

ALDERMASTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of meeting 8th March 2022

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

In Attendance: District Cllr Dominic Boeck
Mrs C McGarvie – Clerk
1 member of the public representing the Platinum Jubilee Organising Committee

27/22 Open Forum – Questions from the public including any received by phone or email

No issues raised

28/22 Apologies for absence

None received.

29/22 Declarations of Interest

None received.

30/22 Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting

30.1 To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 8th February 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th February 2022 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

31/22 To consider plans for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee put forward by the working group

A member of the Platinum Jubilee Organising Committee provided an overview of the events planned over the Jubilee weekend.

The Parish Council agreed to support the events by providing the public liability insurance. Clerk to contact insurer and confirm that cover is in place.

Action: Clerk

The location of the Big Picnic Lunch on Sunday 5th June is still be decided.

Risk assessments will be carried out for all the events and provided to the Parish Council.

Every child in Aldermaston Primary School and in the Parish will be given a commemorative mug.

A grant request was submitted for £300 towards purchasing mugs. It was agreed to defer this to the April meeting. It was agreed that the Parish Council will provide some sponsorship but it would be preferable to purchase a particular item such as portable toilets so that VAT could be reclaimed.

32/22 Planning

32.1 To note receipt of new applications and make comment see Appendix A

22/00322/HOUSE – 24 The Street, Aldermaston. Replace flat roof garage with new pitch roof building

22/00329/HOUSE – Cherry Cottage, The Street. Replace flat roof garage with new pitch roof building
The Parish Council resolved to respond with no objections to both of these applications.

21/03202/FUL – Youngs Industrial Estate. Construction of 8 light industrial units and 1 unit with office.

The Parish Council resolved to object to this application on the grounds that not enough information has been provided by the applicant, for example there is no Design & Access Statement, Transport Statement, Landscaping design or Emergency Plan. In addition, the Parish Council is concerned about the likely increase in heavy goods traffic on the A340 as a result of this development.

If the case officer is minded to approve this application the Parish Council would request that the following conditions be put in place

- The tree/hedge screening that was in place previously should be reinstated to screen the development from the road.
- Operating hours should be restricted and the site should not be allowed to operate during evenings or weekends due to the impact on the nearby residential area.
- Concerns raised about drainage should be addressed.

It was agreed that residents should be encouraged to comment on this application via social media and the email mailing list.

It was agreed that Cllr Boeck would be asked to request that the application is referred to the Planning committee for a decision if the case officer is minded to approve it.

32.2 To note receipt of any approvals, refusals or withdrawals

See Appendix A below.

33/22 Highways and Footpath matters

33.1 To receive an update on the use of the TME in the Parish

The TME has been used at the new site on Reading Road near Kestrels Mead. In overall % terms, levels of speeding were low with 4% of drivers over the speed limit in the easterly direction (away from Falcon Triangle) and 1% in the westerly direction. However, in absolute terms there are still many drivers exceeding the 46mph ACPO limit, so it was agreed that the TME would be used as an educational tool in this location again. The TME is currently on Church Road outside of Cedar's nursery

33.2 To discuss setting up a Community Speedwatch Group

Thames Valley Police have given permission for Community Speedwatch to be carried out outside Rosebourne garden centre and at the Wharf, in the layby previously approved for the TME.

It was agreed that the next step would be to seek volunteers by advertising on noticeboards, via facebook and via the Parish mailing list.

Mrs Crawford to ask Thames Valley Police if they have any posters for recruitment that can be used to advertise the roles.

Action: SC/Clerk

There was agreement in principle to purchase the required freestanding sign for Speedwatch sessions at a price of £59.84 plus VAT. Clerk to find out the lead time on these signs from the supplier.

Action: Clerk

33.3 Any new footpath or highways issues

It was noted that the A340 is going to be closed on the 9th and 10th March for gully cleansing. This work was done in previous years without requiring a full road closure.

34/22 Parish Environment

34.1 To discuss the Skate Ramp Project

The tender notice is now on Contracts Finder with a closing date of 31st March. Clerk has been contacting suppliers to ask them to quote as so far there have been no quotes received but some interest expressed. It appears that contractors are particularly busy at the moment and we may have to extend the closing date in order to allow time for contractors to respond.

34.2 To discuss the request for horse aware posters in the Parish

Mrs Faulkner has been in contact with the British Horse Society for further advice. They have reported that there are other locations in Berkshire that have been given permission for horse aware signs and have provided the name of a contact in the Fire Service who helped to make the case with the District Council. Mrs Faulkner to follow up with the Fire Service and the Safety Officer at West Berkshire Council.

Action: AF

34.3 To consider quotes for the repair to the lock up roof.

Two quotes have been received but one of these has several caveats so the quotes are not comparable. Clerk to try to find another quote for the work.

