

ALDBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER 2014 IN THE MEMORIAL HALL,
ALDBOURNE

Present

Cllr P Lawler (Chairman), Cllr A Edmonds (Vice-Chairman)
 Cllr W Brown, Cllr H Bland, Cllr A Deuchar, Cllr N Josephy, Cllr H Keen, Cllr C McGowan,
 Cllr A Phizacklea, Cllr R Price, Cllr J Rayner

Mrs K Clay – Parish Clerk

In attendance: 4 members of the public, Cllr J Sheppard (WC)

Prior to the start of the meeting the chairman expressed the council's sadness at the death of Cllr Davis. Condolences have been extended to his family, and four members of the council attend his funeral last week. Cllr Edmonds read a short piece about Cllr Davis at the funeral on behalf of the council.

123. Apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr H Bishop, Cllr M Pryce and Cllr P Niblock

It was noted that Cllr H Bishop may have now been absent for six consecutive months of meetings, which would automatically disqualify him from being a councillor under the six mth non attendance rule. The Clerk will double check his attendance.

124. Declarations of interests in respect of any item contained in this Agenda & granting of any dispensations required - None**125. Consider and sign the Minutes of October 2014 Parish Council meeting**

It was resolved unanimously that the minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 1st October 2014 be approved and signed.

126. Matters arising from the last Minutes not already listed (for information only)

- a. **103a** Dangerous tree next to Marlborough Road – Conflicting evidence received from the Land Registry. WC has now asked for a title search to see who the land the trees are on is registered to. It was suggested that the original plans may show ownership. Cllr Sheppard agreed to speak to Mike Wilmott about this. All the council is asking is that someone check the tree to see if there is a danger of it falling into the road. Establishing ownership would only be necessary if it proved to be a problem. Cllr Sheppard will also write to Jane Scott about the whole situation with regards to all the red tape, and length of time it is taking.
- b. **103b** Temporary barriers around manhole on Lottage Road – The manhole has been repaired and the barriers removed.
- c. **103c** No through road sign in The Square - Both signs now replaced. The 30mph sign at the top of Oxford Street was also cleaned.
- d. **103d** Missing drain grid on the B4192 - No update
- e. **103e** Surface water drainage problem at the top of Oxford Street – WC have acknowledged there is an engineering flaw in the dropped kerb. This will be fixed but there is no eta.
- f. **103f** Eroded bank on Lottage Rd - No update
- g. **103g** Market Cross repairs - Repairs have been completed
- h. **103h** Castle Street drain - This has been scheduled to be fixed whilst the road is closed for resurfacing work on 7th Nov.
- i. **118g** Weeds and grass growing out of drains & kerb stones – Cllr Sheppard was surprised to hear this had not been done as the Parish Steward and R.Busby had been in the village. He will chase this up.
- j. **121** Suspected dangerous trees on Four Barrows - The trees do appear to be at an angle, but this could be due to the way they are growing on the bank, and their growth towards the light. They are heavily covered in ivy. They have been reported to Wiltshire Council so they can investigate further, and take action as they see fit.

127. Chairman's report, including discussion on a memorial for Cllr Davis

It was agreed that spending public money on a memorial was not the right thing to do, not least because it had not been done previously for other councillors. The council felt that ensuring they continued to give their support to the Friends of Rectory Wood would be a lasting memorial for Cllr Davis. The councillors will consider if there is anything they would like to make a personal donation towards as a memorial.

128. Clerk's report (for information only)

- The outdoor music part of the premises licence for the Community Junction was removed from the licence application before it was considered. The Council's objection was therefore no longer relevant.
- The first & second quarter finance checks have been completed by Cllr McGowan and Cllr Bland.
- The order for the Dabchick articles has now finished. If everybody is in agreement, Cllr Lawler will do the first article in January 2015, with Cllr Edmonds in March 2015. Everyone will then follow in the same order that they were in on the previous list. Any new councillor can slot in at the end. This should take the articles up to 2017.

There were no objections to this new order for articles.

