

ALDERMASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting 8th June 2021

Councillors Present: Mrs S Crawford (Chairman)
Mrs A Faulkner
Revd J Manley
Mrs T Nurbhai
Mr D Shirt
Mr R Smith

In attendance: District Cllr D Boeck
Mrs C McGarvie – Clerk
2 members of the public

71/21 Open Forum – Questions from the public including any received by phone or email

A resident asked about when the Traffic Monitoring Equipment could start to be used by volunteers. An update is given under Highway matters.

72/21 Apologies for absence

Mrs Woodley gave her apologies.

73/21 Declarations of Interest

Revd. Manley declared an interest in the Lidl planning appeal and did not take part in the discussion of this item.

74/21 Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting

74.1 To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held 11th May 2021

Mr Shirt proposed two minor changes to the minutes of the meeting held on 11th May 2021. These changes were approved by the Council and the minutes were agreed as an accurate record. The Chairman signed the minutes.

74.2 Review of Action Tracker

18/21 Kestrels Mead play area

Mrs Nurbhai has reviewed the suggestions made by West Berkshire Council to improve the area. The hibernaculars have not yet been moved but there is agreement that this should be done and the interpretation boards removed. WBC have suggested cutting back the gorse bush but it is felt that this could cause more problems and should not be done. The knee rail has stopped children bringing bikes into the area. There is a sign which needs to be put back on the fence.

It is thought that reducing the height of the hedge would be unpopular with residents. Mrs. Nurbhai to ask residents their views before Clerk responds to West Berkshire Council.

There have been some recent incidents of anti-social behaviour and these have been reported to the Police via 101.

It was suggested that the addition of football goal posts or a basketball hoop on the grassed area within the playground area would improve it by appealing to slightly older children than the existing play equipment. Mrs. Nurbhai to ask residents views on this before requesting from West Berkshire Council.

Action: TN/Clerk

56.2/21 Parking in Church Road

West Berkshire highways department have considered the evidence provided by the resident and they do not consider the parking along Church Road to be dangerous. Clerk to pass this information to the resident who raised the concern

76.4.2 West Berkshire Council have reported that the Frouds Lane footpath is not likely to go ahead because the land agent speaking on behalf of Wasing Estate has indicated that they are unlikely to give permission for the footpath to go through their land. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Josh Dugdale on behalf of the Parish Council to confirm that this is indeed the final decision of Wasing on the issue.

Action: Clerk

41.4 Neighbourhood policing team – Clerk had invited two members of the team to attend a meeting but they have now been moved to other teams. Clerk to follow up with the new contact and ask them to attend the July or August Parish Council meeting. It was agreed that Clerk would also ask a representative from MOD Project Servator to attend a Parish Council meeting.

Action : Clerk

90.7 The Conservation Area survey is almost complete and will be made available as a draft to residents.

117.3 Village sign – The new sign is forecast for deliver on 19th June. Clerk to ask the contractor for a date for installation. Mrs Crawford to check that no approvals are needed before installation.

Action : Clerk/SC

58/21 Resilience plan – It was agreed that the resilience plan should be reduced in size. Clerk to send latest version to Mr. Smith. Mr. Smith to revise document and send to councillors for review.

Action: Clerk

52.4/21 Mr Shirt confirmed that the noticeboard at Aldermaston Wharf needs re-staining. Clerk to obtain quotes for the work.

Action: Clerk

69.6/21 Dog fouling in Fisherman's Lane – A notice was put in the Parish Newsletter and the situation appears to have improved.

29.1/21 Broadband in Kestrels Mead and Falcons Fields– Cllr Boeck reported that the funding programme is now closed and there is no prospect of extra funding at the moment. Kestrels Mead and Falcons Fields were inadvertently missed off the original project. Mrs Nurbhai reported that Gigaclear have sent letters to residents indicating that they may bring broadband to the area if there is enough interest.

67.1/21 Members bid funding – Cllr Boeck has sent the criteria for Member's bid funding. Clerk to forward to all councillors. The deadline for the next round of grants is 23rd June.

