

ALDBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3 APRIL 2024
IN THE MEMORIAL HALL****Present**

Cllr W Brown (Chairman), Cllr S Muirhead (Vice Chairman)
Cllr C Ainsworth, Cllr H Bland, Cllr V Butler, Cllr A Deuchar, Cllr A Edmonds, Cllr C Elms,
Cllr B Hill, Cllr N Josephy, Cllr P Lawler, Cllr A Phizacklea

Mrs K Clay – Parish Clerk

In attendance: Seven members of the public, Cllr J Sheppard (Wiltshire Council)

216/24 To note apologies for absence

Apologies from Cllr D Esden, Cllr J Rayner, Cllr A Stibbard were noted.

217/24 To note declarations of interest related to the business on this agenda and to consider any dispensations requested in relation to declarations given

There were no declarations of interest.

218/24 Consider the Minutes of the March 2024 Parish Council meeting

It was noted that there were two abstentions on item 205/24, not one.

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that item 205/24 is amended to eleven in favour with two abstentions, and with that amendment the Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 6 March 2024 are approved and signed.

219/24 Consider adoption of March 2024 Planning Committee Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to adopt the Planning Committee Minutes from the meeting held on Wednesday 6 March 2024.

220/24 Consider financial statement and councillors to approve payments

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the financial statement as presented by the Clerk. All payments are to be authorised by Cllr Bland and Cllr Lawler.

A copy of the financial report is attached as Appendix A.

221/24 Review of outstanding issues

- a) (06/04/2022) Damaged railing by the winterbourne – Mr Barnes advises he has contracted T. H. Whites to repair the railings and is awaiting a date for when these works will be carried out.
- b) (05/10/2022) Carnival store building – The works to the walls and roof have been completed. A new door is to be fitted and painted and once done this will complete all outstanding works.
- c) (07/06/2023) Market Cross – The stonemason will be carrying out repairs soon.
- d) (06/03/2024) Clearance of weeds by Carnival Store – The weeds and other plant growth have been cut back. The Carnival Committee has agreed to keep the area maintained going forward.

222/24 Questions and requests from the public for councillors to consider

- The current owners of the Post Office confirmed that it was not up for sale. They urged the whole village to support the business to ensure its long-term longevity.
- Comment made about the proposed tree planting near the football field.
- Comment about debris that has come down from the Four Barrows bridleway after the recent heavy rain into the middle of the village.

223/24 Clerks Report

- a) The Charity Committee for St Micheal's Church has been given approval to hold a fund-raising stall by the pond on 18 May.
- b) Damage to footpath ALDB21 near Eastleaze has been reported to the PRow officer at Wiltshire Council and he has confirmed he will investigate.

224/24 Update on flooding and sewers and consider any further action

The ATAC has been running for 4 months, and this is the fourth winter in 12 years that it has run for more than three months. There is an urgent need to get to a stage where the ATAC is a rarity, rather than it being normal to have a sewage treatment plant in the middle of the village every winter. Dates for the all-party meeting will be suggested and suitable date agreed ASAP.

Cllr Josephy had met with the Devizes MP, Danny Kruger, and he has subsequently written to Thames Water asking them what their plans are to get rid of the ATAC unit in the long term and their shorter-term plans for the village and remedying its leaky network. He is also keen to join the all-party meeting if the dates are suitable.

225/24 Report on play area inspections and update recent repair works

The inspections have been carried out this week and there were no new issues to note. New nets and pegs will be fitted to the football field goals within the next week. The tennis court will be sprayed as soon as there is a period of dry weather. A spring clean will then be arranged. The Brownies have offered to clean the equipment in Goddards, and the Beavers will be asked if they would like to help clean the equipment in Claridge Close.

226/24 Update on signing of lease with Aldbourn Scouts & Guides

The Notice that Sections 24 to 28 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954 are not to apply was signed on 18 March 2024. The Chairman and Vice Chairman duly signed the lease, and it was witnessed by the Parish Clerk.

