

## **Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Aldermaston Parish Council held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 7:30pm in the Parish Hall, Aldermaston**

|                      |                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Councillors Present: | <b>Mrs S Crawford (Chair)</b><br><b>Mr R Smith</b><br><b>Mr A Shephard-Price</b><br><b>Mr D Shirt</b><br><b>Revd. J Manley</b><br><b>Mrs A Woodley</b><br><b>Mrs A Faulkner</b> |
| In Attendance:       | <b>District Cllr D Boeck</b><br><b>Miss A Lewis - Clerk</b><br><b>4 members of the public</b>                                                                                   |

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| 157/24 | <p><b>Open Forum</b></p> <p>A resident raised their concerns regarding the access to and through the Manor House grounds being revoked. The Church has been negatively affected due to losing vehicle access and parking. The resident queried if it was now a legal right of way, due to access being permitted for at least 20years.</p> <p>The current and prospective owners of Harbourhill Copse on Paices Hill attended. They say the leaseholder, a 4x4 club is damaging the woodland in contravention of the terms of their lease. The prospective owner is keen that the current lease is terminated prior to completing the purchase. The current owner has appointed a solicitor to terminate the lease due to the damage being caused. The prospective buyer says they will restore the ancient woodland. They have no intention to use it for motor sport but may use the gravelled clearing to the south near the A340 for storage. Both the owner and prospective owner would like APC's support in the form of a letter to the appointed solicitor stating that we disapprove of the 4x4 track because of damage being caused, which could then be used in support of their case if/when it goes to court.</p> <p>The owner of Sacron Car supermarket gave reasons for recent construction of a building at their site on Paices Hill without prior consent. They will be submitting a retrospective planning application for the development and was hopeful that his explanation would mean that the Parish Council would be supportive.</p> <p>A resident communicated concerns about the Strawberry Farm 24/02147/FUL) bungalow planning application via email. Whilst they were broadly supportive of the replacement dwelling, they had some concerns regarding parking/access and ecological impact. These concerns were taken into consideration in later discussion about the application</p> <p>An Aldermaston villager also submitted a concern via email relating to speeding and asked about the possibility of making the village a 20mph zone. This led to discussion about why this same suggestion was rejected by West Berks Council in the past and whether a pilot 20mph limit across a wide area in Theale approved in 2024 might mean we are more likely to have more success if we request a 20mph limit again. Several councillors opined that speeding was getting worse. APC will use our speed camera to get some up-to-date speeding data and discuss again considering the results.</p> |
| 158/24 | <p><b>Apologies for absence</b></p> <p>Non</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 159/24 | <p><b>Declarations of interest</b></p> <p>Non</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 160/24 | <p><b>Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting</b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024 were agreed as a true and accurate record</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 161/24 | <p><b>Planning</b></p> <p><b>24/02147/FUL</b> – Strawberry Farm. The council took into consideration the e-mail summarised in the Open Forum and decided on <b>No Objection</b> so long as a physical boundary is maintained between the residential area – shown with a red line on the planning – and the rest of the land – shown with a blue line – to ensure no unauthorised growth of the residential area.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

