

Minutes of Meeting 12th March 2024

Councillors present: Mrs S Crawford (Chair)
Mrs A Faulkner
Rev J Manley
Mr A Shephard-Price
Mr D Shirt
Mr R Smith
Mrs A Woodley

In attendance: Mr D Boeck (District Councillor)
Mr D Farndell (Clerk)
3 Members of the public

32/24 Open Forum

32.1 Clerk read out the email received from Mrs Patel in support of their planning application for Burnt Pine (24/00361/FUL), which is reproduced in Appendix D.

32.2 Karen Dignan and Cynthia Newman outlined the proposals of the working group for the D-Day 80 Commemorations on Thursday 6th June. The aim is to provide a community-based commemoration involving the Village and the Wharf based on the plan for the nation as set out by the Pageant-master. At the Community Event held on 27th of January there was a strong steer away from another beacon so homemade lanterns will provide the lamp light of peace. Local community groups have agreed to be involved including the school, history group, Parish Hall and the craft group with the Hinds Head providing a venue for an exhibition presented with the combined input from the Aldermaston and Tadley history groups (see appendix E for full details of the proposals). It was hoped that the Parish Council would take on board certain roles, which was discussed later in the meeting (see 38/24 below). The Parish Council suggested that the presentation also be made to Padworth PC, which was taken on board. Rev'd Manley queried the bell ringing aspect as the captain of the tower at St Mary's had yet to be informed. Mrs Dignan promised to send information through.

32.3 A member of the public outlined her experience on Frouds Lane with an HGV ignoring the restrictions in place and causing damage to her property and the road surface. This has been pursued directly with the haulage company and is being processed by the relevant insurance companies.

32.4 A member of the public enquired whether the anticipated planning application for the Easy Concrete site at Woodstock on Paices Hill had been received. Cllr Crawford advised that the application had been received but not yet validated by WBC.

33/24 Apologies for absence

None received.

34/24 Declarations of interest

Cllr Woodley declared an interest in the consideration of the grounds maintenance contract for 24/25 and did not vote in the decision at 41.2/24 below.

35/24 Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting

With the proviso that Cllr Shephard-Price's initial was incorrect (corrected and initialled by Cllr Crawford) the minutes of the meeting held on the 13th February 2024 were approved as a true and accurate record and signed at the end of the meeting.

36/24 APC Website

36.1 Cllr Faulkner advised that she had a video meeting with Digital House planned for Monday 18th to discuss the web pages to be included on the new website. The content for the pages will need a re-write and it was agreed that this would be split between the PC.

AP – AF to prepare a schedule of website page re-writing duties.

36.2 On other IT issues, Cllr Faulkner explained that she had requested DH to check on the protocols in place to limit spam and phishing emails and amend them if the measures were insufficient. DH had done this so the number of harmful emails should be reduced. The Clerk confirmed that the number of phishing emails received in the PC's inbox has significantly reduced. The Clerk also advised that the correction to email protocols also meant that emails could be sent directly to gmail accounts without having to be routed via the Parish Council's outlook email address.

36.3 The use of private email addresses was discussed and Mrs Faulkner advised that if the official stack mail address was linked to an outlook or gmail account it worked perfectly well. The possibility of a technical session to run through this was discussed.

AP – AF to ask DH to reset expired aldermaston.co.uk email accounts.

37/24 CIL updates

Cllr Crawford advised that WBC have confirmed that the Parish Council can pay for equipment to be installed on the Kestrels Mead playground which they will then adopt. WBC also provided contacts for companies they had used in the past. Cllr Crawford advised that she had been in touch with some of them to see what was possible in the space and within budget. One site visit had taken place and another was scheduled for 15th March.

38/24 D-Day celebrations

The Parish Council agreed that it is happy to support the proposed community activities and agreed:

- to be the contact for official correspondence
- to confirm that the PC insurance would cover the event (subject to satisfactory risk assessment and agreement by the insurance company)
- is willing to provide up to £100 funding for lamp making materials

39/24 Planning

39.1 To note receipt and comment upon new applications.

24/00361/FUL – Burnt Pine, Reading Rd. Padworth Common RG7 4QL. Erection of replacement dwelling, garage and tennis court. This follows the approval of 22/00553/HOUSE in 2022 which allowed for single storey and two storey extensions to the original Burnt Pine bungalow, to which APC had responded with no objection. **The Parish Council resolved to raise NO OBJECTION to the application.**

24/00411/OOD - BDBC 24/00457/FUL – Tadley Horizon School, Tadley Common Rd RG26 3TB. Change of use from residential school (Class C2) to educational use (Class F1)
The Parish Council resolved not to comment on the application.

