

ALDERMASTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of meeting 9th November 2021

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

In attendance: Mrs C McGarvie – Clerk
District Cllr Dominic Boeck
1 member of the public

143/21 Open Forum – Questions from the public including any received by phone or email

A resident attended and gave an overview of the next steps to be taken if the Skate Ramp replacement project goes ahead, as follows :-

1. Site/Location. A location has to be found and agreed. This is already known as it would be replacing the old ramp but on the other side of the recreation ground.
2. Mandate. Determine whether there is support from residents to go ahead with the project. The residents survey will be discussed in the meeting.
3. Tender. At this stage a tender document has to be agreed, a contractor selected, permitted development sought and the design finalised.
4. Funding. Once a contractor has been selected funding could be sought from several grant funders. Although it is hoped that 100% grant funding could be obtained there are some additional costs such as £285 plus VAT to subscribe to the grant platform and up to £1000 for a topographical ground survey which would need to be covered by the Parish Council.

144/21 Apologies for absence

None.

145/21 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest received.

146/21 Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting

146.1 To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held 12th October 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th October 2021 were agreed as a true and accurate record. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

147/21 Community Engagement -To provide an update on the working group for community engagement.

Clerk to put the latest newsletter in noticeboards and give details of how to sign up to receive an electronic copy.

Action: Clerk

Mrs Nurbhai to send Clerk details of local facebook groups covering the Tadley end of the Parish that Parish Council posts could be shared to.

Action: TN

Clerk to update the Parish Council mailing list to include an indication of where in the Parish the resident lives so that the coverage of communication across the Parish can be tracked.

Action: Clerk

The Community Engagement Working group will hold a meeting to discuss a possible community engagement event.

Action: SC/AF/TN/JM

148/21 To consider updated resilience plan

There has been no further progress on this item, defer to December meeting.

149/21. Planning

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

21/02550/ADV – Land adjacent to Ravenswing Farm. Lidl. Flagpole style sign and billboards

The Parish Council resolved to respond with no objection. However, the Parish Council note that when the application for this Lidl store was first submitted (19/01063/COMIND) plans were for a 'standard' format Lidl building, but that plans were subsequently amended so that the external appearance of the building was more in-keeping with the green-field and rural setting. The Parish Council would like planners to ensure that the proposed signage in this latest application is also scrutinised against setting to ensure that it too is suitable (i.e. not signage designed for a commercial retail park). The Parish Council would also like West Berkshire Council to take into account environmental concerns. In the interest of achieving the highest possible aesthetic and environmental standards at this location, we specifically ask that West Berkshire Council considers imposing a condition limiting hours and/or brightness of signage when the store is closed to both save energy and avoid excessive light pollution.

149.2 To note receipt of any approvals, refusals or withdrawals

See Appendix A below.

Mrs Faulkner reported that a resident has raised an issue about the permitted development application at Raghill Cottage. Clerk to contact the planning officer and ask whether it is relevant to the application that it may not be relative moving in to the new cabin.

Action: Clerk

149.3 To agree issues to be raised at meeting with West Berkshire Executive member for planning

A meeting with Richard Somner the West Berkshire Council Executive Member for Planning has been scheduled for 30th November. Brimpton Parish Council will chair the meeting.

It was agreed that the following topics would be put forward as agenda items:-

- Planning enforcement
Including the specific question 'What happens when a retrospective planning application is made and then withdrawn is there any follow up? e.g. Chestnut Coppice
- The cumulative impact of increased traffic caused by separate developments.
- Lack of a consistency of approach between planning case officers. For example, differences in conditions imposed on the Youngs Screwfix application and the Blacks Lake application regarding landscaping and environmental impact.
- How do West Berkshire Council plan to address the declared climate emergency in planning? What planning policies will be changed in light of climate emergency?
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150/21 Highways and Footpath matters

150.1 To discuss whether to join the Thames Valley Police Community Speedwatch programme

Mrs Crawford reported that the TME has been used in Aldermaston Wharf which showed that over 60% of northbound traffic was exceeding the ACPO speed limit of 35mph. West Berkshire Council are going to elevate their request for more enforcement from Thames Valley Police at this location.

