuller reported that the strip of land attached to the school at the end of the Pembroke Gardens development is not 'fit for purpose' and WC will enforce it be made good. As the work will require machinery, it could be a perfect opportunity to co-ordinate with installing a soakaway to help drainage at ALDE20. **ACTION: RB/JF to continue to press for this**

**63.24 Environmental issues**

- a. **ALL AGREED** access to Parish Online beyond the clerk and councillors will not be permitted. Where volunteers want to submit ideas, they must do so through a councillor
- b. **The PROPOSAL** to [adopt the land at Spider's Island](#) from WC to become a wildlife area was **POSTPONED** to allow a plan to be drawn up of what the land would be used for **ACTION: future agenda**
- c. **The PROPOSAL to ACCEPT** publication of an article to clarify the law and APC's position on hedge cutting was **AGREED**. Clerk will submit it to The Fountain and advertise it on the website and Facebook. **ACTION: clerk**

**64.24 Planning**

- a. Councillors will follow the advice of the tree officer on [PL/2024/04602](#) Alderbury House tree work
- b. The letter about Community Led Housing was **AGREED** not relevant for Alderbury at this time
- c. Participation at a potential WC planning committee meeting to discuss PL/2022/03103 Land to the East of Wagtails was **POSTPONED until final proposals have been clarified ACTION: future agenda**

**65.24 Representation at events**

No-one volunteered for the Planning Service stakeholder review Trowbridge 25<sup>th</sup> June

**66.24 Communication with residents**

- a. The Fountain – include thanks to EH, thanks to the Picnic-in-the-Park organisers, police report. SID decision, recreation ground update
- b. Facebook
  - i. From residents – nothing to report
  - ii. Posts about - the hedgerow cutting advice, how to put notices up
- c. Annual Parish Meeting
  - i. Lessons - the Comms WG will consider the value of leafleting door-to-door, consider refreshments as an enticement next year
  - ii. No follow up from the Sylvia Wyatt presentation

**67.24 Dates for meetings**

July 10<sup>th</sup> ordinary meeting AND NOTE this year it is already decided to have an AUGUST meeting (8th)

The meeting closed at 21:05

*REPORTS REFERRED TO IN THESE MINUTES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE or from the clerk on request*

SIGNED as true record (Chair)