

ALDBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 2ND NOVEMBER 2016
IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, ALDBOURNE

Present

Cllr. P. Lawler (Chairman), Cllr. A. Edmonds (Vice-Chairman),
Cllr. H. Bland, Cllr. W. Brown, Cllr. L. Harris, Cllr. N. Josephy, Cllr. H. Keen, Cllr. C. McGowan, Cllr.
S. Muirhead, Cllr. P. Niblock, Cllr. R. Price, Cllr. M. Pryce, Cllr. J. Rayner

Mrs K Clay – Parish Clerk

In attendance: members of the public

126. Apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr. A. Phizacklea & Cllr. G. Salman

127. Declaration of interests in respect of any item contained in this Agenda & granting of any dispensations required

Cllrs. Keen & Pryce item 135 – No objections to both speaking on the subject.

128. Consider and sign the Minutes of the October 2016 Parish Council meeting

It was RESOLVED unanimously that the minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 5th October 2016 be approved and signed.

129. Matters arising

- a) (102a 01/07/15 raised initially Oct 2013) Lottage Road issues with raised path and beyond (4468/4470) – With CATG. Requires major work to fix. Currently no budget to carry this out.
- b) (102b 01/07/15) Erosion of Kandahar bank – On going issue, no further updates
- c) (102c 01/07/15) Drainage issue at the top of Oxford Street – Update 07/09/16 WC looking to create a drainage channel at the edge of the road.
- d) (102d 06/01/16) – The Grasshills byway – No further updates received.
- e) (113 03/02/16) Bus stop sign (4469) – PC agreed to fund 25% of the cost of painting the lines 02/10/16. Now awaiting agreement from CATG for the work to be carried out.
- f) (102e 03/02/16) Upper Upham replacement sign – Still awaiting new sign.
- g) (102f 02/03/16) Fly tipping on Peaks track – As soon as one pile is cleared, another appears. Cllr. Sheppard trying to find out if this area will be considered for an enforcement camera
- h) (102g 02/03/16) Damage to grass on Southward Lane (top of football field) – Awaiting for the work to be completed before asking for action to be taken to rectify the damage.
- i) (102h 06/04/16) Bus shelter – Thatcher chased again to find out what work is recommended.
- j) (102j 06/04/16) State of the footpath across the front of The Old Manor – Call logged with CATG to get the path repaired. Neighbouring owner happy to do what he can to help.
- k) (21 04/05/16) South St – Poor state of the footpath near the nursing home. No further update.
- l) (102k 26/05/16) The Garlings – Continuing deterioration of this road. No further update.
- m) (102o 07/09/16) Co-op scaffolding – The roof repairs are still ongoing.
- n) (117 02/10/16) SID – Trying to establish if unit works before ordering any part
- o) (121 02/10/16) Hedge on Castle Street – Letter sent to residents asking for a hard cut back.

130. Clerks report

- S106 has been applied for the gym equipment, but as yet has not been authorised. I have chased them twice.
- If a casual vacancy occurs between 8th November 2016 & 8th May 2017 then the council will be able to go straight to co-option. This is because it will be within 6 months of the May 2017 elections.

- The football match in memory of Dodger Slade, which was due to take place in October, has been re-arranged for 19th November.
- Claire Perry has sent a letter of congratulations to the council for winning the CPRE Lawrence Kitching Best Kept Village award.

131. Discuss payment for BMX track resurfacing

The Youth Council feel that the spraying and compacting has not been carried out. They will pay their contribution, but do feel these issues need addressing. There was some additional compacting done after the council raised their concerns when the surface was first put down. RoSPA have passed the track as fit for purpose in their recent inspection. However, the council agreed that the weed killing definitely does not look like it has been carried out, or failed if it was.

It was RESOLVED twelve in favour and one abstention to ask for the weed spraying to be carried out again before final payment is made.

Delegated powers will be used to decide if the weed spraying has been successful, and if final payment can be made.

132. Receive monthly financial report and 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.

133. Consider draft precept for 2017/2018

Cllr. Josephy explained the background to some of the figures on the precept report.

£28,000 is proposed, which is the same as this year. The final tax base figure is not known yet, so we cannot say what effect this will have on council tax. The council will make a final decision on the amount at the January 2017 meeting.

134. Questions and request from the public for councillors to consider – None

135. Consider letter of intent for ARC

The chairman read out a letter from Cllr. Sheppard, re his concerns over the time scale being proposed. This issue had already been addressed in the last 24 hours with an update to the proposed letter, which has been agreed with ARC.

It was RESOLVED eleven in favour and two abstentions to send the letter of intent as proposed by the Future Sports Field Development Group to ARC.

A copy of the letter is attached to these minutes.

It was RESOLVED eleven in favour and two abstentions to hold a public meeting in early February to update the village on how the project is progressing, and to obtain people's views. The meeting would be a Council one, introducing ARC to give a presentation.

136. Update on Neighbourhood Plan & Consider any actions required

It was RESOLVED twelve in favour and one abstention to approve the terms of reference as presented for the Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group.

A copy of the terms of reference are attached to these minutes.

137. Consider changes to area by the noticeboard

The proposal is to move the noticeboard back and across to the right, and to put the interpretation board to the left of it.

