

ALDERMASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting 11th April 2023

Councillors present: Mrs S Crawford (Chairman)
Mrs A Faulkner
Revd J Manley
Mr D Shirt
Mr R Smith
Mrs A Woodley

In Attendance: Mr D Boeck - District Cllr
Mrs C McGarvie - Outgoing Clerk
Mr D Farndell - Incoming Clerk
6 Members of the Public

43/23 Open Forum

At the invite of the Chairman, a resident shared his experience of Community Speedwatch before moving into the area. His experience of manual CSW using a SID was a 15% error rate in referrals. He advocated the use of Sentinel equipment, which digitally records all the necessary details for uploading into the national database with a 1% error rate. The system involves a camera sized recording device mounted on a tripod supervised by trained volunteers (training can be done online) and costs approximately £3,500 plus VAT. Fewer volunteers are needed with a sentinel than with the manual system which is the system currently used by Aldermaston CSW group. Because the details are uploaded and shared instantaneously, any driver exceeding the speed limits caught at 3 different locations in one day will automatically receive a visit from the police rather than the delays built into the manual system. The councillors thanked the neighbour for sharing their experience. The Parish Council agreed to discuss the possibility of investing in a sentinel device in closed session.

A resident raised concerns about the woodland clearance activity on the land at Strawberry farm regarding the destruction of woodland, its impact on wildlife habitat and whether the activity was permitted. The council confirmed it was aware of the activity and that planning enforcement had visited the site. WBC had confirmed that none of the trees were subject to TPOs and that the landowner was within their rights to fell trees. However, if any further activity gives cause for concern, it will be passed on to planning enforcement. Likewise, the additional access roads onto the Reading Road have been referred to the highways department for their comments. The resident also asked if a roundabout sign could be put up near the AWE [main] entrance on the Reading Road as lorries were using residents' driveways to turnaround in rather than using the roundabout itself.

Another resident raised concerns about the planning application 22/0312/Ful – Woodstock, Paices Hill and the additional reports that had been provided and uploaded onto the WBC planning webpage. The Parish Council confirmed that it was aware of the latest submissions and was waiting to see how the relevant departments responded before deciding whether the PC should add to its own comments in Objection to the application.

A further resident raised concerns about the WBC Transport plan and the absence of any reference to Aldermaston and the A340. The Parish Council provided reassurance that it had the same concerns and had fed this back to WBC. Even though the document was at the strategic level, a close eye will be kept on any subsequent iteration or detailed reports to ensure that local concerns are reflected.

44/23 Apologies for absence

Mrs Nurbhai gave her apologies.

45/23 Declarations of Interest

Mrs Crawford declared an interest in the legal advice received regarding the change of use issue in relation to item 47.3 below.

46/23 Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting

46.1 To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2023 were agreed as a true and accurate record and the Chairman signed the minutes.

47/23 Planning

47.1 To note receipt of new applications and make comment (see Appendix A)

23/00717/FULMAJ – Barlows Park, Silchester Road. Proposed food preparation and laundry area.

The Parish Council resolved to raise no objections.

AP - Clerk to provide comments to Planning

23/00388/FUL & 23/00389/LBC - North Lodge Church Road Proposed demolition of existing extension and replacement with new single storey extension and associated amendments to the landscape to create a new residential curtilage and provision of parking spaces.

23/00394/FUL, 23/00395/LBC - North West Lodge Church Road Proposed demolition of existing extension and replacement with new single storey extension and associated amendments to the landscape to create a new residential curtilage and provision of parking spaces.

The Parish Council has no objections in principle as long as the conservation officer is happy with the work and subject to clarification regarding the use, access and maintenance of the gates and the parking on the village side.

AP - Clerk to comment to Planning.

47.2 To note receipt of any approvals, refusals or withdrawals

None received.

47.3 To discuss legal advice regarding 22/03132/FUL – Woodstock Paices Hill

The draft legal advice has been received and reviewed. The Parish Council resolved to request the advice be finalised and then to send on to the planning department and planning enforcement as a courtesy.

The additional reports submitted by the applicant need to be considered by the relevant departments within WBC. The Council resolved to reconsider once these departments have made their comments.