39.2 To note receipt of any approvals, refusals, withdrawals and appeals
No new decisions received to date

39.3 To discuss planning enforcement cases.

39.3.1 Corbyn – an update has finally been received. The case officer has now left WBC and the case needs to be allocated to one of the two remaining officers. However, a final warning letter was issued at the end of February so any planned regularisation of the breach is not expected until the end of March beginning of April.

39.3.2 Land adjacent to Woodstock, Paices Hill – Cllr Crawford advised that the case officer is of the opinion that the land has been used for storage and it is up to others to effectively prove otherwise before any action would be taken. Whilst evidence exists that there has been enforcement action taken in the past the results of that action are hard to find and the fear is that the passage of time has effectively permitted use for general storage. Cllr Smith asked if it was possible that physical files demonstrating previous enforcement action on the site would still exist and what the escalation route was if the PC wanted to take the matter further. If the use is to be allowed, is it possible to reach an understanding of

the process so that the Parish Council can inform residents? DCllr Boeck advised that he was meeting with WBC CEO later in the week and had the Paices Hill sites on his agenda.

AP – SC to enquire into the possibility of accessing physical files

39.3.3 Cllr Smith advised that he had yet to receive a response from Planning Enforcement regarding the developments on the Padworth Sawmills site.

40/24 Highways and Footpath matters

40.1 Cllr Crawford advised that the chairman of the residents' association at Pinelands Mobile Home Park had asked if the 50mph speed restriction at the Park entrance could be reduced to 30mph. WBC have advised that on the basis of the most recent speed and accident data there is no reason to amend the current restriction. However, Cllr Crawford advised that she would make further enquiries as the visibility around the entrance is not good for either the residents or passing traffic.

40.2 Aldermaston cycleway remains flooded and unusable for walking between the Wharf and the school. Where the flooding has receded, algae make the path slippery and potentially unsafe. Rev Manley asked if there is any possibility of a temporary replacement transport. DCllr Boeck advised that it is a parental responsibility to make sure a child gets to school and therefore seek an alternative method if the means provided is unavailable.

40.3 Now that the lifting bridge at the Wharf has reopened and HGV traffic has returned to normal levels, it is apparent that traffic has slowed down. Cllr Crawford advised that she would obtain speeding data to see what difference the absence of HGV traffic made. DCllr Boeck advised that he had attended a TVP briefing where the work of Cheryl Evans and the CSW teams had received positive feedback. The CSW team in WB is the most effective CSW function and is a positive reflection on the way the parishes work with the team.

41/24 Parish Environment

41.1 Lock-up and Skate Ramp. The Clerk advised that WBC had said that the listed building consent for the work to the lock-up could not be extended and a new consent was required. The application has been made and the contractors advised. The planning application for the skate ramp was now open for consultee comments but none had been made to date.

41.2 Grass cutting contract. The quotes for the grass cutting/grounds maintenance contract had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Parish Council resolved by a majority that it would remain with Triangle Management on the basis of the previous service provided.

AP – Clerk to advise bidders as appropriate.

41.3 To raise any new parish environment issues

Cllr Crawford advised that she had been in contact with the company that had restored the Memorial Fountain as it is showing signs of greening and they had provided some alternative ideas for treatment. However, if any action is to be taken, the question was raised as to how specialist they needed to be and whether it was something that could be undertaken by local contractors.

AP - Clerk to check the paperwork for the restoration to see what, if any, treatment was applied to the fountain when it was restored.

42/24 Consultation documents requiring consideration

West Berkshire Local Plan examination – it was agreed that the opportunity for further comment on items 4 – 13 would be taken and an agreed wording would be forwarded to the Clerk in time to meet the deadline of 22 March 2024.

Consultation on the draft Hungerford Neighborhood Development Plan - deadline 31 March 2024. Not discussed.

43/24 AWE to include updates from LLC

Nothing to report.

44/24 Reports

44.1 Clerk's report

The Clerk confirmed that the playground safety inspection had been arranged and would be carried out sometime in April. He also confirmed that the drainage problem on the Aldermaston Cycleway had been reported.