Action: Clerk

74.2.1 Parish Plan It was agreed that the Parish Council will consider whether to update the Parish Plan after the Coronavirus restrictions are lifted.

74.3 Matters arising from the minutes not otherwise on the agenda or the Action Tracker

60/21 It was agreed that Mrs Nurbhai would take over responsibility for Easter Park and Mr. Shirt would take responsibility for Aldermaston Village. Clerk to update the web page with this information

Action : Clerk

75/21 To agree a response to MP Laura Farris outlining the key issues in the Parish

It was agreed that Mrs Crawford would ask MP Laura Farris for her support regarding the problem of increased HGV traffic through the Conservation Area and Aldermaston Village. **Action : SC**

76/21 Planning

76.1 To note receipt of new applications and make comment

21/01128/FULD – Land adjacent to Padworth Farm 1 new dwelling

The Parish Council resolved to **object** as the proposed site is outside of the settlement boundary and on a green field site. The Parish Council objected to the previous application for the same reasons and there are no significant differences in this application which would lead to a change of response. This road is a single-track lane which is already busy with the existing levels of traffic and another property would lead to overdevelopment of the area.

21/01177/HOUSE – Silver Dene, Reading Road. Demolition of conservatory, extension
The Parish Council resolved to respond with no objections.

21/01178/HOUSE – Silver Dene, Reading Road. Erection of ancillary accommodation

The Parish Council resolved to **object** as the design of the annexe, with a bedroom on the first floor, is not compatible with the intended use as a granny annexe. If the Planning Authority are minded to approve this application the Parish Council would ask that a condition is added to prevent the annexe from being sold as a separate dwelling.

21/01257/HOUSE – Raghill Cottage, Rag Hill. Addition of pitched roof to existing garage

The Parish Council resolved to respond with no objections subject to the condition that the garage cannot be used for residential use now or at a later stage.

21/01115/FUL – Upper Church Farm, Rag Hill. Change of use to equestrian

The Parish Council resolved to respond with no objections.

76.2 To note receipt of any approvals, refusals or withdrawals

See Appendix A below.

The Lidl planning appeal will be decided by an Informal hearing on 7th July. Clerk to find out if the Parish Council will be able to participate in the hearing. It was agreed that if allowed to participate the Parish Council would object only on the grounds that it will increase the amount of HGV traffic on the A340.

Action : Clerk

76.3 To note any updates on planning enforcement

a) Padworth Sawmills –

The 12 months' notice for removal of the timber heap at the site expired in July 2019 and the Environment Agency are still considering what legal action to take.

Mr. Smith has received some feedback from Environment Agency about waste exemptions after submitting a Freedom of Information request but he believes the information given was incorrect and has replied to inform them of this.

Mrs Faulkner and Mr Smith still to provide a report on the current situation at the site

Action : AF/RS

Mr Smith reported that he contacted the Environment Agency for an update on the timber heap but they have said that they are too busy to deal with the issue and it is low priority. Mr. Smith has therefore raised a complaint with them. The Environment Agency have said that they haven't been able to deal with the issue due to Covid.

77/21 Highways and Footpath matters

77.1 To receive an update on the purchase of a SID, shared with other neighbouring Parishes

The Traffic Management Equipment (TME) licence with West Berkshire Council is now in place. The equipment is currently with Brimpton Parish Council so they can complete their site approval forms and risk assessments. The equipment will then be passed to either Beenham Parish Council or back to Aldermaston so that some speed monitoring sessions can be scheduled.

77.2 Speed camera in The Street

Following the resurfacing of The Street, West Berkshire Council tested to see if the old speed camera housing and post was structurally safe and APC found it to be unsafe. They have informed the Parish Council that it will be removed on 24th June and a new pole for a Gen5 pro Speed Indicator Device installed. The Speed Indicator device will be installed for at least a year to monitor speeds.

