

ALDBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 4TH JANUARY 2017
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. A. Phizacklea, Cllr. R. Price, Cllr. M. Pryce, Cllr. G. Salman

Mrs K Clay – Parish Clerk

In attendance: members of the public

153. Apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr. P. Niblock & Cllr. J. Rayner

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

Cllrs. Keen & Pryce item 160 – Debate allowed, but not voting.

155. Consider and sign the Minutes of the November 2016 Parish Council meeting

It was RESOLVED unanimously that the minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 2nd November 2016 be approved and signed.

156. Matters arising

- a) (102a 01/07/15 raised initially in Oct 2013) Lottage Road, issues with raised path and beyond (4468/4470) – With CATG. On going issues that requires major work to fix. Currently no budget to carry this out.
- b) (102b 01/07/15) Erosion of Kandahar bank – On going issues that requires major work to fix. Currently no budget to carry this out.
- c) (102c 01/07/15) Drainage issue at the top of Oxford Street – WC looking to create a drainage channel at the edge of the road. It is being considered for the 2017/2018 budget, but there are no guarantees due to further funding cuts. The PC will continue to push this since it was the work carried out by WC to the path that caused the problem in the first place.
- d) (102d 06/01/16) – The Grasshills byways – Some work to smooth the byway out was carried out about a month ago. Cllr. Sheppard to be chased to find out when remainder will be completed.
- e) (113 03/02/16) Bus stop sign (4469) – Update 17/12/16 CATG have agreed the work can be carried out. The PC contribution will be no more than £150. There is no date available for when the work will be carried out.
- f) (102e 03/02/16) Upper Upham replacement sign – 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) – Area to be checked to see how bad damage is now works are completed.
- i) 102h 06/04/16) Bus shelter – Awaiting update from Thatcher
- j) (102j 06/04/16) State of the footpath across the front of The Old Manor – Call logged with CATG to get the main path repaired.
- k) (102k 26/05/16) The Garlings – Continuing deterioration of this road. In urgent need of resurfacing. WC have now got this logged as requiring repair, but it will not be done during the 2017/2018 financial year.
- l) (102o 07/09/16) Co-op scaffolding – Work has been completed, and the scaffolding removed.
- m) (117 02/10/16) SID – Trying to establish if unit works before ordering any parts
- n) (130 07/09/16) Gym Equipment – Unit has been installed on the sports field. It has received a mixed reaction. The S106 money has been requested from WC.

- o) (131 07/09/16) BMX track - £200 was held back from the invoice for weed spraying to be carried out in the spring.
- p) (147 02/11/16) Planters on Lottage Rd – The home owner has been contacted about the concerns raised by these planters being in the road. They still remain in situ though. WC will be contacted about the issue.

157. Clerks report

- The consultation for the removal of the payphone was publicised across the village and the internet, but no one came forward to the Parish Council with any objection to it going ahead.
- The Council have been asked if a small section of the football field can be used for football and other games for a children's party on 15th January.
- Diane Hillas has been in touch, to thank the PC for their kind letter of condolences following the death of her husband Mike. She and the family would like to sponsor one of the Acer Campestre (Field Maples), planned to be planted on the sports field, in Mikes memory. They would also like to ask if the PC would allow for Mikes ashes to be placed beneath it.

There were no objections to the party being held.

The Council were pleased to hear that the Hillas family wished to sponsor one of the planned new trees, and had no objection to Mike's ashes being placed beneath it.

158. 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.

159. Questions and request from the public for councillors to consider

- Anne Deuchar spoke on behalf of the CSW group who are urging the PC to get a working SID in the village. Speeding is a problem across the village and measures need to be put in place to address this. Claire Ashley had also sent a report on the CSW work for the last year, a copy of this is attached to the minutes.
- Some bushes and trees have been planted on the road side of the verge at Preston. They would appear to be on the highway rather than the land of the neighbouring property.
- Bushes on Goddards Lane are likely to grow out into the path soon and restrict the path width.

160. Consider ARC items

1) Update from FSFD group

The FSFD group met on the 15th December to discuss the documents sent to them by ARC for consideration. The public meeting to update the village and seek views is set for 8th Feb.

2) Heads of Agreement

The draft document has been discussed by the FSFD group, and their comments passed back to ARC. They are reviewing the document & would like meet with the FSFD group soon to discuss this.

3) Discharge of planning conditions for access track

ARC have put together the documents that will address the conditions of the planning for the access track. Alan Watson was thanked for collating all the information required.

It was RESOLVED eleven in favour and two abstentions to send the documents provided by ARC to Wiltshire Council to discharge the planning conditions set by them on the track application.

161. Decision on precept for 2017/2018

It was proposed to set the 2017/2018 precept at £30,000. An amendment was proposed to set the 2017/2018 precept at the £28,000 as suggested by the finance group.