The Clerk advised that complaints have been made about dogs being exercised off leads on Manor grounds and some owners being aggressive when challenged. This is not felt to be locals, rather those who have travelled in and/or possible professional dogwalkers, which is disappointing on many levels. This is causing problems for those owners whose dogs are shy of other dogs or walkers who don't like dogs. Despite reminders within the Parish Newsletters it is now felt that Praxis should be approached to enquire their views on the use of their land.

AP – Clerk to contact Praxis to explore possible ways forward.

44.2 District Councillor's report

The District Councillors report was circulated before the meeting. There were no comments or questions arising.

44.3 To receive reports from parish council representatives on outside bodies

Cllr Woodley advised that the Parish Hall was to be the venue for a wedding fair on 18th March and a Spring Fair on April 20th. She also advised that the Hall needs to replace a table for which they would need funds.

AP - Clerk to provide the grant form to the Parish Hall administrator.

45/24 Finance

To approve payments, bank reconciliation and receipts

The forthcoming payments were approved with Cllrs Faulkner and Shirt to authorise. The bank reconciliation was checked and signed at the end of the meeting.

46/24 Resolution – To exclude the public and press from items of a confidential nature that may require discussion of personnel, terms and conditions of tenders, legal proceedings or early stages of disputes in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions of Meetings) Act 1960

In a change to the agenda this resolution and item were brought forward to allow for a full vote as Cllr Woodley had to leave the meeting

47/24 To discuss appointment of new Clerk and their contract.

Mr Peter Brown application was accepted unanimously and it was decided to be offered a contract on the same basis as the current Clerk. {In order to allow the maximum hand over time it was agreed to start Peter from 18th March meaning both Clerk's would be employed for a two-week period. Peter's initial pay would be appropriately pro-rata}.

AP – SC to advise Mr Brown of the appointment and Clerk to provide copies of the contract for signing.

48/24 To receive items for information only

48.1 Following his work on the Padworth Sawmills site, Cllr Smith advised that he had found applications for operator's licences for some of the businesses working out of the site. The notifications had been placed in the Reading Chronicle and therefore would not be obvious when looking at a site that come under West Berkshire. However, the applications provide an opportunity for objections and/or observations (depending upon the status of the person making the comment) which may be a useful tool to exercise some local control over this and other sites within the parish.

He also advised that electronic gates were being installed at the entrance to the site but, as far as he was aware, no planning application had been made.

48.2 Cllr Faulkner raised the issue of litter on Rag Hill, which was apparently being dropped by van and lorry drivers consisting mainly of take away food and drink containers. It is bad that even after a resident's litter pick, the road was strewn with litter the following day. The council suggested that writing a letter to the site owners PE Harrington might help dissuade the dropping of litter on the road.

49/24 To confirm the date of the next meeting as 9th April 2024 at 7.30pm and to discuss the Annual Parish Meeting

The date of the next Parish Council meeting was agreed. However, some debate followed on the need for a Parish Meeting. Previous meetings have generated little interest amongst electors and even calling for annual reports seems unnecessary as most organisations have their own reports on their own websites. The Clerk advised that whilst the meeting was a requirement, it did not have to be called by the Parish Council chair or councillors. However, it could be called by the electors themselves. It was agreed that if an elector made the request, it would be held, otherwise no further action would be taken.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Appendix A

Aldermaston Parish Council – March 2024

Planning Applications for Consideration

	24/00361/FUL – Burnt Pine, Reading Rd, Padworth Common RG7 4QL. Application for the construction of replacement dwelling, garage and tennis court (follows approval for 22/00553/HOUSE for the demolition of the existing buildings).	22 March
	24/00411/OOD – Tadley Horizon School, Tadley Common Rd RG26 3TB. Application for a change of use from residential school (C2) to educational use (F1) Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council 24/00457/FUL	(25 March)

Planning Application Decisions

	No decisions received in this period	
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Planning Applications Awaiting Decisions

	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
	23/02501/OOD – Land adjacent to Old Kiln House, Silchester Rd., Tadley – erection of 9 apartments with associated access and parking
	23/02189/HOUSE – 1 Maidas Way, Aldermaston. Retrospective: single storey rear extension, 2 garden sheds and pergola
	23/02197/SCOPE – Aldermaston Recycling Refuse tip, Paices Hill, Aldermaston. EIA scoping opinion. The proposed development is a new sustainable recycling centre with ancillary buildings and associated infrastructure
	23/02403/OUT Willow Mead, Mill Lane Padworth RG7 4JX. Outline application for demolition of existing detached dwelling and replacement with 5 self-build services plots
	24/00048/FUL – Falcon Garage, Burghfield Rd, Tadley RG26 4QY. Application for an additional jet wash bay and installing a new store front and entrance
	23/02974/FUL – Playing Field, Station Rd, Aldermaston. Application for a mini concrete skate ramp.