Action: Clerk

34.4 To consider quotes for power washing the Playground Equipment

Two quotes have been obtained for cleaning the play equipment. It was agreed to wait until later in the year to carry out the clean as the equipment is not very dirty at the moment. Clerk to contact the preferred contractor to thank them for the quote and explain that the work will be deferred until later in the year.

Action: Clerk

34.5 Update on defibrillator for Ravenswing

MITIE have now provided a defibrillator and cabinet for Ravenswing and it is with the park owners to be installed. MITIE would like to have an opening ceremony for their publicity once it is installed. It was agreed that an opening ceremony will be a good opportunity to hold an engagement event with residents.

34.6 To consider offer from MITIE to do a litter pick

MITIE, who are an AWE contractor, have offered to do a litter pick in the Parish in March. This will be on routes with pavements and under their own insurance.

It was agreed that this offer should be accepted and that the following locations be put forward for litter picking. Wasing Way Cyclepath, outside the village shop, pavements around Rosebourne, Church Road, Reading Road around AWE and Winkworth Lane. Clerk to contact MITIE with these suggestions.

Action: Clerk

It was agreed that Mrs Crawford would ask AWE at the next LLC meeting whether they are still able to offer volunteers to do work in the community.

Action: SC

34.7 WBC grounds maintenance contract for bin emptying

West Berkshire Council have informed the Parish Council that the bin emptying contract is due to come to an end January 2023. They will be seeking another contractor but there is also the option of employing a contractor directly.

The current cost is £110.11(plus VAT) for emptying 2 general bins and 2 dog bins once a week between April 2021 and March 2022. This will be paid in April 2022.

The price for next year will go up by 5.4% until December 2022 with the existing contractor.

It was agreed not to take any further action until the price of the new contract is known.

34.8. Update on Parish Emergency Plan Review

The updated Parish Emergency Plan was sent to the West Berkshire Council Emergency Planning team for their review and they have responded with suggestions for improvements. Mr. Smith to review the suggested changes and update the Plan as appropriate.

Action: RS

35/22 AWE to include updates from LLC

The next LLC meeting will be held on 16th March and a site visit will be held on 5th April.

Revd Manley reported that the AWE alarms went off last Thursday 3rd March and caused some concern at the primary school. Mr Shirt to ask why this alarm went off at the next LLC meeting.

Action: DS

36/22 Reports

36.1 District Councillor's report

Cllr Boeck sent a monthly report via email before the meeting. Information specific to Aldermaston included that £244k has been earmarked in West Berkshire Council's 2022/2023 budget for the Frouds Lane footpath. This is \$106 million. Also, that £38 million has been allocated in the 2022/2023 budget for highway improvements across WBC and will include surface dressing of the A340 at Paices Hill and re-texturing of the Tadley Triangle and Reading Road.

In our meeting Cllr. Boeck also informed that Children's Services are undergoing an Ofsted inspection next week. That the new Local Transport Plan is due for completion at the end of 2023 and the Parish Council will be asked to comment on the plan. That the Local Plan Review has been delayed to the Government's changes to the planning framework.

36.2 To receive reports from parish council representatives on outside bodies

Conservation Area Appraisal- West Berkshire Council's Conservation Officer has sent the report to other departments for their review.

The Conservation Officer has carried out a site visit at the Manor House and is satisfied that the owners are meeting their responsibilities to ensure the building remains secure and weathertight.

37/22 Finance

37.1 To approve payments, bank reconciliation and receipts

The bank reconciliation was checked by Chairman before the meeting.

See appendix B below for the payment list which includes the Clerk's backpay to April 2021 following the 1.75% pay increase which has been agreed and announced by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC).

Mrs Faulkner and Mrs Crawford to approve payments online.

Action: AF/SC

37.2 To consider quotation for grass cutting contract 2022/2023

The price for grass cutting for 2022/2023 with the current contractor has increased by 5%. It was agreed to accept this quotation. Clerk to inform contractor.

Action: Clerk

38/22 To receive items for information only

38.1 Mrs Woodley reported that she has received a resident complaint about the dog bins at the Manor House not being emptied. It was pointed out that Praxis do not have to allow the public into the grounds. Clerk to contact Praxis to inform them of the issue and a message will be put in the next newsletter asking residents to take their waste home with them rather than using the bins.

Action: Clerk

38.2 Mrs Woodley reported that there is a large pot hole on Wasing Lane near East lodge. Revd. Manley will report the issue via the WBC website.

Action: JM

38.3 Mrs Faulkner raised a concern about parking around the Rugby Club particularly on Sunday mornings in Rag Hill. Clerk to contact the Rugby Club to raise the issue.

Action: Clerk

38.4 Mrs Faulkner reported that at the junction of Welshman's Road and Reading Road the resurfacing work has made the road dangerously slippery. Mrs Faulkner to report via the WBC website.

Action:AF

38.5 Mr Smith reported that the fence at the end of Maida's way is down again.

38.6 A concern has been raised about activities at the Wood Yard on Paices Hill. Clerk to contact Planning enforcement to pass on the concerns and ask what is allowed on site.