227/24 Update on Carbon Neutral tree planting

The trees have been planted at Alma Road, Farm Lane, Southward Triangle and Whitley playing field. The three Scots Pine proposed to be planted on the edge of the football field on Southward Lane have been paused due to objections raised by neighbours. The trees still had to be purchased before this issue could be resolved due to constraints on the funding that Carbon Neutral had obtained. A meeting with all neighbouring properties will be held in the next couple of weeks to discuss the issues raised and to find a way forward that suits all parties.

228/24 Reports by councillors on any Council business or village issues

- a) Comment made about the points raised by a resident in relation to potential the 20mph signage. Though, it was acknowledged at this stage it was something that may only need to be considered in the future if the project is approved by LHFIFG.

- b) The Memorial Hall has been registered as the Aldbourne Community Hub and will be run under the banner of the hall committee. The hall will become a 'one stop shop' in the event of an emergency. Whether that is providing shelter/help, or just being the place that updates on incidents are available. The benefit of the scheme is that no one needs any training, and the skills of everyone can be utilised in an emergency. More details will be widely published once available from Wiltshire Council.
- c) The plannings previously used on the byway to Peaks from Lottage Road have washed out and left deep gulleys.
This will be raised with the PRow office at Wiltshire Council.
- d) What action is going to be taken to clear the debris that has been washed down onto The Green and The Square?
It has already been reported to highways and they will continue to be chased. Thanks were expressed to residents who had already cleared some of this debris.
- e) There was no parish steward visit this week as he was on holiday. The next visit is 4 June 2024. Please advise of any jobs to the Clerk by 27 May.
- f) A police community consultation will be held in their mobile police unit which will be sited by the pond on Friday 26 April between 5.00 pm – 6.00 pm.
Everyone is welcome to go along to raise any issues they have.

229/24 Wiltshire Council report

Cllr Sheppard advised that the 5-year land supply requirement has changed to a 4-year supply. This means there is less likelihood of a Judicial Review if planning applications are refused.

Nearly 60% of each £100 of Council tax is used for children's and adult services, which leaves just 40% for all other services.

Extra money has been made available for preventative road maintenance and gully clearing, though the continued poor weather means this funding will not go far.

Cllr Sheppard continues to chase all outstanding issues for Aldbourne, but there is a finite number of resources available for the whole county, and thus progress is very slow.

230/24 Questions and requests from the public for councillors to consider

- There will be a litter pick across the village on Saturday 13 April. Everyone is welcome to help. Please meet by the pond at 9.00 am. If there are enough volunteers it may be possible to clear some more of the debris washed down into the village centre too.
- Comments on flooding and resilience.
- Thanks were expressed from the Aldbourne Scouts & Guides to the Parish Council for signing the lease. The new longer lease will allow the groups to apply for more funding to complete the new hut extension.

231/24 Confirm date of next meeting

Wednesday 24 April 2024 at 7.10 pm in the Memorial Hall - Annual Parish Assembly
Wednesday 1 May 2024 @ 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall – Annual Council Meeting

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Signature of the Chairman: _____ Date: 1 May 2024

ALDBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

**Financial Statement**Bank Account Balances – includes bank interest

Bank balance as at 25/03/2024

| | £ |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Current account | 2,069.92 |
| Deposit account | 47,333.15 |
| Total | <u>49,403.07</u> |

Income

| Date | Payee | Reason | £ Net Total |
|------|-----------|--------|----------------|
| | No income | | |
| | | | 0.00 |

Expenditure

| Date | Paid via | Payee | £ Net Total | £ VAT | Reason |
|------|----------|----------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| | | No expenditure | | | |
| | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | £0.00 Total plus VAT |

Mrs K Clay
03.04.24

* Transaction has cleared

Items in blue to be paid via online banking following the meeting.

(The date for pending payments is the date of approval and may not be the date that the transaction was carried out)

Signature of the Chairman: _____

Date: 1 May 2024