

ALDBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL



**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2022
IN THE MEMORIAL HALL**

Present

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

Mrs K Clay – Parish Clerk/RFO

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

21/159. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr C Ainsworth, Cllr N Josephy, Cllr J Rayner
Not in attendance: Cllr A Stibbard

21/159. Declarations of interest in respect of any items contained in this Agenda & granting of any dispensations required

There were no declarations of interest.

21/160. Consider the Minutes of the January 2022 Parish Council meeting

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that the Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 12 January 2022 be approved and signed.

21/161. Consider monthly financial statement

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the accounts and cheques for payment as presented by the clerk.

A copy of the financial report is attached as [Appendix A](#).

21/162. Review of outstanding issues

- a) (03/03/2021) Verge project – The Council will be discussing all aspects of the project at their March meeting and will consider whether to continue or cease the trial.
- b) (08/09/2021) SIDs faulty – Cllr Hill is still trying to find an electrician to try fix the ongoing issues. If there is anyone with electrical knowledge that could help, please contact the Parish Clerk.
- c) (06/10/2021) Street light out on West Street (near Back Lane) – Was repaired but shortly after it started flickering and fading. It has been reported to Wiltshire Council again.
- d) (06/10/2021) Verge cutting - A letter has been sent to Cllr McClelland to remind him of the Council's request for a return to a June/July cut time. The reply received advised that the Council's request was known and that it will be considered when the decision on future cuts is being made.
- e) (03/11/2021) ARC proposed plans for Palmer's Field - ARC are holding a public drop-in session on 12 February between 2.00 pm and 6.00 pm. They are also holding their AGM on the same day at 11.30 am, everyone is welcome to attend this meeting as well. A meeting between ARC and the Council's Palmer's Field working party is being organised.
- f) (03/11/2021) South Street path – It was agreed to allow Cllr Sheppard until May 2022 to find out when the promised priority repairs will be carried out, before making a final decision on whether to pay for the repairs or not.

g) Parish Steward – Cllr Sheppard was asked if Wiltshire Council would be willing to give the funding currently spent on the parish steward scheme directly to the Parish Council. This would allow them to contract their own steward who could carry out all the works required. Cllr Sheppard confirmed he would ask the question.

21/163. Questions and requests from the public for councillors to consider

No questions from the public.

21/164. Consider updates, including decision on site allocations, to the draft Neighbourhood Plan following Regulation 14

Regrettably, the outline planning application currently being considered by Wiltshire Council has confused the issue and made it hard for people to separate it from the site allocation. The outline planning application does not form part of the decision process in relation to the site allocation. The issues around keeping/removing the site allocation were discussed by the Council, with the Chairman suspending standing orders in the middle to allow members of the public present to make comment. Cllr Deuchar was thanked for the huge amount time and work she has put into the plan.

A motion to keep a final decision on the site allocation in abeyance and speak to villagers to seek their views on the site allocation was proposed.

The following amendment to the proposal was put forward and voted on.

It was **RESOLVED** five in favour and four against, with two abstentions, to keep a final decision on the site allocation in abeyance but to hold a Parish Council lead public meeting to hear the views of the wider village on whether the site allocation should remain in the plan or be removed from it.

The original proposal failed due to the amended proposal having been passed.

21/165. Consider expenditure for future work to the Neighbourhood Plan

Decision on this expenditure delayed until a decision on the site allocation is made.

21/166. Update on refurbishment of the toilets

The contractors tried to clean the graffiti but was unsuccessful. Cllr Edmonds and Cllr Butler have agreed to come onto the responsibility group to help with the discussions about the refurbishment.

21/167. Discuss Platinum Jubilee celebrations and consider any requests for funding

Due to Covid-19 it had not been possible for a meeting to be held yet. The committee has arranged to meet on Friday 4 February and will come back to the Council in March with proposals.

21/168. Discuss parking problems by the Post Office junction

Rule 243 of the Highway Code states you must not park opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space.

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to look at mounting a sign at this location. Exact wording to be agreed with the highways engineer.

21/169. Consider internal auditor

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to continue to contract Mr C McGowan to carry out internal audits for Aldbourn Parish Council.

21/170. Wiltshire Council report

Cllr Sheppard advised that £500,000 had been added to next year's Wiltshire Council budget for drainage works across the county.

21/171. Reports by councillors on any Council business or village issues

- a) The Wicksteed play area report highlighted some areas that needed further investigating. Cllr Edmonds has already inspected and actioned the issues raised for Claridge Close. Cllr Lawler and Cllr Phizacklea will check the issues in Goddards and Whitley Field and report back to the Clerk with any action that is required, or any action that is taken to resolve the issues.
- b) A request has been received for workmen to access to the football field to drop off roof tiles for works on nearby properties. There were no objections to this.
- c) The verge of the Kandahar bank nearest Lottage Road is being damaged by vehicles driving over it when squeezing past parked cars. Whilst acknowledging that it was a problem, the Parish Council could not see a way to prevent it happening.

21/172. Questions and requests from the public for councillors to consider

- Concern was raised that the FTTP project had been forgotten about as it was no longer on the agenda. Cllr Stibbard had been chased but no information had been forthcoming.
- Comment was made on the site allocations in the Neighbourhood Plan and how it was a shame that the outline planning application was now overshadowing a final decision, as well all the work that had gone into producing the plan.

The Parish Council agreed to support any efforts to try and get FTTP (Fibre To The Property) installed in the parish but not lead it, hence it is no longer on the agenda. The Parish Council would of course consider any requests for additional support for this project.

21/173. Review of correspondence

Operation Nightingale wish to return to the football field to carry out further digging 4-11 May 2022. The arrangements in mind are similar to those in 2019. There was agreement in principle to this project going ahead again. Official approval will be considered at the March meeting. The remaining correspondence received and sent since the last meeting was noted.

21/174. Confirm date of next meeting

Wednesday 2 March 2022 at 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 21.11 pm

Signature of the Chairman: _____ Date: 2 March 2022