AP – Mrs Crawford to contact the solicitor and Clerk to forward final version to WBC.

48/23 Highways and Footpath matters

48.1 To discuss the Community Speedwatch Group.

The SID is currently broken and the Clerk is waiting for Traffic Technologies to provide a replacement. They have indicated that they will have 3 demo SIDs coming back to them so hope to be able to give us one of them by Friday, which Brimpton Parish Council will use first.

Discussed the acquisition of the Sentinel equipment and resolved to contact the neighbouring PCs currently involved to assess their interest in the system.

AP – Mrs Crawford to provide Sentinel email to Clerk to forward to neighbouring parishes.

48.2 Any new footpath or highway issues.

Proposed Frouds Lane footpath: Wasing Estate have been chased for their input following the meeting with WBC but no reply has been received.

AP – Clerk to forward email to Mrs Crawford who will forward on to Wasing Estate again.

Damaged bridge on the Wasing Cycle Way still hasn't been repaired. Although the damage is located to one side of the wide bridge it is still potentially dangerous. Clerk to contact WBC to ask if it would be possible to cone the damaged side off and provide an idea as to when the work might be done.

AP – Clerk to chase again

49/23 Parish Environment

49.1 To discuss any updates on Skate Ramp project

The Certificate of lawfulness under permitted development is with WBC but they requested some additional drawings and a different location map which has caused some delay. It is back with them for consideration.

The Council have reservations about the need for, and the size and location of, the path but resolved to wait for further details are received from the resident group.

49.2 Update on renovation of the Fountain Memorial

Contractor is waiting for better weather. Contractor has indicated it will be May/June before they start.

49.3 The lock up

Council requested this to be placed on the agenda of the next meeting to decide next steps.

50/23 Consultation documents requiring consideration

None

51/23 AWE to include updates from LLC

The next LLC meeting is the 25th April and the first of the all-day biannual events. Mrs Crawford is also to attend an Offsite Emergency Planning training event in April.

52/23 Reports

52.1 Clerk's report

Handover is underway. Last year's accounts are with the internal auditor so may be back in time for the May meeting for sign off before publication and forwarding to the external auditor. The Council will not be able to declare itself exempt from external audit this year due to the large amount of CIL received from the LIDL development.

52.2 District Councillor's report

Cllr Boeck highlighted the achievement of the Youth Offending Team that had been rated as outstanding for the 2nd time in a row. He also drew attention to the Holiday activity and food programme running across 20 locations for children during the school holidays. He acknowledged the

comments made by Council regarding transportation problems for children in rural areas and would feed that back to the centre.

52.3 To receive reports from parish council representatives on outside bodies

Mr Smith will be attending the next Padworth Common Advisory Committee and asked if anyone had anything to raise at the meeting.

52.4 To review any annual reports received from Local organisations.

Annual reports have been received from the school and the History Group and will be placed on the website for residents to view. The Church report would be forthcoming in the next few days as will the Council's own report.

AP - Clerk to upload reports to the website.

53/23 Finance

53.1 To approve payments, bank reconciliation and receipts

Bank reconciliation checked by the Chairman and the payment list at Appendix B was agreed was agreed by the Council.

AP – Mrs Crawford and Mr Shirt to authorise payments (with help from Mrs Faulkner if required).

54/23 To receive items for information only

54.2 Fisherman's Lane drainage

WBC say they have identified who is responsible for the maintenance of the ditch but Council would like to know if WBC have informed them already of their responsibilities and if a schedule of works is in place.

AP – Clerk to check with WBC if riparian owners with responsibility for ditch maintenance have been informed and to ask that WBC shares with the Council the results of its annual surveys of the culvert and ditch and of any subsequent notices served to riparian owners for necessary works.

54.3 Rag Hill Cottage Mrs Faulkner still to write a summary of the issues regarding the site to be sent to WBC planning and emergency planning. It was agreed that this also needs to be raised as a wider issue as there are further cases of caravans and mobile homes being installed without permission and with no input from Emergency planning as there is no current requirement for the department to be informed of requests for Certificate of lawfulness.

AP- Mrs Faulkner to draft an email response to be agreed by the Parish Council.

