

ALDBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2020
HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM

Present

Cllr A Edmonds (Chair), Cllr A Deuchar (Vice Chair)
Cllr W Brown, Cllr B Hill, Cllr N Josephy, Cllr P Lawler, Cllr S Muirhead, Cllr J Rayner,
Cllr L Smitten, Cllr C Williams

Mrs K Clay – Parish Clerk

In attendance: 2 members of the public, Cllr James Sheppard (Wiltshire Council),
Mr Chris Chapman (BBC)

20/16. Election of Chair of the Council

It was RESOLVED unanimously to suspend Standing Order 9 to allow Cllr A Edmonds to remain as Chair of the council for the remainder of the 2020/2021 year, as permitted under the Coronavirus Regulations 2020.

20/17. Election of Vice of the Council

It was RESOLVED unanimously to elect Cllr A Deuchar as the Vice-Chair of the council for the remainder of the 2020/2021 year.

20/18. Consider apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr H Bland, Cllr M Cheney, Cllr L Harris,
Cllr S Henderson.

20/19. Declarations of interest in respect of any items contained in this Agenda & granting of any dispensations required

No declarations of interest received.

20/20. Consider the Minutes of the 29 July 2020 Parish Council meeting

It was RESOLVED unanimously that the Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 29 July be approved. They will be signed following the meeting.

20/21. 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](#)

20/22. Review of outstanding issues

Below is a list of those issues that have been resolved, or updated.

- a) [26/05/17] Delamination of the road surface in The Garlings - Road fully resurfaced in July 20.
- b) [19/06/17] Faded 30mph sign on South St – Sign has been replaced.
- c) [06/12/17] Damaged stile on ALDB43 – Stile has been repaired.
- d) [05/10/18] Missing RoW sign on ALDB09 – Sign has been replaced.
- e) [30/07/19] Japanese Knotweed growing on ALDB29 – Further weed spraying to be carried out this autumn.
- f) [11/09/19] Poor health of the grass on The Green – Fertilizer put down in March 2020. With little use over the spring/summer due to COVID-19 the grass has recovered well.

- g) [02/10/19] Blocked highway drains across the village – WC drain clearing team were in the village this week. A review of the drains in the low lying areas will be made to ensure all have been cleared ready for any rain in the autumn/winter.
- h) [04/12/19] Surcharging and flooding in the village - Thames Water were contacted in March 2020 and had been due to attend the April meeting. The filtration unit was eventually installed on 4 April and this did alleviate the problem. It was there for about a month and then removed as the rainfall had reduced considerably, and thus the risk of further surcharging.
- i) [05/02/20] Loose manhole cover on West Street – There were two manholes which were loose. One belonged to WC and they have fixed this. The other is the responsibility of Thames Water and is still awaiting repair.
- j) [04/02/20] Painting of the railings by the pond - A budget had been approved for this work to be carried out locally. However, during July these were painted and repaired by Wiltshire Council.
- k) [04/03/20] Wiltshire Council green infrastructure open space survey - Response sent. There were minor changes made to items not listed, or listed incorrectly. WC will be consulting with the wider public on this but it has been delayed by COVID-19.
- l) [04/03/20] Wiltshire Council consultation to improve bus services - A request was submitted asking for some of the funding to be used to help alleviate the overcrowding issue on the No.48 bus. Further progress from WC has been delayed due to COVID-19.
- m) [04/03/20] Rubbish along the B4192 – Litter pick may have been carried out, but hard to tell now the plants/grass have regrown. New report will be logged if required later in the year.
- n) [04/03/20] Hedge on Castle Street protruding into the road – Hedge was cut back in the spring, but could do with another cut, and be cut back further. To be discussed with the owner.
- o) [04/03/20] Parish boundary changes - The consultation ended in February 2020, and the new boundary has been adopted. There were some minor changes made to the Aldbourn boundary, but not some of the bigger ones that had been proposed.
- p) [29/07/20] Issues with drug dealing in the village – This was reported to the police by Cllr Sheppard following the July meeting and leaflets have been delivered to the village advising residents how to report such issues. However, there has been an increase in activity in one area, with more vehicle movements and other antisocial behaviour. Cllr Sheppard confirmed he would raise this again with Angus Macpherson (PCC), and Chief Constable Kier Prichard.
- q) [29/07/20] Faulty chip in one SID – Still awaiting the engineers to attend to fix this. The unit is working but not recording data.
- r) [29/07/20] Long grass around the Scout/Guide hut – The area has now been cut and tidied.