In addition, Thames Valley Police will be setting up mobile enforcement sites outside the Parish Hall and at The Loosey. They have indicated that they will assign 10 hours a quarter to monitoring speed at these locations.

West Berkshire Council have acknowledged that the new road surface may change the way that people drive along this stretch of road. Speeds were monitored before the road was resurfaced and the average speed was between 22mph and 28mph.

Residents have suggested that the speed limit should be reduced to 20mph on The Street but West Berkshire Council are not currently supportive of this idea.

78/21 Parish Environment

78.1 To discuss plan for the skate ramp

The skate ramp is currently closed because of damage to the riding surface.

An attempt was made to lift the damaged panel but the majority of the screws were rusted and broke off. A contractor that looked at the ramp recently declined to quote for its repair.

A resident has indicated that they might know someone who could fix it but Clerk is waiting for the contact details for this person. Mrs Nurbhai may have a contact for a contractor who would be willing to quote. Clerk to contact this contractor. Quotes are also being sought for removal of the ramp if it proves to be unrepairable.

It was agreed that residents should be informed of the current situation with the Skate Ramp and that it may need to be removed if it can't be repaired. Clerk to send an email to the parish mailing list with an update on the Skate Ramp.

Action : Clerk

78.2 To discuss quotes for new noticeboard outside shop

Quotes obtained by the Clerk were considered and the preferred quote from Stebbings for a 6 x A4 light oak noticeboard with a single door and engraved lettering was agreed on. Clerk to make the purchase and arrange for installation.

8.3 To provide an update on the Village Sign project

The sign is being produced. The forecast date for delivery is 19th June. Clerk has extended the deadline on the grant from West Berks and the match funding from Greenham for 6 months just in case there is any delay. APC can't claim the money from West Berks until we have the installation invoice.

Action : Clerk

79/21 AWE to include updates from LLC

There was protestor activity at the AWE Burghfield site on 26th May but there was no disruption to site operations. Mr. Shirt will be attending an LLC workshop on 10th June. The next AWE LLC meeting will be held on 7th July.

80/21 Reports

80.1 District Councillor's report

The Boundary Commission have announced their initial proposal for a change to the parliamentary constituencies. These changes are currently being consulted on, until 2nd August and then would go to parliament for ratification in Autumn 2023. Under the proposals Aldermaston Ward would be moved into a new constituency called Mid Berkshire.

81/21 To consider applying for a gov.uk website and email addresses

Clerk sent a report to councillors outlining the reasons for moving to gov.uk and the costs associated with this. It was agreed that the Clerk would request email addresses for all councillors on the current domain name aldermaston.co.uk but that the website would not be moved to a .gov.uk domain at this time.

Clerk has run out of backup space on the dropbox backup system so it was agreed that the Council would pay for the additional space on dropbox but only on a monthly basis until a longer-term solution was decided on.

Mrs Faulkner to investigate a longer-term solution for cloud file storage, file sharing and improvements to the website.

Action : Clerk /AF

82/21 Finance

82.1 To approve payments, bank reconciliation and receipts

See appendix B below.

Mrs Crawford and Mr Smith to approve the online payment.

82.2 To confirm bank signatories

The bank signatories were confirmed. New bank mandate to add Mrs Nurbhai and remove Mr. Hinton was signed.

Action : Clerk

82.3 To approve the Annual Governance statement

The Annual Governance statement was sent to all councillors before the meeting. The Parish Council considered the statements and agreed to reply Yes to statements 1 to 8. Statement 9 is not applicable.

82.4 To approve the end of year Statement of Accounts for 2020/21 and asset register

The Parish Council agreed the end of year Statement of Accounts for 2020/2021 prepared by the Clerk and the form was signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Parish Council.

The updated asset register was agreed.

82.5 To agree dates for public exercise of rights

The dates for the public exercise of rights were agreed as 14th June until 23rd July 2021.

83/21 To receive items for information only

83.1 Mr Shirt stated that he disagreed with the Parish Council meeting being held face-to-face as it put Councillors at increased risk unnecessarily.

