

**Minutes of
The Annual Parish Meeting for Alderbury & Whaddon
Thursday 27th March 2025 7pm in Alderbury Village Hall**

From 7 – 7.30 local organisations presented their stalls and refreshments were served
The formal meeting began at 7.30

Chaired by: Councillor John Fuller, Chair of Alderbury Parish Council

Others in attendance: Local organisations with information stands,
Wiltshire Council councillor Richard Britton, PC Kelvin Ramsey, Liz Holland (Clerk) and approximately 40 members of the public including other parish councillors

Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Diprose and Sloan

Welcome from the Chair

Presentation – Cllr Fuller presented a certificate to Richard Britton to recognise the many years of service he has given to the village as a parish councillor, district councillor and unitary councillor. He added that Cllr Britton provided a fantastic model of public service.

Report from PC Kelvin Ramsey:

- He & PCSO John Taylor look after 8 parishes
- They spend time working in local schools
- Alderbury is a safe area but crime happens everywhere
- The team is short of officers
- Current areas of focus which might include Alderbury – scams, drink-driving, quad bike thefts, ASB, a local garage/shed thieving group, hare coursing

Wiltshire councillor Richard Britton (RB) addressed the meeting:

- He has 6 parishes in his patch & has regularly attended their council meetings
- He sees advantages and disadvantages of the move to mayors. This will be compulsory, although Wiltshire are not in the first phase.
- In 2025/26 WC will spend £20million on Adult & Child Social Services - 60% of the budget
- He considers the recently calculated target for housing in Wiltshire to be unattainable. He is frustrated by the '2 years worth' of houses having permission but not being built

Cllr Alex Wilkinson acknowledged all the help & advice Cllr Britton has given over the years

The Chair of Alderbury Village Hall read a report highlighting the success of the village hall and the difficulties they have keeping sufficient trustees and management committee. They are looking to build a fund to replace the felt roof estimated to be c. £20k. The updated fire arrangements and outdoor lighting have been and remain costly.

The Chair read a report of the actions of the parish council during the past year. A complete version is available from the clerk upon request. In particular he:

- Highlighted the recently adopted Forward Plan which will provide a framework for the Council's work
- Acknowledged the work of the many volunteer organisations working in the village
- Thanked former councillor Michael Considine and retiring councillor Barry Sloan
- Thanked Marcus & Charlie Light for their help with the Christmas tree and lights
- Thanked the clerk for her work and support over the past year
- Encouraged residents to let the Council know about matters which they may be able to pursue with WC on their behalf such as road and pavement clearance, blocked drains, broken signs, planning, trees

Cllr Wilkinson extended a vote of thanks to Cllr Fuller for the time he puts into Alderbury & included all councillors.

Comments from the audience

- There is a need for infrastructure development and repair
- There was a call for a housing survey

The meeting closed at 8.40

Liz Holland

Alderbury Parish Clerk

15.4.25