West Berkshire Council have carried out another Speedwatch session outside of Rosebourne Garden Centre. Between 8.30 and 9.30am, 36 drivers were travelling at over 35mph and will be sent warning letters.

From 3rd November parish councils in West Berkshire can set up Community Speed Watch [CSW] groups under a Thames Valley Police scheme. Mrs Crawford will sign up to the CSW platform to find out more about what is involved and to see if we would have any suitable sites according to their criteria. The Parish Council are wary that this programme would require a lot of volunteers to spend time on the side of our busy roads, so are not sure it will be suitable for us. It would be easier if the Parish Council could work with West Berkshire Council using their Sentinel camera which removes the need for manual collection of data at the roadside; this option will be explored.

Action: SC

150.2 Any new footpath or highways issues

Mr Shirt has contacted Wasing Estate to find out their view on the Frouds Lane footway project.

A resident has reported that footpath 9 is overgrown and has broken stiles. Clerk has reported to West Berkshire Council.

151/21. Parish Environment

151.1 To discuss putting up horse aware posters in the Parish

Mrs Faulkner has spoken to the British Horse Society about the Dead Slow Campaign. The British Horse Society can provide printed posters but have indicated that permission has to be obtained from the Highways Department first. The cost of 10 signs would be approximately £135.

Mrs Faulkner to check where the signs could be attached to highways signs on Rag Hill and will speak to Padworth Parish Council about putting signs on the part of the road in their Parish.

Mrs Crawford to check for suitable sites on Paices Hill and Reading Road.

Once sites have been identified, Clerk to contact West Berkshire Highways for authorisation.

Action : Clerk/AF/SC

151.2 To discuss repairs to the lock up and next steps.

The lock up has been repointed but the contractor did not go ahead with the work to the roof as he stated that removing the concrete was too risky and could lead to collapse of the roof.

It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the Conservation officer and ask them their opinion on whether to proceed with adding leadwork to the roof or whether it would be acceptable to do nothing further.

Action: Clerk

151.3 To discuss Skate Ramp project questionnaire.

The questionnaire was discussed and changes agreed.

Clerk to make changes and make the link available to residents via the Parish Council facebook page and mailing list. Clerk to also create posters for the recreation ground and noticeboards to promote the survey as well as asking the school to put the link in their newsletter.

Action: Clerk

151.4 To consider the proposal to install an electric vehicle charging point in the Parish

Mr Smith gave details of the 'On-Street Residential Chargepoint Scheme' which provides grant funding for Parish Councils to install electric vehicle charging points. The scheme can provide up to 100% of the funding to initially install the unit.

It was agreed that location would be an issue as it has to be able to be accessed 24 hours a day and parking at the Parish Hall is limited. Ravenswing may be a possible location for a unit. Mr. Smith to send details to all councillors for consideration.

Action: RS

152/21 AWE to include updates from LLC

The next AWE LLC will be held on 30th November.

153/21 Reports

153.1 District Councillor's report

Councillor Boeck sent a monthly report before the meeting.

The Local Outbreak Engagement Board has been meeting again since the increase in Covid cases seen in September in October. These increases are largely attributed to the failure of the PCR testing process through the Newbury racecourse site. The Covid case rate has now come back down and the Local Outbreak Engagement Board will not meet again unless it is required. There are still concerns about people not being tested for Covid and not being fully vaccinated. West Berkshire Healthwatch has been asked to help improve community engagement and therefore Community United are looking for sites to park their bus to engage with residents. Cllr Boeck will be contacting the Parish Councils in Aldermaston Ward for their suggestions of where the bus should park.

153.2 To receive reports from parish council representatives on outside bodies

Padworth Common Advisory committee will meet on 13th November.

