

ALDBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL



**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 8 SEPTEMBER 2021
IN THE MEMORIAL HALL**

Present

Cllr W Brown (Chairman)

Cllr V Butler, Cllr A Edmonds, Cllr C Elms, Cllr P Lawler, Cllr J Rayner, Cllr A Stibbard

Mrs K Clay – Parish Clerk

In attendance: 3 members of the public

21/72. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr C Ainsworth, Cllr H Bland, Cllr A Deuchar, Cllr B Hill, Cllr N Josephy, Cllr A Phizacklea, Cllr L Smitten

21/73. Declarations of interest in respect of any items contained in this Agenda & granting of any dispensations required

There were no declarations of interest.

21/74. Consider the Minutes of the July 2021 Parish Council meeting

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that the Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 7 July 2021 be approved and signed.

21/75. 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](#).

21/76. Clerks report

- The external audit has been completed, with one note about the way insurance payments are recorded. The notice of completion and auditors certificate have been added to the website and noticeboard.
- The SIDs have been taken back to supplier as they are once again not working correctly. It is likely to be 3-4 weeks before they are returned.

21/77. Ratify donation request from Vodafone fund

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to ratify the decisions to donate £300 from the Vodafone fund to the Aldbourne Carnival Committee, towards the hire of portable toilets for the 2021 carnival events.

21/78. Review of outstanding issues

- a) (05/02/20) Loose manhole cover on West Street – This has been covered with tarmac again. Though history has shown this is just a temporary fix and it is likely to come loose again.
- b) (01/04/20) Market Cross – The stonemason has carried out the lime mortar repairs.
- c) (02/12/20) Tree inspections on Marlborough & Lottage Rd – Inspection has been carried out. Awaiting the report from Wiltshire Council. Though, works to two trees opposite no.6 Marlborough Rd have been submitted by Atkins.

- d) (07/07/21) Building materials outside 37 Lottage Road – Cllr Brown has discussed this with residents and there is a question about ownership of where the items are being stored. The situation will be monitored.
- e) (07/07/21) Goddards path overgrown – Cut back by contractors following the last meeting.
- f) (07/07/21) Retirement cake for Chris Martin at Ramsbury Fire Station – The cake was purchased and donation made via delegated expenditure.

21/79. Questions and requests from the public for councillors to consider

- There was support for the wildflower trail but disappointment was expressed at how untidy everything was now looking. Particularly around the pond, which is such a focal area of the village.
- Question about when the verges outside the village will be cut.

The roadside verges are due to be cut by Wiltshire Council this month. A letter of complaint about how late this was being carried out this year was sent to Wiltshire Council but no response has been received.

21/80. Update on Neighbourhood Plan & consider any action/expenditure

The Regulation 14 consultation will take place between 20 September and 15 November 2021. There will be two drop-in sessions on Friday 24 September and Saturday 25 September in the Memorial Hall. All households will receive a community letter informing them of the drop-in sessions, along with a comments form.

This is the initial Consultation. It will then be passed with its supporting documents to Wiltshire Council where it is checked against legislation (this part of the legal process is Regulation 15). Responsibility then rests with Wiltshire Council which will undertake a further formal consultation (known as Regulation 16) before the Plan is subject to formal examination by an Independent Examiner. Following any amendments, the Plan will go to a local referendum in 2022. With a majority yes vote, the Neighbourhood Plan is 'made' and becomes part of the statutory development plan for the Aldbourne parish.

21/81. Review of wildflower/rewilding trail by Carbon Neutral group

A discussion was held about all areas and comments received, both good and bad. As the trail was for a year, and it has only been five months, it was agreed to keep the project under review pending further updates from the Carbon Neutral group. Cllr Elms will liaise with the group.

21/82. Discuss expenditure for gates in Goddards play area entrance

It was felt that following consultation with users of the area, no gate would be installed due to there being no proven requirement or strong support for one.