55/23 To confirm the date of the meeting on 16th May 2023 at 7.30pm. This will be the Annual Parish Council meeting where new declarations of office will need to be signed.

At the close of the meeting the Council acknowledged that this was the last meeting at which Christine McGarvie would preside as Clerk. Councillors thanked her for her excellent contribution to the smooth and professional running of the Council and wished her well in her new role at the Hurst School.

Signed by Chairman _____
Date _____

Appendix A

Aldermaston Parish Council –April 2023

Planning Applications for Consideration

1	23/00717/FULMAJ – Barlows Park, Silchester Road. Proposed food preparation and Laundry area	Deadline 17 th April 23
3	23/00388/FUL & 23/00389/LBC - North Lodge Church Road Proposed demolition of existing extension and replacement with new single storey extension and associated amendments to the landscape to create a new residential curtilage and provision of parking spaces.	26 th April 23
4	23/00394/FUL, 23/00395/LBC - North West Lodge Church Road Proposed demolition of existing extension and replacement with new single storey extension and associated amendments to the landscape to create a new residential curtilage and provision of parking spaces.	26 th April 23

Planning Application Decisions

1	None	
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Planning Applications Awaiting Decisions

1.	22/03132/FUL – Woodstock, Paices Hill. Part retrospective: planning application for reduction in levels and demolition of storage unit. Permission is also sought for the erection of 1 storage unit and retaining wall.
2	23/00160/FUL – 48 Paices Hill – Section 73a remove/vary conditions
3	22/03071/ADV – Unit B1 Youngs Industrial Estate. Retrospective 2 Aluminium Composite panels formed into tray signs to display company branding. Howdens.
4	22/02341/FUL – Land west of Frouds Lane. Out of Parish – Woolhampton PC Storage building expansion of Ryan Alexander Assoc.
5	22/02079/FUL – Falcon Garage, Burghfield Road – Additional jet wash bay and new shopfront
6	22/01926/HOUSE – Caspians Lodge, Rag Hill – Erection of side extension to garage building
7	APP/W0340/X/22/3297678 - 21/01225/CERTE - Chestnut Coppice, Rag Hill, Certificate of Lawful Use for the continued use of the property as a live/work unit. Waiting for appeal date.
8	21/00642/FUL – Land Adjacent to Barlows Plantation. Retrospective use of car parking area for site training

Appendix B

Bank reconciliation - as at 31st March 2023

Balance from cashbook spreadsheet		98474.87
Add unpresented payments at 31st March 2023		
		0.00
Subtract receipts after 28th February 2023		0.00
Net bank balances as at 28th February 2023		<u>98474.87</u>
Bank statements 31st March 2023		
Current account	3632.72	
Business account	<u>94842.15</u>	
		<u>98474.87</u>
Difference		0.00

Appendix C
meeting report 11th April 2023

Bank Balance as at 31/3/2023	Cashbook balance as at 31/3/2023	Cashbook balance after new payments made
£98,474.87	£98,474.87	£97,231.08

New items for payment

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
SO	Mrs C McGarvie	Clerk's salary	273.60
SO	Mr Farndell	Clerk's salary	248.80
EP	HMRC	April tax	123.20
EP	Triangle Management Co. Ltd	Grass cutting etc (VAT £46.50)	279.00
EP	Mrs C McGarvie	plan for skateramp application (VAT £3.50)	21.00
EP	West Berkshire Council	bin emptying April22 to March23 (VAT £49.70)	298.19
TOTAL			£1,243.79

Payments made since last meeting

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
SO	Mrs C McGarvie	March salary	£334.80
EP	Mrs C McGarvie	Homeworking allowance +expense	114.99
EP	Glasdon	Loosey Bench	1100.34
EP	Triangle Management Co. Ltd	Loosey bench installation	£114.00
TOTAL			£1,664.13

Receipts since last meeting date

Receipt Date	Payer	Details	TOTAL AMOUNT
09/03/2023	Lloyds Bank	Interest	44.67
27/03/2023	Mount Charity	grant for bench	518.48
TOTAL			£563.15

Payments not yet presented

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
TOTAL			£0.00

Receipts not yet cleared/or on statement

Receipt date	Payer	Details	TOTAL COST
TOTAL			£0.00