Action:Clerk

38.7 Following the incident outside Rosebourne where the central bollard was hit by a car, the West Berkshire Council maintenance team indicated that a safety audit would be done to consider whether an illuminated bollard may be necessary. Clerk to follow up with WBC

Action: Clerk

38.8 Mrs Crawford has confirmed that Aldermaston is not covered by any of the local Voluntary Community Transport groups and has informed WBC that this information was incorrect in their Bus Service Improvement Plan.

38.9 Mrs Crawford asked whether the Parish Council should follow up with Wasing Estate on the agreed improvement points from last year's Medicine Festival to ensure these are addressed this year. Clerk to follow up with Wasing Estate.

Action:Clerk

38.9 A coffee morning is being held at the Hinds Head on Saturday 12th March 10am-12pm in aid of the Ukraine Crisis. It was agreed to advertise this on the Parish Council facebook page.

39/22. To confirm the date and location of the Annual Parish Assembly meeting on 12th April 2022 at 7.30pm in Main Hall.

It was agreed that the Clerk should invite the usual organisations to the Annual Parish Assembly and ask them to provide reports. Greenham Trust have confirmed that they will attend and give a presentation. The Annual Parish Assembly will be followed by a shorter Parish Council meeting. Clerk to arrange refreshments for the meeting.

Signed by Chairman _____

Date _____

Appendix A

Aldermaston Parish Council –March 2022

Planning Applications for Consideration

		Deadline for comments
1	22/00322/HOUSE – 24 The Street, Aldermaston. Replace flat roof garage with new pitch roof building	3rd March
2	22/00329/HOUSE – Cherry Cottage, The Street. Replace flat roof garage with new pitch roof building	3rd March
3	21/03202/FUL – Youngs Industrial Estate. Construction of 8 light industrial units and 1 unit with office.	16th March

Planning Application Decisions

1	None	
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Planning Applications Awaiting Decisions

1	22/00191/HOUSE – 6 Swan Drive. Second storey extension built over existing garage
2	22/00124/LBC2 – Cobblers, 24 The Street. To subdivide a first-floor bedroom to create walk-in wardrobe
3	22/00120/FUL – Land adjacent to New Stocks Farm. Change of use to 9 permanent traveller pitches
4	21/02987/FULMAJ – Cedar Lodge, Soke Road. Erection of replacement dwelling and garage following removal of existing with associated tennis court, outdoor swimming pool and access
5	21/03206/COMIND – Land adjacent to Ravenswing Farm, Lidl variation of condition 28, delivery hours
6	21/00642/FUL – Land Adjacent to Barlows Plantation. Retrospective use of car parking area for site training
7	21/02447/CERTP – Rag Hill Cottage The provision of a twin unit mobile home
8	21/02799/FORMB - Land East Of Raghill Farm Rag Hill Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 to install and keep installed above ground an electric line of any voltage: upgrade 4 spans of existing 11kV overhead line to 3 phase. (registered 2 nd Nov 2021)
9	21/00117/FORMB – Padworth and Aldermaston. Increasing height of poles. Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 to install and keep installed above ground an electric line of nominal voltage of less than 132 kilovolts (registered 21st Jan 2021)

Appendix B

Meeting Report 8th March 2022

Bank Balance as at 28/2/2022	Cashbook balance as at 28/2/2022	Cashbook balance after new payments made
£43,429.06	£43,429.06	£42,891.55

New items for payment

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
SO	Mrs C McGarvie	March Salary	293.04
EP	Mrs C McGarvie	Homeworking allowance & ink/paper	128.49
EP	Mrs C McGarvie	11 months Back pay following increase	55.44
EP	Mr A Woodley	Park Keeping	60.54
TOTAL			£537.51

Payments made since last meeting

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
SO	Mrs C McGarvie	February salary	288.00
EP	Triangle Management Co. Ltd	Landscaping at The Loosey	192.00
EP	Aldermaston & Wasing PCC	grant for grass cutting	750.00
TOTAL			£1,230.00

Receipts since last meeting date

Receipt Date	Payer	Details	TOTAL AMOUNT
09/02/2022	Lloyds Bank	interest	0.33
TOTAL			£0.33

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

Clerks expenses March 2022

Item	description	Cost
Printer ink	£68.99 divided by 3	22.99
Homeworking allowance	1 year 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022	£100.00
paper	one ream	£5.50
		£128.49

Appendix C

Bank reconciliation - as at 1st March 2022

Balance from cashbook spreadsheet		43429.06
Add unpresented payments at 28th February 2022		
		0.00
Subtract receipts after 28th February 2022		0.00
Net bank balances as at 28th February 2022		<u>43429.06</u>
Bank statements 28th February 2022		
Current account	2711.42	
Business account	<u>40717.64</u>	
		<u>43429.06</u>
Difference		0.00