Planning Enforcement Cases

Aldermaston Parish Council

Date opened	Case Ref	Location	
21/03/23	23/00185/15UNAU	Corbyn, Soke Rd	ongoing
04/09/23	23/00554/15UNAU	Land adjacent to Woodstock, Paices Hill	ongoing

Planning Appeals

Date received	Case Ref	Location	Application Ref	Status
06/10/23	APP/W0340/W/23/3324664	Cedar Lodge, Soke Rd	22/02496/FULMAJ	Not yet decided
22/11/23	APP/W0340/W/23/3327949	Youngs Ind Est, Paices Hill	22/02730/FULMAJ	Not yet decided
		Land west of Frouds Lane. Out of Parish Woolhampton PC	22/02341/FUL	Appeal notified to WBC 16/2/24

Appendix B

Revised Appendix B

Bank reconciliation - as at 29th February 2024

Balance from cashbook spreadsheet		90269.14
Add unpresented payments at 29th February 2024		
		0.00
Subtract receipts after 29th February 2024	0.00	0.00
Net bank balances as at 29th February 2024		90269.14
Bank statements 29th February 2024		
Current		
account	2614.37*	
Business		
account	87654.77*	
		90269.14
Difference		0.00

* Revised balances reflect transfer of £2000 from business account to current account 29th Feb

Appendix C

meeting financial report to 29th February 2024

Bank Balance as at 29/02/2024	Cashbook balance as at 29/02/2024	Cashbook balance after new payments made
£90,269.14	£90,269.14	£88,683.52

New items for payment

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
EP	Aldermaston & Wasing PCC	Churchyard grant	750.00
EP	Tadley CAB	Support grant	300.00
EP	Aldermaston Village Hall	Hall hire (Jan & Feb 24 £15x 2)	30.00
EP	Tactical Facilities Man	Bin emptying Feb (VAT £11.89)	71.33
EP	D Farndell	Clerk Salary (March)	267.49
EP	HMRC	Clerk PAYE (March)	66.80
EP	D Farndell	Homeworking allowance 23/24	100.00
TOTAL			£1,585.62

Payments made since last meeting

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
EP	WBC	Libraries contribution	500.00
EP	Tactical Facilities Management	Bin emptying Jan 24 (Vat £14.86)	89.16
EP	Aldermaston Parish Hall	Affiliation fee	15.00
EP	D Farndell	Feb Salary	267.29
EP	HMRC	Clerk PAYE Feb	67.00
TOTAL			£938.45

Receipts since last meeting date

Receipt Date	Payer	Details	TOTAL AMOUNT
09/02/2024	Lloyds	Interest	98.88
TOTAL			£98.88

Payments not yet presented

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
TOTAL			

Receipts not
yet cleared/or
on statement

Receipt date	Payer	Details	TOTAL COST
TOTAL			

Appendix D – Submission from Mrs Patel in support of planning application 24/00361/FUL – Burnt Pine, Reading Rd. Padworth Common RG7 4QL

Dear Parish Clerk,

Unfortunately my husband and I are not able to attend today's meeting. My husband is away presently and with the children it is proving difficult to come.

We felt we would like to share with you the reasons why we are trying to re-develop our house rather than extend it as was previously granted.

I work in Tadley and we have close family ties to the area. We employ a number of people locally. We moved into our existing house almost 12 years ago. Since then we have had children and my in laws have got older.

We had an extension approved on our house and retained the annexe that was there, however when we started looking at it in detail with our new architects we felt we could achieve something better for what our requirements really were. Something far more energy efficient and ultimately warmer than we currently have and would have had with the extension.

We wanted to incorporate the annexe into the main building as this is old and not hugely well built by one of the previous owners. This would allow us to achieve multi-generational living as my in laws continue to get older. It would mean we could still be living there and looking after them as well as for them they could stay in an area they have known for most of their life.

When we changed architects they showed us what features the local area had in terms of appearance and we felt we really wanted to take those features and build something that really looked as though it fitted in with the more traditional buildings in the area. Our previous application had not been able to achieve this partly due to adding bits on in all directions but partly because there aren't many features in the existing bungalow due to time at which it was built.

We have two boys who are both growing up and keeping us on our feet. There space requirements have changed and we do a lot more work from home now post pandemic.

