

ALDERMASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting 8th August 2023

Councillors present: **Mr R Smith (Vice-chairman)**

Mr D Shirt
Mrs A Faulkner
Mrs A Woodley

In attendance: Mr D Farndell (Clerk)
Mr A Reed
Mr R Koivula
3 members of the public

98/23 Open Forum

98.1 Mr Reed updated the Parish Council on the skate ramp project. The Design and Access statement has been prepared and forwarded to the Parish Council for comments. Once agreed it will be for the PC to make the formal planning application. Mr Jim Watchorn and Mr Chris Lacey couldn't make the meeting but will be involved to support the PC during the process. Mr Reed will maintain an interest and will stay involved in the fundraising process if the planning application is granted along with 5/6 other residents. The lack of parking and unreliable bus routes means that the project is village centric but is intended to be as inclusive as possible and this is highlighted within the D&A statement. If there are any questions or points the PC wishes to raise Mr Watchorn, Mr Lacey or Betongpark will address them.

AP - the Parish Council to consider the D&A statement in time for the next meeting.

98.2 Mr Koivula attended the meeting to address the objection made by the Parish Council to the plans for the car port in application 23/00132/HOUSE. He too was surprised by the lack of comment by the Conservation Officer but it was always the intention to leave the historical appearance of the property and The Street as undisturbed as possible, siting the car port as far from view as practicable. He felt that the 'steel and glass' description of the construction gives the wrong impression. It is not going to be built of modern materials but use old materials so that it better reflect the building style. However, if the Parish Council had strong objections, he was open to suggestions. RS gave his personal opinion that, as permission has been granted, he was under no obligation to do any more but suggested that he contact the Conservation Officer to see if they had any suggestions. The Parish Council expressed their appreciation to Mr Koivula for his attendance and explanation of the project.

98.3 A resident raised the issue of the car parking on Station Rd in Aldermaston Wharf and the under use of the station car park. It was felt that out of 35 spaces only 3 or 4 were used on a regular basis with people

choosing to park on Station Rd because of the charge imposed by GWR. Those parking here were not just commuters but those with boats moored at the wharf and walkers visiting the area. It was doubtful if GWR actually raised any revenue from the site, although that

ALDERMASTON PARISH COUNCIL

might improve if CCTV was in place to give some security, but it was difficult to find someone to discuss the matter with at GWR. Further yellow line restrictions were not felt to be the answer although this might be result of the review by WBC or the district councillor. Residents only parking might be a solution but this would impact on those living on the boats at the Wharf. (see also minute 94.2/23)

98.4 A resident raised the issue of a motorcycle travelling through the village without proper sound baffling at 6.20 and 16:20. Would the Parish Council be happy if the residents on the route affected wrote a joint letter to put to TVP? In principle yes, but doubtful of any result.

98.5 A resident asked whether there had been any news regarding the wood yard on Paices Hill now that the development has been stopped. There are concerns that there had been organisational changes within the developer that might mean any reinstatement of the site would be avoided. Another resident confirmed that there had been no changes to the directorship and that the company was still trading from its main address in west London. While there are many potential outcomes of the decision, the site owner has 6 months to appeal the decision so it is likely to be some time before it is known what is going to happen. Concern was voiced about the safety of the spoil tip, especially if heavy rains become a feature of the late summer/autumn weather.

AP – clerk to raise the issue of the safety of the spoil tip with WBC.

99/23 Apologies for absence

Cllr Crawford
Cllr Nurbhai
Rev'd Manley
D Cllr Boeck

100/23 Declarations of interest

Cllr Woodley expressed a family interest in items 104.1 and 104.2 during the meeting

101/23 Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting

Approved and signed as a true record of the meeting held on 11th July 2023.
(However, following feedback from a resident, minute 93/23 has been re-written to better reflect the sentiments of the Parish Council and will be submitted for approval at the next meeting.)

102/23 Planning

102.1 To note receipt of new applications and make comment

No new planning applications have been received since the last meeting.

102.2 To note receipt of any approvals, refusals or withdrawals – See Appendix A below

ALDERMASTON PARISH COUNCIL

102.3 To note the confirmation of **Tree Preservation Order 201/12/1066 – Land West of Aldermaston Recycling, Refuse Tip, Paices Hill, Aldermaston RG7 4PG** with effect from 11 July 2023

102.4 To discuss planning enforcement issue at Corbyn site (enforcement case reference 23/00185/15UNAU)

This case was raised with WBC by concerned residents and the Parish Council in March as a result of an apparent change of use on the site, which sits within the DPZ, next to Neal Packaging. Despite being advised of the developments on the site, there has been nothing other than the standard acknowledgement from Planning Enforcement.

