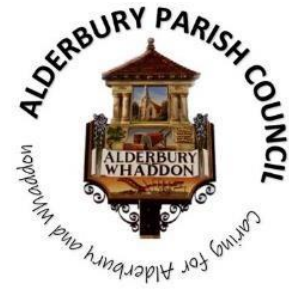


**Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting
held on Monday 9th September 2024 at 7.30pm**

The Fountain Room, Alderbury Village Hall



Present: Councillors John Fuller (JF) Chair, Mike Dent (MD), Kim Diprose (KD), Elaine Hartford (EH), Mel Lawrence (ML), Colin Roberts (CR), Alex Wilkinson (AW)

Cllr Sloan arrived at 19:50

In attendance: Liz Holland (Clerk) and 20 members of the public.

Public open time

- A resident asked if any of the £20million investment WC is making on roads will be used to re-widen Clarendon Road. He outlined pinch points and a build up of silt and hedge clippings, and possibly the moving of a boundary fence. Signage has been obstructed.
- A resident asked what the process for planning applications is, with particular reference to land east of Wagtails. Cllr Fuller explained.
- A resident asked about rights being sold on – planning permission is for the land so it does move to a new owner if the land is sold.
- A resident asked for an update on Firs Road – all legal matters are complete and we are waiting to hear when the work will be scheduled
- Residents asked about the Kiln Close planning application and were advised to make individual submissions to the planning inspector. It is particularly important that new information is noted such as a recent bat survey and a possible missing felling licence. APC will re-submit

96.24 ACCEPT reports from

- a. PC Kelvin Ramsey submitted a written report with nothing new to report. Councillors thanked PCSO John Taylor for speaking to residents in the Friday coffee shop.
- b. WC Councillor Richard Britton:
 - i. Clarendon PC has been reconstituted so he will be able to stand down from there soon
 - ii. As a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme committee, he is awaiting new rules from the Government
 - iii. He disputed a claim in a local newspaper that there were 300 outstanding applications to confirm rights of way in Wiltshire. The delay is to applications for modifications to existing paths. The definitive map is up-to-date.

97.24 Apologies for absence were ACCEPTED from Cllr Huntley.

98.24 RECEIVE Declarations of Councillors' Interests and Dispensations relating to matters on this agenda - Cllr Dent is a neighbour to the development to be discussed at 107.24 b. He will not vote on any proposals but the clerk granted a dispensation for him to be involved in the discussion, on the grounds of his specialist knowledge of the matter.

99.24 APPROVED [the minutes of the meeting on August 8th 2024](#) with one change at 92.24 – inserting the word 'annually' **ACTION:clerk**

100.24 REVIEWED the action log – Cllr Fuller had completed a line-by-line review with the clerk prior to the meeting. No other questions

101.24 Cllr Fuller updated the council on the recruitment of new councillors. One person has expressed an interest and ads are on the noticeboard, website and in the school newsletter. Both vacancies are available for co-option at the October meeting.

102.24 Finance

- a. **NOTED** the PKF Littlejohn [external audit report for 2023/24](#) and [conclusion of audit notice](#) – no issues. The statutory notices will be posted before the end of September. **ACTION: clerk**
- b. **CONFIRMED** [renewal of insurance on 1.10.24](#) (year 2 of a 3 year agreement) £1,407.94
- c. **NOTED** the [bank balances at 31.8.24](#)
- d. **NOTED** the [accounts at 31.8.24](#) which now includes a year end forecast. Cllr Hartford asked Cllr Britton to check the status of the unpaid CIL for Foster Lane. **ACTION: RB**
- e. **APPROVED** the [schedule of payments and invoices received](#)

103.24 Village maintenance issues

- a. Cllr Hartford reported:
 - i. Thanks to the volunteer who has replanted the trough at the recreation ground garage which looks fabulous
 - ii. She will organise the village Christmas tree as usual **ACTION: EH**
 - iii. The hole on Grimstead Road remains a problem but Cllr Britton is continuing to chase it.
 - iv. Clerk to get a second quote on the posts at The Green **ACTION: clerk**
- b. **The PROPOSAL to ACCEPT** a quote for fencing at the village hall was **POSTPONED** and the clerk asked to get the option of concrete posts included in both quotes. **ACTION: clerk, Oct agenda.**

104.24 Playground, recreation ground, The Pavilion and youth activities

- a. **The PROPOSAL to ACCEPT** a quote for repairs and painting was **POSTPONED** as it still not received
- b. **The PROPOSAL to ACCEPT** a [quote for repairs needed on the zipwire](#) was **REJECTED** pending the upcoming RoSPA report
- c. The [recommendations from the clerk for repairs needed at the playground](#) were discussed
 - i. Cllr Fuller will ask the scouts to move the dangerous picnic tables **ACTION: JF**
 - ii. Clerk to look into having a replacement locking mechanism on the bar gate at the recreation ground **ACTION: clerk**
- d. **ALL AGREED** Cllr Dent may attend a course on minor play equipment repairs £228 + VAT