It was RESOLVED unanimously to go ahead with the reconfiguration as proposed above.

There was more support for some form of matting to give a firm surface, but still allow the grass to grow through it, rather than slabs. There was a split of those wanting to refurbish the old noticeboard, re those that felt replacement would be better.

The group of councillors working on this project will come back to the council in January with costs for the matting and refurbish v replacement noticeboard, as well as any other costs associated with the project.

138. Update on beech trees by the tennis court & consider any actions required

Cllr. Brown has spoken to David Wyatt at WC and he has accepted that the current trees are in a poor state, and that it is not possible to do any maintenance work to bring them back to a good standard. He therefore supports a complete removal and replanting of the trees. He suggested Fastigate Beech trees, or a mix of attractive and unusual trees. David suggested that the Council write to nearby residents to let them know what they are proposing to do. The TPO application can take up to 8 weeks, but if there are no objections it could be processed quicker.

It is likely to cost in the region of £3000 to remove all the trees, and if stump grinding and removal is added to that, then it will be considerably more. The new trees will be in the region of about £90 each, plus planting. This would be for trees that have a 10-12cm girth and stand approx 3mtrs high. If the go ahead is approved, it is hoped to have the trees felled and replanted early next year.

It was RESOLVED unanimously to put in an application to fell the trees, and alongside this ask contractors to tender for carrying out the work.

It was RESOLVED unanimously to give delegated powers to Cllrs. Brown & Rayner to decide what type of trees will replace the originals. There should be at least one Copper Beech, and trees that will grow large were favoured.

It was RESOLVED unanimously to ask if anyone would like to sponsor one of the new trees for £100. A free standing plaque will need to be supplied by anyone wishing to do this.

139. Consider grass cutting tender action

Cutting tender under review.

140. Discuss types of replacement trees on The Green

The tree options are being considered. There will be more details available in January for a decision to be made.

141. Consider wording for signs on Back Lane/The Green

It was RESOLVED unanimously to request a change of the existing 'Unsuitable for HGVs' signs with '2.5mtr height restriction' signs and to spend £175 on this. Subject to Wiltshire Council having no objections to this being done.

142. Discuss waste collection from play areas & sport field

The council is currently relying on the good will of volunteers to collect the rubbish from Parish Council owned land. The council will investigate what options there are available for a commercial business collecting the rubbish.

143. Consider Community Assets nominations & consider any action required

Deferred until January 2017 meeting

144. Update on toilets & consider overnight closure

There has been some really disgusting vandalism in the toilets which Stephen Miles has been having to clean up. It has therefore been decided to close them overnight at the weekends. They will be closed between approx 9pm and 8.30am Friday-Monday.

145. Update on meeting with WC re highway issues raised by the council

Cllr Price had chased Martin Cook for an update on those items which he has not recently commented on, but had not received anything back from him. He hopes to have more information, or even action, in January 2017.

146. Receive & adopt the October 2016 planning committee minutes

The minutes from the meetings held on 5th October 2016 were adopted, and are attached to these minutes.

147. Reports by councillors on any council business or village issues

The Band – Congratulations to the band on how well they performed at the recent National finals at the Albert Hall. The council and the village are very proud of them.

Parish Steward – Did not make contact with Cllr. Edmonds. Not even sure if he came out Mon/Tues of this week. Will check the works that we asked for to see if they have been done.

Bonfires at Lottage Farm – This issue is still ongoing with fires being set at all hours of the day and night. Cllr. Sheppard is still chasing the EA on this, and also contacting Claire Perry about it.

Palmers Field - The hedge doesn't appear to have been cut when the one on the sports field was.

Lottage Road – Complaints have been received about trees obscuring street lights. These need to be reported to Wiltshire Council.

ACV– Thank you to Katie Thorp and all the other volunteers who helped with the clearance work in the village last weekend.

Planters – Some planters have been put outside the thatched cottage at the start of Lottage Road. Several complaints have been made to the Council about them as it is preventing pedestrians from walking safely at this point, and also causes problems for vehicles turning into the road. It is possible they have been put in place to stop people parking at this point, and also to stop the thatch being damaged as it has been in the past. Whilst the Parish Council fully sympathised with the home owner, they felt they could not condone the use of the planters here due to the dangers posed to both pedestrians and vehicles in the area. The Council acknowledged that parking is a problem in this area. There was comment that it is a bigger issue when the band is at the Memorial Hall. This was particularly noticeable during the conducting course held in October, when some cars seemed to just have been abandoned at the closest points to the hall. A letter will also be sent to the Band asking them to remind all their members and visitors about parking sensibly around the Memorial Hall area. The Memorial Hall will also be asked if they would add something about parking to their hire contract.

Playing – The report provided by Cllr. Edmonds is attached to these minutes.

148. Wiltshire Council Report

No report as Cllr. Sheppard had sent his apologies for this meeting.

149. Correspondence

A list of correspondence not already mentioned is attached to these minutes.

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

None

151. Consider 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 Parish Council functions where delegated powers do not already exist.

152. Confirm date of next meeting

Wednesday 4th January 2017 @ 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.26pm

Chairman's Signature: _____ **4th January 2017**