AP - Clerk to write to Planning Enforcement expressing concerns about the apparent conversion of the site without the appropriate permissions and the lack of updates.

103/23 Highways and Footpath matters

103.1 To discuss the on-going issues with the pedestrian refuge on the A340 outside of Hiller's Garden Centre.

The bollards have been replaced again and highways will undertake another safety survey as the current layout is obviously causing some difficulty. The Parish Council felt that there are two issues with the refuge, its visibility and speeding by drivers, which wouldn't necessarily be reflected in a safety audit.

AP - Clerk to forward highways response to councillors and pass on comments regarding speeding to highways.

103.2 HGV use of Frouds Lane

Highways to consider what might be done to enforce the weight restriction.

103.3 Wasing Cycle Way

The repairs to the southern bridge on the Wasing Cycle Way as discussed in minute 90.2.e have now been permanently repaired.

103.4 To raise any new footpath or highway issues.

103.4.a A resident has raised a concern over the amount of time the fencing on Falcon's triangle has been in place. Clerk has emailed the owner to ask for the intentions of the site (previous minute xx/yy)

103.4.b Footpath Alde8 - Complaints by residents have been reported to the ROWT who will check the state of the path within the next 3 weeks.

103.4.c AW raised the issue of weeds overgrowing the footpath at the bottom of the village near the recreation ground and Wasing lane.

AP - Clerk to raise with WBC.

104/23 Parish Environment

104.1 To discuss the emptying of waste bins within the parish

ALDERMASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Despite being originally told by WBC that they could take on an additional bin (see minute 91.1/23) they have since confirmed that they are not taking on any additional dog waste bins and are reviewing the service provision altogether. WBC recommended two alternative providers Triangle Management and Tactical Facilities Management. Triangle quoted £9.50 + VAT to empty a dog waste bin whilst Tactical quoted £3.40 + VAT. Tactical also advised that they would be interested in taking on emptying all the bins currently contracted to WBC. To do this Tactical quoted £148.20 per quarter as opposed to the £172.46 currently charged by WBC. Tactical's charge would raise to £192.40 for the inclusion of the dog waste bin at the Wharf. The Parish Council felt that the move away from WBC appears to be inevitable but would like to know how current service recipients find them as a supplier.

AP - Clerk to seek testimonials from existing users of Tactical.

[addendum the Canal & River Trust have advised that the bin will be transferred by a contract with an intended transfer date of 21st August]

104.2 To consider the results of the tree survey

The trees are generally in good health but requires some TLC Subject to its size the oak on the Loosey may require permission before any work is carried out on it. Triangle have quoted £1897.50 + VAT to carry out the work.

AP - clerk to confirm and progress permission for the work to the Loosey Oak and seek an alternative quote.

104.3 Skate ramp

The Planning Officer that considered the permitted development application is no longer attached to WBC so can't be approached for advice. The community group have prepared the technical elements of the planning application for the Parish Council to consider (see 98.1 above).

104.4 To discuss the agility trail refurbishment.

The supplier has confirmed that replacement parts will be supplied free of charge but that installation work will be charged for at a cost of £1473.22 + VAT

AP - Clerk to check the terms of the warranty and query the cost which seems excessive for the work required.

104.5 The Queen Victoria Jubilee Memorial Fountain

The Parish Council expressed its satisfaction with the work that has now been completed on budget.

105/23 Consultation documents requiring consideration

105.1 To consider the call for information for potential environmental projects by WBC (deadline 31 August)

Given the development restrictions on domestic and commercial properties within the DPZ, the Parish Council felt that there may be sites that would be suitable for such projects, but within the terms of this consultation the Parish Council does not own any suitable sites.

AP – Clerk to provide comments to WBC

ALDERMASTON PARISH COUNCIL

105.2 - To consider the submitted Neighbourhood Plan for Cold Ash and Hermitage (deadline 30th September)

No comments

105.3 The Winter service Plan 23/24 consultation (deadline 15 August)

Clarification sought on the point made at the last meeting in minute 92.2.1/23. DS clarified that it would be beneficial to have Frouds Lane on the Primary Route for salting in case of short notice repairs required to the lifting bridge in Aldermaston Wharf.

AP – Clerk to respond to the survey as requested

106/23 AWE to include updates from LLC

SC and DS had a positive meeting with representatives from AWE and established new contacts following the retirement of John Steele. A consultant is going to be appointed to carry out the feasibility studies required by planning application 23/01343/COMIND to improve local, sustainable transport facilities. A scoping document will be shared with the PC. The difficulty of a footpath on the eastern side of the A340 on Paices Hill was discussed but the western side has yet to be considered.