105.24 Highways

- a. All parties continue to chase action on ALDE20.
- b. THE SID has been delivered and needs commissioning. **ACTION: clerk & JF**

106.24 Environmental issues

- a. Cllrs Fuller and Lawrence gave an update on the Spider's Island tree planting project – it is a work in progress with the funding bid under consideration and the application for permission to plant trees lodged with WC.
- b. **The PROPOSAL to ACCEPT** a [quote for a tree survey was AGREED](#) with the contract to go to WRC **ACTION: clerk**

107.24 Planning

- a. **RESPONSES were AGREED to**
 - i. [PL/2024/07453](#) Land north east of The Old Forge, Old Road, work on trees in a conservation area **NO COMMENT following advice from the tree officer**
 - ii. [PL/2024/07845](#) Matron's College Farm, Castle Lane (by a majority vote 3 for, 2 against, 3 abstentions) **OBJECT** on the grounds:
 1. The design is poor
 2. The design is out of keeping with the area
 3. Light provision for owners is inadequate
 4. Outside the settlement boundary

- b. Councillors **DISCUSSED** the upcoming WC planning committee meeting considering [PL/2022/03103](#) Land east of Wagtails. The **PROPOSAL** that Cllr Hartford represent APC at the planning committee meeting on 12th September was **APPROVED**. It was further **AGREED** that the matters to be raised at the committee meeting will be split between the PC and residents known to be attending so as to have maximum impact. This will be coordinated by Cllr Dent. The matters to be brought up include:
 - i. How does a charge to offset the biodiversity loss help the situation in Alderbury?
 - ii. The drainage plans are still judged to be insufficient
 - iii. Is it really infill?
 - iv. The density of housing is too great & will prevent any biodiversity gains
 - v. Alderbury has seen its share of development already
 - vi. The A36 congestion has not been properly addressed**ACTION: EH, MD, clerk**
- c. Councillors **AGREED** to submit a response to the appeal [PL/2023/11012](#) - Land Adjacent to Kiln Close based on their previous comments **ACTION: clerk, JF**

108.24 Councillors discussed the future of The Green Dragon and the worries from residents that it will close at the end of the year when the lease expires and the current landlord retires. The Longford Estate had been approached for comment but had said it is too soon for a decision. Councillors **RESOLVED** to write to Lord Radnor directly making the following points:

- a. Are there plans to allow it to continue to run as a pub?
 - b. Noting it is the last remaining pub in the village
 - c. That it is a listed building
 - d. APC would want an opportunity to voice its concerns directly if the pub was in danger of being lost
 - e. Encourage a consultation with the village
- ACTION: clerk, JF**

109.24 **CONSIDER** arrangements for acts of remembrance

- a. Remembrance Sunday November 2024 – the church will hold a service at the war memorial on Remembrance Sunday 10th November. All councillors are encouraged to attend. A wreath will be laid on behalf of APC by Cllr Dent and for WC by Cllr Britton **ACTION: clerk to purchase wreath**
- b. VE-Day 2025 for the 80th anniversary – to be discussed at a later date after gathering information about national plans **ACTION: agenda**

110.24 **Communication with residents**

- a. Respond to [matters raised by residents](#)
 - i. The suggestions for planting at Spider’s Island were **NOTED**
 - ii. The overgrown verge including ragwort – clerk to establish who owns the verge and ask for clearance **ACTION: clerk**
 - iii. The oak tree at Windwhistle Drive – clerk to establish ownership and arrange remedial work **ACTION: clerk**
- b. **Comms working group**
 - i. Cllr Roberts reported:
 - 1. The emphasis to residents is to be ‘attend meetings’
 - 2. **ALL AGREED** the clerk will go ahead and order hi-vis jackets for whoever wants them **ACTION: clerk**
 - 3. The group’s work is done and they will disband. Possibility of a review in 6 months if there is a need
 - ii. **The PROPOSAL to ADOPT** the [Communications policy](#) was **ACCEPTED**
 - iii. **PROPOSAL to ACCEPT** recommendations – covered above
- c. **The Fountain magazine** – please come and talk to us plus other methods of communications including a reference to the Comms policy, vacancies, how we try to represent you on planning with a possible reference to any decision made on Wagtails, possible update on SID matters, our inspection system at the playground
- d. **Facebook** – as clerk chooses

111.24 Date of next meeting: ordinary meeting Tuesday 8th October

The meeting closed at 21:15

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

SIGNED as true record (Chair)

DRAFT