

ALDBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 29 JULY 2020
HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM

Present

Cllr A Edmonds (Chair), Cllr C Williams (Vice Chair)
Cllr M Cheney, Cllr A Deuchar, Cllr S Henderson, Cllr B Hill, Cllr N Josephy, Cllr P Lawler,
Cllr S Muirhead, Cllr J Rayner, Cllr L Harris (from 19:39) Cllr W Brown (from 20:14)

Mrs K Clay – Parish Clerk
In attendance: Cllr James Sheppard (Wiltshire Council)

20/1. Consider apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received and approved from Cllr H Bland & Cllr L Smitten

20/2. Declarations of interest in respect of any items contained in this Agenda & granting of any dispensations required

No declarations of interest received.

20/3. Consider the Minutes of the 4 March 2020 Parish Council meeting & 21 March 2020 Extraordinary meeting

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that the Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 4 March 2020 & the Extraordinary meeting held on Saturday 21 March 2020 be approved. Both will be signed following the meeting.

20/4. Ratify all decisions made between 21 March and 28 July 2020

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to ratify all decisions made under delegated powers between 21 March and 28 July 2020. A full list of these is attached as [Appendix A](#).

20/5. Ratify all payments made between 21 March and 23 June 2020

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to ratify all payments made under delegated powers between 21 March and 23 June 2020. A full list of these is attached as [Appendix B](#).

20/6. 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 C](#).

Cllr Harris arrived during this item

20/7. 2019/2020 financial year end summary

A year end review was carried out by the financial responsibility group in April. Cllr Josephy provided an update on the year end figures. Overall the financial position of the Council is currently very good, with healthy reserves. However, due to COVID-19 there is likely to be additional expenditure that could not have been anticipated. This is an ongoing and emerging situation, which makes it very difficult to currently predict what calls on reserves there will be. The financial responsibility group and the RFO will continue to monitor the situation and keep the Council updated regularly.

20/8. Consider use of donations given for filming in the village

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that all filming donations already received, and any future ones (other than Vodafone), to be moved into a non-restricted reserve which can be used for donation requests from the village and, where required, the upkeep of village assets affected by any filming. Donation requests to be considered by a majority of members at any Full Council meeting, using the Council's existing donation guidelines as adopted in June 2018. Upkeep expenditure to be considered by a majority of members at any Full Council meeting.

20/9. Consider Council Annual Financial Statement for 2019/2020

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the Annual Financial Statement for 2019/2020

20/10. Note Annual Internal Audit Report 2019/20

The internal audit report has been signed by Mr. McGowan, with no areas of concern raised.

20/11. Decision on external audit Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2019/20

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2019/20

20/12. Decision on external audit Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2019/20

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2019/20

20/13. Receive and adopt the 4 March 2020 & 8 July 2020 planning committee Minutes

The Minutes from the meetings held on 4 March 2020 & 8 July 2020 were adopted.
A copy of both are attached to these Minutes.

20/14. Questions and requests from the public for councillors to consider

- Cllr Sheppard commented that Wiltshire Council had done well at dealing with the challenges presented due to COVID-19. This year's budget is okay, but there will be a big impact on the 2021/2020 budget due to the unexpected expenditure because of the pandemic.

Cllr Brown arrived during this item

20/15. Reports by councillors on any Council business or village issues

- An area for works to be carried out on in Rectory Wood has been agreed, and quotes for the exact work that will be required are now being sought. It is hoped to have these available for consideration at the next meeting.
- There has been a considerable increase in traffic in one area of the village that is suspected to be associated with drug dealing. There is a great deal of concern over this and the Council are finding it difficult to get the police to take the issue seriously. Cllr Sheppard advised he would take this forward and report back to the Council.
- The issue of the integrity of the boundary fence in Goddards Lane was discussed, following its removal once again during lockdown. Various options were discussed, the Council will consider these further at their next meeting.
- The SID on Castle Street has a faulty chip and thus is not recording data. The engineer is coming out on Sunday to look at this.
- The SID on West Street has continued to record. Prior to lockdown it was recording 1,700 movements a day. These reduced to 750 in March & 740 in April. In May they increased to 900 and June 1,100. Consistently, no matter how many vehicles are recorded, 20% of them are travelling at over 30mph.
- The spraying of the weeds on the Winterbourne along South Street & the end of Lottage Road is currently being discussed, with a view to the work being carried out in October this year.
- The leak on the pond is getting worse, with it having to be refilled on a more regular basis. This is going to require action to sort the problem in the not too distant future.

- There was comment that it had been very nice to see the Feast Fair back in the village earlier this week. There had been one or two comments against the Feast Fair coming to the village, but the vast majority of the village had been in support of it coming. It was well attended by lots of people, particularly families, and George Scarrott & Sons did a really good job of ensuring it was Covid Secure.
- Everyone should have received a link to the draft Neighbourhood Plan. Please feed comments, to Cllr Deuchar ASAP. Even if it is just to advise you have read it and have no comment.
- Cllr Deuchar and Cllr Williams held an informal meeting with Hannick Homes about the site they are considering at Lottage Farm. They advised of the Council, village and neighbourhood plan thoughts and ideas for the site. No further updates have been received from Hannick.
- The neighbourhood plan group have carried out an assessment of locally valued heritage assets. These will be assessed for suitability before it is known if they can be added to the plan or not.
- Of the nine sites assessed by an independent inspector for the neighbourhood plan, three were considered suitable. Further discussions with land owners will now take place as part of the neighbourhood plan process.
- Wiltshire Council has advised that the final review of the neighbourhood plan will not take place until May 2021.
- The grass around the Scout Hut is very long currently. It was advised that a group of volunteers are in the process of organising a cut back and clear around the hut.
- Thanks were expressed to Steve Miles from the Chair for continuing to check the toilets whilst they were closed, and for the extra cleaning he is now carrying out since they opened.
- Thanks were expressed from the Chair to the clerk for all her work during lockdown, including weekly emails to keep everyone updated about what was going on.
- Thanks were expressed from the Chair to Simon Hutchings for repairing the top of the tennis court net that had been damaged during the tree felling last year.
- The Parish Council website domain has now ceased. All content is on Aldbourn.net under the Parish Council tab at the top of the page. It has been there for a few months now and has been working very well.
- The clerk reminded councillors that the delegated powers which were in force have now ceased. Any decisions, where existing delegated powers do not already exist, will now need to be made at full council meetings, either held virtually or, once permitted, face to face.
- Cllr Moore has ceased to be a councillor following six months of absence with no apologies sent or accepted. The notice of vacancy runs until 6 August.
- Following their agreement in March to remain temporarily as the Chair and Vice Chair, Cllr Edmonds and Cllr Williams will be stepping down in September. Any councillor wishing to stand for either position should contact the clerk. Those elected to stand will be in the post until May 2021. The Council cannot function without a Chair.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 20:42

Signature of the Chair: _____ Date: _____