It was RESOLVED seven in favour and six against to set the 2017/2018 precept at £28,000. Thus the amended proposal was successful and the original proposal was no longer valid.

A £28,000 precept is the same as 2016/2017, but due to there no longer being a precept grant, and a change in the tax base, this will mean a 53p (1.51%) increase in a Band D property.

162. Update on Neighbourhood Plan & Consider any actions required
No updates.

163. Consider changes to area by the noticeboard
4 quotes from local builders were requested, with only 1 having sent one. There is an amendment to the quote required though as the group forgot to ask for the costings to move the kerb stone to be included. It is unlikely that the current noticeboard would survive a move, and would need major works to improve it if it does. Details of the type and costs for a new board, plus updated costs for the works will be brought back to the council for a decision in February.

164. Update on beech trees by the tennis court & consider any actions required
The planning application has been submitted to fell the 12 existing trees and replace them with 19 mixed species. The decision by WC will be made by 13 February. Neighbours were consulted before the application was submitted, and there were a couple of objections. The letter did also result in a resident coming forward to offer help with the scheme. Thank you to Penny Hagerty for her help delivering the letters. Tenders have been sent out to contractors and quotes are awaited. The electricity board are going to be approached about getting the line buried to stop the problem of it interfering with the new trees.
It was RESOLVED unanimously to give delegated powers to the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Cllr. Brown to choose which contractor to go with, subject to the works receiving approval.

165. Update on grass cutting tender, and consider any action required
The termination letter to the current contractor was sent just before Christmas. All outstanding invoices were requested to be sent for payment by the end of January 2017.
The new tender has been sent to 6 contractors so far. It has also be advertised, inviting anyone who wishes to tender to make contact. The schedule remains largely the same, except on Palmers Field. The majority of the field is going to be left for silage, with anyone who wishes to take this doing a cut around June/July, and then removing the grass shortly after. The contractor will then cut the grass for the remainder of the season. A path is being cut into the edge of the field to allow walkers to still get around it. The top end near the teen shelter and BMX & Zip wire, along with the new path, are being cut on the same schedule as the sports field.

166. Discuss types of replacement trees on The Green
Details of the suggested trees to be sent to all councillors to be considered at the February meeting.

167. Consider wording for signs on Back Lane/The Green
Awaiting comment from Mark Stansby at Wiltshire Council.

168. Discuss waste collection from play areas & sport field
A trial of setting up the bins in Goddards to encourage recycling will be carried out. This would save the volunteers having to sort the items.
There was concern raised again about the amount the PC is relying on volunteers to clear rubbish from the play areas/sports fields. The council were reassured that at present all the volunteers are happy to carry out this work.

169. Update on meeting with WC re highway issues raised by the council
Martin Cook sent updates on the issues following the November meeting, and Cllr. Price spoke to him again today. Cllr. Price will send all the councillors the notes from this conversation. He plans to meet Martin Cook again before the February meeting. The Council requested that at least one other member of the council also be present at this meeting, and that a report of what is discussed is distributed before the February meeting.

170. Receive & adopt both the November 2016 planning committee minutes

The minutes from the meetings held on 2nd and 29th November 2016 were adopted, and are attached to these minutes.

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

SID – The PC are still trying to get the one given by WC to work. However, the costs of a solar panel one can be looked at as well so it can be discussed at the February meeting. The Council reconfirmed their support for the CSW group, and thanked them for all the work they are doing.

Wild flowers – There have been no offers to plant wild flowers on the area by the post box on Farm Lane. Ownership of the area is not known, despite enquires to try and find out. It was cut by a neighbouring property in the past. The Council would encourage neighbouring properties to keep the area clear if they feel it needs to be done.

Pond - The pond was filled recently, but the level has already dropped again. This would indicate that there is probably a leak. A full drain down and reseal will need to be considered in the future.

The Bourne – It has been reported that Hoddes bridge has been damaged and debris in now in The Bourne. This will be checked and reported to WC/EA if there is a blockage.

Play areas – The report provided by Cllr. Edmonds is attached to these minutes. Safety matting issues reported in the most recent inspection report are being looked at.

Planting – The clerk will see if Ramsbury have raised any concerns about the planting at Preston.

Bushes – The ones at Goddards will be looked at, with a view to contacting the owners if required.

2020 Festival – One group has come forward to offer to help with the organisation. A reminder will be put up that others are still required.

172. Wiltshire Council Report

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

173. Correspondence

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

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

- The Dabchick AGM is being held on Wednesday 11 January at 7pm in the Methodist Chapel
- The weeds around the edge of the tennis court will need to be cleared at the beginning of the growing season.

175. Confirm date of next meeting

Wednesday 1st February 2017 @ 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.35pm

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