We did put a planning application in which we tried to move the annexe back and this was rejected and so understandably we decided rather than separate the living spaces we could incorporate them all into one house instead so we can achieve one of our goals of multi generational living.

Overall when we took into account the points above

1. Energy efficiency
2. Multi generational living
3. Features on a house that fit in with the local architecture
4. Our two boys growing up
5. Working from home

We decided that the best way to go about this would be to demolish the existing old separate buildings and make one new energy efficient house and a garage. We hope that this has all come across in what we are seeking to build.

Thank you for your consideration and we very much hope you find that you can support our application.



D-Day 80 Commemorations Proposed Plans

Objective: To provide a community based commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the D-Day on 6th June, in line with national guidance, involving local organisations and groups, creating memories and time for reflection.

Saturday 1st June - Lantern making workshop at Aldermaston Parish Hall to support the commemorations on 6th June. Aimed at adults and children, workshops in the morning and afternoon. Lamps will be lit with led batteries/tealights. The workshop will be supported by the Aldermaston History Group and the Aldermaston Craft Group. Lantern making information also to be provided to the Schools and Cubs/Beavers and Scouts.

Thursday 6th June - D-Day Anniversary

D-Day exhibition in the Officers Mess at the Hinds Head - between 1pm and 3pm and 6 - 9.30pm. Exhibition to be led by the Aldermaston History Group, with information also provided by the Tadley History Group.

11am: **Poem for Schools** - D-Day Heroes - School activities including a poem for schools (guidance in the national pack)

6.30pm **Bell ringing** at St Mary's Church - discussions to be held on whether the church will be available for quiet reflection and a light display in commemoration of D-Day between 7 and 9pm.

National Fish and Chips Day - the Hinds Head are planning a special D-Day menu. Everyone encouraged to support national Fish and Chips Day.

9pm - **Bagpiper** - Bill Copeland - following guidance plus the National Anthem

9.15pm **The International Tribute** - wording from the national pack with poems and prayer for peace. Lord of the Manor not available, but Jim Watchorn has agreed to make the tribute.

Lamp display parade - everyone needs to be congregated with their lanterns/lamps by 9.15pm. Location to be confirmed - this could be at the Gate of the Church, at the Loosey or at the recreation ground. If the weather is poor, then the Aldermaston Parish Hall is also an option. The Scouts are proposing to walk up with lanterns to support the parade. All villagers in Aldermaston Village and the Wharf will be encouraged to have a lamp lit in their window to support the lamp light of peace.

Proposal to Aldermaston Parish Council

Aldermaston Parish Council input as follows:

1. To confirm whether these proposed activities meet APC objectives for the commemoration and provide an opportunity for further input and ideas for the organising group.
2. To confirm whether APC are willing to be the named organisation for this initiative, which will include confirmation through to the Pageantmaster.
3. To confirm whether the Public Liability insurance held by the APC would cover this event. (To note the Aldermaston History Group also have public liability insurance which would cover the exhibition and possibly the lantern making workshop.
4. To confirm whether the APC would be willing to provide any small sponsorship for the event (proposal of £100) which would support the Lanterns workshop.

Other Background Information

Please see the separate booklet provided which sets out the national proposals. This includes the Lamp Light of Peace - lighting of beacons and lamps across the UK, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and UK overseas territories. Whilst beacons will be lit across the country, on this occasion Aldermaston is not proposing a beacon. We have had wonderful beacons recently but feel that the Lamp Light of Peace with lots of lanterns will be more fitting on this occasion.

The Aldermaston and Wasing Show are proposing that hand made lanterns will be on the schedule for September's show and therefore handmade lanterns made at the workshop and in schools can be used for this purpose. D-Day will be one of the themes for the show.

Risk assessments will be submitted to the Aldermaston Parish Council and risks have been discussed by the team with mitigates being put in place

There is an option to purchase a lantern provided by the national organisation. This is at a cost of £55 and would be used at future remembrance events. The organising group did not feel that this would be something that could be justified at this stage but is noted for the APC to consider.

The national plans involve fund-raising for five charities and therefore any funds or donations on the 6th June would go to these charities.

Groups involved and consulted in these initiatives: Aldermaston History Group, Aldermaston Craft Group, Aldermaston Parish Hall, Aldermaston and Wasing Show, St Mary's Church, Aldermaston CE Primary School, Hinds Head, Aldermaston, Aldermaston Scouts. We will be working with local companies and organisations.