129. Receive the monthly financial report & sign any cheques for payments

It was resolved unanimously to approve the accounts and cheques for payment as presented. A copy of the financial report is attached to these Minutes

130. Consider and set precept for 2015/2016

The finance group had met to discuss the precept, and a spreadsheet of the figures and suggested precept had been distributed. There had been a comment from the external auditors that the general reserves were very low. The general reserves is just a header and they are actually a 'balancing figure', and the finance group felt that the remaining reserves were sufficient, apart from those ring fenced, to be used for general expenditure if required. The precept decision was deferred until January 2015 to allow for time to try and get some idea of the costs for repairs to the BMX track.

131. Questions and requests from the public for councillors to consider

Standing orders suspended during this item

- The damaged memorial seat at the top end of Lottage Road is being replaced. There has been a delay due to a problem with the manufacturer.
- Is any work to ditches and bridges being carried out further up Lottage Rd on the outskirts of the village?
- The council were asked if they would like to put a short obituary for Cllr Davis in the next Dabchick.
- There have been a lot more large lorries going up Ewins Hill recently and the road/RoW, especially up near Hill Drop, is now badly damaged.

The council asked if the damaged memorial bench could be removed completely to avoid anyone injuring themselves on it.

Work is being done to improve capacity in the village before increasing capacity further up stream. Once it is seen if/how this current work helps, work further up will be looked into.

The council will write a short piece for the next Dabchick about Cllr Davis

Cllr Sheppard said that the extra lorries had been taking sewage waste to be spread on the fields. He will contact Stephen Leonard about the surface damage.

132. Update on traffic issues & consider any actions required

The Community Speed Watch group are having their first trial run this weekend.

CATG have asked that the council put together a plan of all issues they would like to see resolved. Cllr Deuchar had put together a first draft of this. The council discussed this and felt that this still needed some work, not least because none of the items under actions requested had been agreed. The traffic group will meet to discuss the plan and bring it back to the council to consider.

133. Update on flood warden & consider any actions required

The flood plan has been sent out to all the agencies, and the feedback has been generally favourable. An updated version, taking on board comments received so far, is being worked on. It was hoped that the plan would be available for this winter, but it is looking less likely now. A shorter version is being considered that will give people details of what to do/where to go for help, and where to get things like sandbags. This could come from DIG or the PC. The council had no objections to this from either source.

26 volunteers recently cleared weeds from the Bourne. The culvert at Goddards Lane is being replaced, though the work has taken longer than expected due to a water and gas main being in the way. Thames Water is moving the water main tomorrow, and Belfour Beatty feel they can work around the gas main. Silt is also being cleared from the Bourne along South Street. This has unfortunately resulted in some damage to the banks. Belfour Beatty will be repairing this once all the work is completed.

134. Discuss Neighbourhood Plan/Village Design Statement

Item deferred due to Cllr Niblock having being unable to attend this meeting.

135. Consider expenditure for the public toilets

It was proposed Cllr Rayner, seconded Cllr Edmonds and resolved unanimously to allow up to £200 to be spent in the toilets to replace toilet roll holders, and either repair or replace the soap dispensers. The clerk will liaise with Cllr Lawler on these works.

136. Receive planning meeting minutes

The minutes from the meeting held on 5th November were accepted, and are attached to these minutes. A request will be put into WC to ask for an extension on the comment date for the sports field access road plans.