21/83. Discuss works to trees in Rectory Wood & Palmer's Field

Several Ash trees were identified in Certhia's 2021 report as requiring felling. Quotes for the works for these and other trees highlighted in the October 2020 report are being sought.

21/84. Update on encroachment on Whitley Field entrance and discuss any further action

Following the July meeting a letter was written to the resident who planted the bushes to ask for them and the temporary fencing to be removed. No response was received from the resident. However, some of the fencing and all but two of the bushes were removed. The situation will be monitored but it is anticipated that there will be no further issues.

21/85. Discuss working group for Local Plan review

Aldbourne was in the east Housing Market Area (HMA). However, the emerging draft Local Plan now calculates the number of indicative housing needs by local housing need, hence it is much higher than it was previously. Cllr Sheppard was asked to investigate this further and report back but as yet has not done so. He will be chased for a response. A working group will be considered once it is known whether one is required or not.

21/86. Discuss FTTP for Aldbourne

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that the Parish Council will support any efforts to try and get FTTP (Fibre To The Property) installed in the parish.

21/87. Consider attendance and expenditure for NALC Future Communities event

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to book Cllr Deuchar onto this event at a cost of £55 (net). Subject to Cllr Deuchar updating the Council following the meeting.

21/88. Discuss Queens Canopy project

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that the Parish Council will support anyone wishing to take part in this project. Subject to agreement on location and tree type.

As part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations there will be beacons lit across the country. The Council will discuss possible participation in this at a future meeting.

21/89. Consider adoption of the July 2021 planning committee minutes

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to adopt the planning committee minutes from the meeting held on 26 July 2021.

21/90. Wiltshire Council report

Cllr Sheppard was not in attendance.

21/91. Reports by councillors on any Council business or village issues

- a) There is once again a problem with drug dealing in the village. The neighbourhood policing team had been contacted but a wholly inadequate response was received. A letter will be written to the new Police & Crime Commissioner.
- b) There was a request that all emails where comment or a decision is requested be sent with all emails addresses visible, in order that a debate can be had by using 'reply all'. There was mixed feeling about this request with many of the opinion that it would clog up their email boxes. Going forward when comment/decision is required, email addresses will be set as visible. It will be up to individuals to decide whether to use 'reply all' or 'reply'.
- c) Dogs are still being taken in to Goddards playground. The costs for some more permanent signage will be looked in to.
- d) A question about whether a filming protocol was required following of a request from a company looking for locations. The Council always ask for more details when a request is received but it would be worth looking at having a fee structure.
- e) The parish steward visits have now changed to mid month. The next visit is the 20/21 September, then 18/19 October & 15/16 November.
- f) Reminder that the next meeting with ARC is on 29 September.
- g) The issue of highway encroachment from tubs and shrubs is increasing across the village.
- h) The CATG interrogated transport scheme scoring was discussed.

21/92. Questions and requests from the public for councillors to consider

- It would be good if the circular walk that can be taken along Lottage Rd and Grasshills could be made safer and more accessible.
- The Council were asked if there were plans to regularly discuss climate issues having declared a climate emergency in October 2019.

21/93. Review of correspondence

Correspondence received and sent since the last meeting was noted.

21/94. Co-option of one (1) councillor

One candidate had stood for co-option, Mrs Sandy Muirhead, who was present at the meeting. Following a signed paper ballot it was it was **RESOLVED** unanimously to co-opt Mrs Sandy Muirhead to Aldbourne Parish Council.

Cllr Muirhead signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that, under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the public be excluded on the grounds of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted.

21/95. Discuss Operation London Bridge

The Council discussed this issue with a view to putting together a summary of action required.

21/96. Confirm date of next meeting

Wednesday 6 October 2021 at 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall.

The date of a December or January meeting was also discussed and it was agreed to hold a meeting on 12 January 2022 and not hold one in December 2021.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.05 pm

Signature of the Chairman: _____ Date: 6 October 2021