20/23. Questions and requests from the public for councillors to consider

- a) The Memorial Hall has been working towards becoming Covid-secure, and is almost ready to re-open. A review of the government announcements today re the 'rule of six' now needs to be made to check if the hall can still open, or if any procedures need to be updated.
- b) There was comment about the bin by the wall near the church.

20/24. Consider request to film on the Green 09-11 October 2020

During the public session prior to this item Chris Chapman spoke about the arrangements, including those pertaining to ensuring the filming was Covid-secure.

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the filming, as per the advised schedule, on The Green on 09-11 October 2020 by Mr Chris Chapman, subject to conditions, and for a suitable donation to the Parish Council for use of the area. Delegated powers are given to the clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair, for any changes that may occur to the previously advised filming schedule, or any for any other reason.

20/25. Neighbourhood Plan update and consider any actions required

Various assessments, and Regulation 14, which is the pre-submission public consultation, have all been delayed due to COVID-19.

20/26. Discuss Assets of Community Value letters

At the March 2020 meeting, the council resolved to send out a letter to properties in the village in connection with assets of community value. Due to COVID-19 these have not yet been sent. The list of properties and draft letter will be circulated to all councillors in order to allow a decision to be made at the October meeting as to whether to proceed with this currently or delay it until next year.

20/27. Consider tree works and expenditure in Rectory Wood

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to contract Cotswold Tree Surgeons to carry out the work to trees in Rectory Wood as specified at a cost of £950 (net), subject to the length that the trees are being cut back being amended to 3-4mtrs from 6-8mtrs.

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to ask Mr Guy Watson to carry out an assessment of the trees in the wood carried, particularly in relation to Ash trees and possible die back. Should the inspection need to be carried out before the October meeting, the clerk in consultation with the Chair and Cllr Rayner, will consider the expenditure under current budgets.

20/28. Consider joining WALC

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to join Wiltshire Association of Local Councils for the remainder of this year at a net cost of £361.87.

20/29. Receive and adopt the 22 July 2020 planning committee Minutes

The Minutes from the meetings held on 22 July 2020 were adopted.
A copy is attached to these Minutes.

20/30. Wiltshire Council Report

Cllr Sheppard advised that a virtual CATG meeting is being held on Thursday next week. There are no plans for Wiltshire Council to hold face to face meetings, or for anyone to go back to work in the offices at this current time. Meetings are running well online and some are even better attended as it is easier for people to view them remotely rather than attend in person.

20/31. Reports by councillors on any Council business or village issues

- a) Cllr Josephy will be contacting Thames Water to find out how much work has been carried out to the 70 locations identified as requiring work to stop water infiltration/surcharging. The ground water levels are quite high currently for the time of year. If there is significant rainfall in the autumn the village could suffer with further flooding.
- b) Low growth from a property on the corner of Turnpike needs cutting back.
- c) All RoW signs and the stile on ALDB23 by White Ponds Cottage have been removed.
- d) The Row sign for RAMS34 just off Hilldrop is missing.
- e) The hedge by the old Aldbourn engineering needs cutting back, as well as growth along the road opposite the Community Junction.
It was confirmed that the owner of the hedge by Aldbourn engineer was looking for a gardener to help them, and that the owner of the over growth by the CJ has already confirmed they will be tackling this issue soon
- f) Cllr Edmonds thanked Cllr Williams for his time as Vice-Chair of the council.
- g) Everyone present thanked Cllr Edmonds for agreeing to continue to stand as Chair until May 2021.

20/32. Correspondence

Correspondence received and sent since the last meeting was noted.

20/33. Consider co-option of ONE councillor

Two candidates had stood for co-option, Mr Alan Phizacklea and Mr Clive Snashall. Mr Phizacklea was present at the meeting, Mr Snashall was not in attendance. Standing orders state that if a candidate is not present a vote can be taken to still consider them for co-option. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to include Mr Snashall in the vote for co-option.

Following an electronic ballot it was **RESOLVED** unanimously to co-opt Mr Alan Phizacklea to Aldbourn Parish Council.

The clerk will arrange for Mr Phizacklea to sign his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

20/34. Confirm date of next meeting

To be held virtually on Wednesday 7 October 2020 @ 7.30pm

There being no other business the meeting closed at 20:55

Draft

Signature of the Chair: _____

Date: 7 October 2020