137. Reports by councillors on any council business or village issues (to consider any points raised)

- a. **RoW** – Works to repair RoW seem to have come to a halt, though plannings are still piled up in the lay-by. WC will be chased on this.
- b. **Sports field** – Consideration needs to be given to whether to reduce or remove the hedge on the sports field along Farm Lane. Item to be added to the next agenda.
- c. **Tennis courts** – There are a lot of leaves on the tennis court that need to be cleared. This may be something that the ACV could help with.
- d. **Sports field development** – It was re-iterated that there have been no firm plans agreed by the council for the sports field. The council has not given their backing, support, or agreement to any individual projects. The council has only ever agreed in principle to an outline plan for the area which was presented to them in April 2013.
- e. **Rectory Wood** – Cllr Rayner said he would be happy to take on the lead for this group, but asked that someone take on the deputy role.
- f. **Lost Village TV programme** – The programme hosted by Penelope Keith is starting next week on More4. Aldbourn will feature on 25th November.
- g. **Playing fields** – Nothing to report in Claridge Close, the equipment appears in good order. The grass is quite long in Whitley, but otherwise all is okay. The short climbing net on the Mamouth has been replaced. It now gives a firmer support for climbing. The green climbing hoops will be replaced by modified rungs, hopefully in four weeks time. All the other equipment appears to be in good order. A decision from Wiltshire Council on works to the Sycamore trees in Goddards is awaited. The safety inspections on all three play areas are being carried out by Wicksteed tomorrow.

138. Wiltshire Council report (for information only)

Cllr Sheppard advised that he is meeting Jim Bailey tomorrow to discuss the road resurfacing in the village, as well as the setts replacement on The Green. He is hopeful that the resurfacing work will be completed before the end of the financial year.

The next MAB meeting is being held on 25th November in Marlborough Town Hall @ 7pm. BT will be in attendance to discuss the roll out of superfast broadband in the area.

There is a meeting on the 10th November in Marlborough Town Hall to discuss parking in the area. Cllr Sheppard advised he would be happy to receive any questions the councillors would like him to bring up at this meeting. The council asked that the low number of parking space allocations for new builds be brought up. The current level of 1 ½ per property is not sufficient, and all that happens is that vehicles end up being parked on the road side instead.

139. Correspondence

Correspondence received & not already mentioned is listed below.

- a. **02/10** Community First – Newsletter
- b. **03/10** Police & Crime Commissioner – Details of Community Remedy Consultation
- c. **23/10** CPRE – Invitation to join the organisation
- d. **23/10** North Wessex Downs – Newsletter
- e. **02/10** WC – Notice of overnight closure of the A4361 at Winterbourne Monkton
- f. **13/10** Mr.S.Quadrat – Asking if the sign by the school which states No HGV's could be moved further down the road.
- g. **23/10** J.Sheppard – Confirming he has got the road closure during work in Marlborough changed to the A346 & B4912 instead of Stock Lane, Castle St.
- h. **05/11** N.Mullett – Re leaves on the path at the end of South Street making the path hazardous.
- i. **06/10** S.Monro – Asking about the recent play about Dylan Thomas's visit to the village.
- j. **21/10** J.Oliver – Notes from the last all party meeting with DIG
- k. **03/10** A.Jack – Marlborough Our Community Matters newsletter
- l. **07/10** A.Jack – Update of projects currently being considered by CATG
- m. **10/10** A.Jack – Marlborough Our Community Matters newsletter
- n. **17/10** A.Jack – Marlborough Our Community Matters newsletter
- o. **20/10** A.Brown – MAB minutes from 30th September 2014
- p. **22/10** A.Jack – Notes from CATG meeting held 9th October
- q. **23/10** A.Jack – Marlborough Our Community Matters newsletter
- r. **24/10** A.Jack – Information on meetings about review of car parking in Marlborough
- s. **31/10** A.Jack – Marlborough Our Community Matters newsletter
- t. **07/10** RoSPA – Inspection reports for the BMX track and the zip wire
- u. **14/10** Communications – Parish Newsletter
- v. **20/10** R.Malton – Notes from last OFWG held 20th August & agenda for next meeting on 23rd October
- w. **22/10** Communications – Parish Newsletter
- x. **28/10** Communications – Parish Newsletter
- y. **03/11** Communications – Parish Newsletter

140. Questions and requests from the public for councillors to consider

Standing orders suspended during this item

- There was comment about future traffic calming in the village, and how it should be kept low key.

141. Delegation of duties over the winter recess

It was resolved unanimously to give delegated powers to the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman over the winter recess for all council functions where delegated powers do not already exist.

142. Confirm date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 7th January 2015 @ 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.25

Chairman's Signature: _____

7th January 2014