

ALDBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2020
IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, ALDBOURNE

Present

Cllr. A. Edmonds (Chair)

Cllr. M. Cheney, Cllr. A. Deuchar, Cllr. L. Harris, Cllr. B. Hill, Cllr. P. Lawler, Cllr. J. Rayner

Mrs K Clay – Parish Clerk

In attendance: 9 members of the public, Cllr. J. Sheppard (Wiltshire Council)

20/175. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. W. Brown, Cllr. H. Bland, Cllr. S. Henderson, Cllr. N. Josephy, Cllr. J. Moore, Cllr. S. Muirhead and Cllr. C. Williams

20/176. Declarations of interests in respect of any item contained in this Agenda

There were no declaration of interests.

20/177. Consider and sign the Minutes of the December 2019 Parish Council meeting

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that the Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 4 December 2019 be approved and signed.

20/178. Update on matters arising

- a) (19/152a 04/07/18) Fence at top of Lottage Rd – Mr Cook liaising with the owners.
- b) (19/153b 03/10/18) White Lining – Waiting for a revisit for the line by the bus stop to be painted and correction to the signage on the wider parking bay by the pond.
- c) (19/152d 02/10/19) No.48 bus – Letter sent to Phil Grocock at WC. He advised that the bus timetable will be changing in late Jan 2020 to accommodate the train time change and issues with delays due to congestion. He will also discuss with Stagecoach the issue of over crowding due to school children using the service to see if a solution can be found. A double decker cannot be used due to the risk of overhanging tree branches along the route.
- d) (19/152g 02/10/19) Blocked drains – List of those needing to be cleared was sent to Wiltshire Council in early December 2019.
- e) (19/163 04/12/19) Highway infringements – A letter has been submitted to the Dabchick for publication in the February issue. The Council will take a pragmatic approach to infringements where items have been placed on the highway and ask WC to look into those that may require action on the grounds of safety.
- f) (19/164 04/12/19) Marlborough Rd – The bank has been cleared back as much as it was safe to do so. The issue of a new 'path' has been logged with CATG.
- g) (19/166 04/12/19) Filming location – Once the weather improves, pictures of the pond and the green will be produced to send off with an application to register both areas.

20/179. Chairs report

The Chair reminded everyone that she will be stepping down as Chair at the May meeting.

The Vice Chair has also advised he will not be re-standing. This means a new Chair and Vice Chair will be required from May 2020 onward. They potentially could only be in the positions for a year as there is a full election in May 2021. Ideally it would make sense to have a longer standing member as Chair and a newer councillor as Vice Chair.

20/180. Consider monthly financial report and to sign any cheques for payments

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 to these Minutes as [Appendix A](#).

20/181. Clerks report

- The May 2020 meeting has been moved from Wednesday 6 May to Wednesday 13 May to allow the Operation Nightingale dig team to use the hall on the earlier date.
 - Having registered with the Charity Commission, the Heritage Group are now ready to extend their Lease as previously discussed by the Council in 2017. An item will be added to the March agenda to allow for this to be discussed.
 - We have been asked if a Dr Who documentary could be filmed on and around The Green on on Sunday 8 March between 9am and 12pm. There will be a small crew of 5, and they are filming at locations across the country with previous directors of Dr Who episodes. Final details will be considered at the March meeting.
- There were no objections 'in principle' to this event taking place.

20/182. Questions and request from the public for councillors to consider

- The Medieval Festival preparations are still going ahead for the event being held on 23-24 May 2020. The organisers have been awarded a £5,000 lottery grant, which will pay for the medieval re-enactors. The Community Junction, Scouts & Guides and St Michaels School are all involved in the organisation the event.
- Comment was made about the lack of policing in the village. Currently approximately £160,000 is paid by the village to Wiltshire Police, yet of the 63 recorded crimes in the village in the last 12 months, only 1 resulted in a prosecution.

The Parish Council will contact Mr Angus Macpherson, Police & Crime Commissioner, and ask that a senior member of the local policing team attend a future meeting to answer questions about policing in the village.

20/183. Neighbourhood Plan:**i) update on progress**

The consultation on Local Green Spaces is currently in process and ends on 17 February.

ii) Consider designation of six Parish Council areas as Green Spaces with the Plan

Six areas owned or under control of the Parish Council form part of the consultation. A vote was taken as to whether to include them or not, but this failed to achieve a unanimous result. More details on what exactly the restrictions are that would be placed on the areas will be looked into to enable the Council to consider this again in March.

20/184. Update on tree planting

Some councillors and volunteers from the village planted the new trees on 10 December. They are all faring well. Wiltshire Council have been advised that the trees have been planted and this now completes all the conditions of the planning application.