107/23 Reports

107.1 Clerk's report - Nothing additional to report

107.2 District Councillor's report - None received

107.3 To receive reports from parish council representatives on outside bodies - None received

108/23 Finance

To approve payments, bank reconciliation and receipts (see Appendices B & C)

Vice Chairman approved and signed

AP - AF & DS to authorise payments.

109/23 To receive items for information only

109.1 AW raised the state of the field at the back of Dolphins Close which has become overrun with thistles that are now seeding and spreading throughout neighbouring properties. And asked if Wasing Estate could be approached to top off.

AP – clerk to raise with Wasing.

109.2 DS advised that a new chair of governors has been appointed at Aldermaston Primary school – Charlotte Watchhorn

109.3 RS raised the issue of fireworks used in celebrations at the Old Mill. Concerns had been raised by residents at the Wharf in relation to pets and that the Old Mill would no longer issue warnings on FB due to the hostile comments made on social media. It was noted that the frequency of fireworks had perhaps increased of late although it was also noted that it was peak season for outdoor celebrations. It was also noted that other venues either used

ALDERMASTON PARISH COUNCIL

silent fireworks or did not feature them at all. The Parish Council agreed to include the issue an agenda item at the next meeting and invite representatives from the Old Mill to explain their position and respond to any questions or concerns.

109.4 AW reminded the Parish Council that Aldermaston Parish Hall requires 2 fire drills per year.

109.5 DS offered his apologies for the next meeting.

110/23 The date of the next meeting is 12th September 2023 at 7.30pm

Signed _____

Date _____

ALDERMASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Appendix A

Planning Applications for Consideration

	None received	
--	----------------------	--

Planning Application Decisions

	23/00717/FULMAJ – Barlows Park, Silchester Road. Proposed food preparation and laundry area	Granted
	23/00712/COND – Proposed extension to clubhouse, Barlows Park, Silchester Rd, Tadley – condition 7 (emergency planning) associated with 19/02425/COMIND planning permission	Granted
	22/01090/MDOPO – Kestrels Mead, Burghfield Rd, Tadley – modification in relation to planning obligation associated with permission 00/00260/OUT	Approved

Planning Applications Awaiting Decisions

	22/02341/FUL – Land west of Frouds Lane. Out of Parish – Woolhampton PC Storage building expansion of Ryan Alexander Assoc.
	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.
	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.
	23/01265/House – Greenlands, Silchetser Road: proposed rear extension to ground floor
	23/00756/HOUSE: 10 Swan Drive Aldermaston. Single storey rear extension, side extension over existing garage

ALDERMASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting finance report 8th August 2023

Bank Balance as at 31/07/2023	Cashbook balance as at 31/07/2023	Cashbook balance after new payments made
£99,784.27	£99,784.27	£91,922.87

New items for payment

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
EP	War Memorial Restoration	Restoration of fountain memorial (VAT £1,171.10)	7,026.60
EP	Triangle Management Co. Ltd	Grass cutting July etc (VAT £46.50)	279.00
EP	Information Commissioner	Data Protection Fee	35.00
EP	Clerk	Salary (Aug)	248.60
EP	HMRC	Tax (Aug)	62.20
EP	Triangle Management Co. Ltd	Tree Survey (VAT £35.00)	210.00
TOTAL			£7,861.40

Payments made since last meeting

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
EP	Triangle Management	Grass cutting etc (VAT £46.50)	279.00
EP	Clerk	Salary (July)	248.60
EP	HMRC	Tax (July)	62.20
EP	WBC	Bins July - Sept (VAT £34.49)	206.95
EP	Aldermaston Parish Hall	Room hire (May £15.00 + June £14.00)	29.00
TOTAL			£825.75

Receipts since last meeting date

Receipt Date	Payer	Details	TOTAL AMOUNT
10/07/2023	Lloyds	Interest	65.22
TOTAL			£65.22

ALDERMASTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

ALDERMASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Bank reconciliation - as at 1st August 2023					
Balance from cashbook spreadsheet				99784.27	
Add unpresented payments at 31st July 2023					
			0.00		
				0.00	
Subtract receipts after 31st July 2023					
			0.00	0.00	
Net bank balances as at 31st July 2023				99784.27	
Bank statements 31st July 2023					
Current account			3730.64		
Business account			96053.63		
				99784.27	
Difference				0.00	