83.2 Mr Shirt reported that a resident has raised the issue of West Berkshire's Home to School Transport Policy with Cllr Boeck and he has responded.

84/21 The next meeting will be held on 13th July 2021 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall

Signed by Chairman _____

Date _____

Appendix A

Aldermaston Parish Council –June 2021

Planning Applications for Consideration

1.	21/01128/FULD – Land adjacent to Padworth Farm 1 new dwelling	Deadline 9 th June
2	21/01177/HOUSE – Silver Dene, Reading Road. Demolition of conservatory, extension	Deadline 8 th June
3	21/01178/HOUSE – Silver Dene, Reading Road. Erection of ancillary accommodation	Deadline 8 th June
4	21/01257/HOUSE – Raghill Cottage, Rag Hill. Addition of pitched room to existing garage	Deadline 17 th June
5	21/0115/FUL – Upper Church Farm, Rag Hill. Change of use to equestrian	Deadline 3 rd June 2021, extension granted.

Planning Application Decisions

1	21/00782/HOUSE – 17 Maidas Way Proposed Rear Conservatory	Approved
2	21/00687/LBC2 – 24 The Street. Removal of wood panels and replace tile floor	Approved
3	21/00593/RESMAJ – Stacey developments, Silchester Road, erection of business units. Detailed plans	Approved
4	21/00876/HOUSE – The Dene, The Street. Construction of a swimming pool hut	Approved

Planning Applications Awaiting Decisions

1	APP/W0340/W/20/3265942 – Appeal 19/01063/COMIND Construction of Class A1 foodstore with associated car parking, access and landscaping – Lidl – Date set for hearing 7th July.
2	21/00457/CERTE – Pinnacle House, Red Lane – C3 dwelling – granny annex
3	21/00528/COMIND – AWE – Replacement facility for storage
4	20/02527/OUTMAJ - Blacks Lake Track Racing Blacks Lake Paices Hill Outline Planning Application for the construction of an industrial estate Over 10 objections will be decided by committee
5	20/02497/OUTD - Willow Mead ,Mill Lane, Padworth - Outline application for the erection of four detached dwellings for self/custom builders.
6	19/01293/FULEXT and 19/01294/LBC2- Conversion of Manor House and Portland House to residential use.
7	19/01896/FUL and 19/01897/LBC2 – Change of use of 'Bridge Lodge' to a residential dwelling

Appendix B

Meeting Report 8th June 2021

Bank Balance as at 31/5/2021	Cashbook balance as at 1/6/2021	Cashbook balance after new payments made
£45,425.73	£45,425.73	£44,929.23

New items for payment

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
EP	Triangle Management Co Ltd	Grass cutting	208.50
SO	Mrs C McGarvie	June salary	288.00
TOTAL			£496.50

Payments made since last meeting

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
EP	Mr A Woodley	park keeping	64.32
EP	Triangle Management Ltd	Grass cutting April	208.50
EP	Business Services at CAS LTD	additional insurance premium	5.60
EP	Hampshire Association of Local Councils	Subscription	262.98
EP	Mrs C Connell	Internal Audit	150.00
EP	Playsafety Limited	playground inspection	177.00
EP	Business Services at CAS LTD	Insurance 2021/2022	457.43
TOTAL			£1,325.83

Receipts since last meeting date

Receipt Date	Payer	Details	TOTAL AMOUNT
11/05/2021	West Berkshire Council	precept	6750.00
10/05/2021	Lloyds bank	interest	0.32
TOTAL			£6,750.32

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

Appendix C

Bank reconciliation - as at 1st June 2021

Balance from cashbook spreadsheet		45425.73
Add unpresented payments at 31st May 2021		
		0.00
Subtract receipts after 31st May 2021		
Net bank balances as at 31st May 2021		<u>45425.73</u>
Bank statements 31st May 2021		
Current account	8216.53	
Business account	<u>37209.20</u>	
		<u>45425.73</u>
Difference		0.00