154/21 Finance

154.1 To approve payments, bank reconciliation and receipts

The bank reconciliation was checked by Chairman before the meeting.

The payments for November were approved. Mrs Crawford and Mrs Faulkner to carry out the online approval.

See appendix B below for payment list

154.2 To review the first draft of the budget for 2022/2023

The first draft of the budget was reviewed. Clerk to make changes as discussed and present at the December meeting.

155/21 To receive items for information only

155.1 Mr Shirt has been asked by a resident to raise a question about the West Berkshire School Transport Policy with Cllr Boeck. They wanted to know whether Theale Green secondary school was considered closer for Aldermaston Wharf residents than the Willink and if so why they are receiving free transport to the Willink. It was determined that the Willink is their closest school. Mr. Shirt to report back to the resident.

Action: DS

155.2 Mrs Woodley reported that there has been an increase in people taking their dogs on to the recreation ground and not picking up after them. It is thought that it is mainly people coming in through the pub gate as this does not have a 'no dogs allowed' sign. Clerk to contact the landlord of the pub to ask if a sign can be put on the gate. If they are in agreement, Clerk to provide a laminated A4 sign.

Action: Clerk

156/21 The next meeting will be on 14th December 2021 at 7.30pm in Aldermaston Parish Hall

Signed by Chairman _____

Date _____

Appendix A

Aldermaston Parish Council –November 2021

Planning Applications for Consideration

1	21/02550/ADV – Land adjacent to Ravenswing Farm. Lidl. Flagpole style sign and billboards	2nd November deadline but extension granted
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Planning Application Decisions

1	21/02294/FULD – Cedars School , Church Road. Change of use from D1 School to C3 residential to include minor building alterations and external work. Detached carport and store	Approved
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Planning Applications Awaiting Decisions

1	21/02170/HOUSE – 11 Swan Drive Single and two storey rear extension (retrospective in part) plus new rooflight on existing side roof
2	21/00642/FUL – Land Adjacent to Barlows Plantation. Retrospective use of car parking area for site training
3	21/01487/COMIND – Rosebourne, Station Road. Erection of open sided canopy extension, new garden display area and 42 additional car parking spaces.
4	21/02447/CERTP – Rag Hill Cottage The provision of a twin unit mobile home

Appendix B

Meeting Report 9th November

Bank Balance as at 31/10/2021	Cashbook balance as at 31/10/2021	Cashbook balance after new payments made
£51,204.70	£51,204.70	£46,280.20

New items for payment

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
SO	Mrs C McGarvie	November salary	288.00
EP	Triangle Management Co. Ltd	October grass cutting	208.50
EP	Triangle Management Co. Ltd	skate ramp removal	2328.00
EP	Ernest Barnes Ltd	Lockup repointing	2100.00
TOTAL			£4,924.50

Payments made since last meeting

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
EP	Mr A Woodley	Park keeping	130.92
EP	PKF littlejohn	External Audit	360.00
EP	The Good Exchange	Platform fees	161.46
EP	Triangle Management	August grass cut	208.50
EP	Aldermaston CE Primary	Newsletter printing	10.80
EP	Harry Stebbing	Noticeboard	1020.00
EP	The Good Exchange	Platform fees second payment	161.46
EP	Triangle Management	September grass cut	208.50
EP	West Berkshire Council	Library contribution	1020.00
TOTAL			£3,281.64

Receipts since last meeting date

Receipt Date	Payer	Details	TOTAL AMOUNT
22/10/2021	HMRC	VAT reclaim up to end sept21	4505.53
11/10/2021	Lloyds Bank	interest	0.32
TOTAL			£4,505.85

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 November 2021

Balance from cashbook spreadsheet		51204.70
Add unpresented payments at 31st October 2021		
		0.00
Subtract receipts after 31st October 2021		0.00
Net bank balances as at 31st October 2021		<u>51204.70</u>
Bank statements 31st October 2021		
Current account	10488.39	
Business account	<u>40716.31</u>	
		<u>51204.70</u>
Difference		0.00