20/185. Discuss SIDs and latest statistics

Oxford Street (11 days) - 6,500 vehicles, 56% in excess of 30mph. 29% in excess of 60mph, which is the highest average speed recorded on any of the locations.
West Street (Jan) – 26,000 vehicles, 46% in excess of 31mph.
Castle Street (Dec/Jan) 38,000 vehicles, 5% in excess of 30mph

On a monthly basis there is an average of 175,000 movements through the village on all roads. Since September 2019 26,195 vehicles have travelled through the village in excess of 41mph, which is the speed that drivers could potentially be liable for points on their licence and a £100 fine. Yet the police continue to state that speeding is not an issue in the village.

The manufacturers have stated that they cannot be certain that speeds recorded at 100mph are not a machine error, rather than an actual speed. Though they still agree that those recorded at 70mph will be correct. On West Street in December there were 46 vehicles travelling at over 70mph and 10 on Castle Street.

20/186. Discuss pump repairs

Just before Christmas the pump was hit by a vehicle and the complete base was pushed out of place. Whatley & Co have looked at the pump and given the costs for removing it to assess the damage, hourly rate for damage assessment and cost for returning the pump. After some delay our insurance have approved these costs and the pump was removed Monday of this week. We now await a cost for repair, which will have to be approved by our insurance before work can commence.

20/187. Discuss community assets

Nothing further to report at present.

20/188. Update on grass state on The Green and consider any actions required

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that Cllr. Lawler will put down some slow release fertiliser as soon as the weather conditions permit. Whilst the product to be used will not be harmful to humans or animals, a notice will be put up once the work has been carried out.

20/189. CATG:**i) Update on outstanding issues**

30 mph limit move on Oxford Street (Baydon Hill) (in conjunction with move at the Baydon, Aldbourn Road end) - CATG have approved advertisement of the speed limit changes. A note has been made of the Council's request for a further 'horse warning sign' as vehicles head out of the village.

ii) Consider contribution to 20mph survey request

A vote was taken as to whether to contribute £625 to a 20mph survey of The Green, Back Lane, Crooked Corner to Grasshills, The Square plus two roads leading in/out from the B4192, Lottage Rd to Alma Rd, Old South St by the library, Castle St bottom end and Marlborough Rd bottom end to The Butts, but failed to achieve a unanimous result. The item will be considered again at the March meeting.

20/190. Consider adoption of media policy

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to adopt the media policy as presented by the clerk. A copy will be added to the Council website.

20/191. Receive & adopt the December 2019 & January 2020 planning committee minutes

The Minutes from the planning meetings held on 4 December 2019 & 6 January 2020 were received and adopted. Copies of both are attached to these Minutes.

20/192. Reports by councillors on any Council business or village issues

- Cllr. Edmonds advised that following a call from a local resident she, along with Mr McGowan from the club committee, met with them to discuss the issues in connection with the Aldbourn Sports and Social Club. It was a productive meeting on both sides with possible solutions to issues discussed and agreement that any future issues will be reported to either Cllr. Edmonds or Mr McGowan in the first instance. Standing orders were suspended briefly during this item to allow members of the public present to comment.
- There is a pile of mud by the entrance to Goddards where a car is being frequently parked on the bank there. Cllr. Sheppard agreed to raise this with highways.
- The play areas and football field have all been inspected, with no problems found. There has recently been a report of a horse being ridden across the Goddards play area. Cllr. Edmonds advised she had spoken to local riders and stables to remind them that this is not allowed. The play area is serviced by footpaths only, which means horses are not permitted to use them or access the play area.
- The noisy manhole cover on the B4192 by Barnes Yard has been reported to Wiltshire Council. Cllr. Sheppard agreed to chase this with highways.

20/193. Wiltshire Council report

Nothing further to report.

20/194. Correspondence

Correspondence received and sent during the last month was noted.

20/195. Questions and requests from the public for councillors to consider

- Mr. K. Warren offered to repaint the railings by the pond and also try and fix one of the rails that is loose.

The Council thanked Mr. Warren and accepted his offer.

- The Council were urged to look at recent reports which show that 20mph zones are not effective. Also, if the 30mph limits are not policed, what are the chances the 20mph ones would be?

20/196. Discuss donation requests from Vodafone fund

It was **RESOLVED** five in favour, with two abstentions, to underwrite a £500 donation from the Vodafone fund to the Doggy Day & Classic Car Show 2020, for hire of the field and insurance costs. This donation to be refunded from available net funds before any other donations are made.

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to donate £320 from the Vodafone fund to the Silver Threads towards coach hire for a day trip.

20/197. Consider co-option of ONE councillor

Following the December 2019 meeting, Cllr. Jo Gould tendered her resignation. The vacancy was notified to Wiltshire Council and advertised, but no election was called.

A signed paper ballot was taken and it was **RESOLVED** unanimously to co-opt Mr Lee Smitten to Aldbourne Parish Council.

Mr Smitten signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office following the meeting.

20/198. Confirm date of next meeting

Wednesday 4 March 2020 @ 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 21:00

Signature of the Chair: _____ 4 March 2020