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|        | <p><b>24/02300/OOD</b> – The council agreed that they would respond in the same way as they responded previously in 2023. <b>Object</b></p> <p>b.) To note receipt of any approvals, refusals, withdrawals and appeals</p> <p><b>24/02273/DEMO</b> – No Comment</p> <p><b>24/01268/COND</b> – Noted approval</p> <p><b>24/01277/CERT</b> – E-mail received from Adrian Mundy regarding a concern from a resident that despite the Certificate of Lawfulness being refused, the site is continuing to be used as before. It was stated that despite this, it may not be unlawful, but West Berkshire Planning and Enforcement are aware.</p> <p><b>24/01796/NONMAT</b> – Cllr Crawford challenged the approval of change of Condition 5 and was told by enforcement that Condition 5 should not have been added originally, as it is not enforceable. Cllr Crawford then gave some updates on other outstanding planning from Adrian Mundy: -</p> <p><b>24/00320/15UNAU</b> – Enforcement is working in collaboration with AWE MOD Police and the owner of the site is engaging with the authorities and has received support and advice from officers. The issue is progressing satisfactorily.</p> <p><b>23/00185/15UNAU</b> – The site is now under the auspicious of a professional firm of Chartered Town Planners and officers remain satisfied that this is being expedited as quickly as possible, however there does need to be some flexibility around timescales.</p> <p><b>23/00554/15UNAU</b> – The owner remains certain that the site was acquired with lawful B8 storage use and as yet, officers are unable to robustly test this assertion. If APC so wish, they can write directly to the owner of what has been ascertained the use of the site to be and for how long. It was agreed that no action would be taken after this meeting, but APC will revisit this at next month's meeting.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 162/24 | <p><b>Highways and Footpath matters</b></p> <p>Revd J Manley raised concern over a wobbly and rickety footbridge over the River Kennet. She will contact WBC directly.</p> <p>Cllr Crawford to contact Jon Winstanley directly to get an update on the Padworth Sawmills Road works.</p> <p>Cllr Crawford will endeavour to reinstate the speed camera to get an up-to-date record of speed compliance in the village and if she is able, she will report to the council the findings at next month's meeting and the council can discuss the results.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 163/24 | <p><b>Parish Environment</b></p> <p>It was noted that there is a new bus service to replace the withdrawal of routes 41 &amp; 44. There is now Thatcham Connect, which is an on-demand service and Community Connect B &amp; C which are timetabled. It was noted that the Thatcham Connect service is working well and there is a wait of approx. 20minutes but you can book the bus up to a week in advance as well.</p> <p>The Wharf Parish Noticeboard has been mysteriously fixed and to a good standard. No repairs now necessary.</p> <p>Cllrs agreed that they would like to wait until next year for a tree survey, unless it is specified within the insurance policy that it is required more often. Clerk to find this detail and report back to the council via e-mail.</p> <p>Quote from Triangle received for a tree survey at the same cost as August 2023.</p> <p>Revd. J Manley has sought legal advice regarding the closure of the Manor House grounds, to which she was told as there is no written agreement with Praxis, there is no legal standing for access to be given. Revd J Manley also contacted Praxis, who own the Manor, and has an agreement with them for church users only to have access by pre-arrangement only, to be able to use the car park. The church gate has also been padlocked to stop access via the church yard. Cllr A Faulkner also made comment that it is a safe walk way for residents of Rag Hill &amp; Spring Lane to walk to the village without needing to walk along the road. Cllrs would like to write a letter on behalf of APC to Praxis to see if there is a way forward with limited permitted access for residents. This e-mail will be shared with councillors and finalised by e-mail. Once agreed it will be sent to Praxis.</p> <p>Councillors discussed the request for a letter of support for use in the court case relating to Harbourhill Copse. It was agreed that although we shared the view that any damage caused by the 4x4 use was regrettable, the current situation is a private dispute that should be dealt with by the courts and that it would be inappropriate for APC to get involved.</p> |
| 164/24 | <p><b>Consultation documents requiring consideration</b></p> <p>Cllrs agreed to not sign up to NALC's Civility &amp; Respect Pledge. The reason being that the council comply with it and feel the policies are robust enough to cover all that is needed, without the onerous task on a small council to comply with cllr training, to comply with the official Pledge.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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| 165/24 | <b>AWE to include updates from LLC</b><br>Cllrs reviewed the joint report from Cllr Crawford and Cllr Shirt from the LLC Meeting held on 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2024. It was agreed this report should be attached to the minutes as they may be of public interest.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 166/24 | <b>Reports</b><br>Clerks Report – Sadly, Revd J Manley handed in her resignation to the council. Cllr Crawford thanked her for her contributions to the council over the last 5 years. It was discussed how to recruit a new councillor to fill this position and where to promote the vacancy. Promoting the vacancy in the Newsletter, on the website, on facebook and on the Parish Noticeboards were all agreed. Councillors to create an advertisement and agree wording over e-mail and then publish.<br>Chair's Report – an overview of Jeff Brooks' talk at the District Parish Conference regarding the new 'buy into' scheme from WBC. This will replace WBC asking for contributions from councils and Parish Councils can choose which resources they wish to 'buy into'.                                                 |
| 167/24 | <b>Finance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Bank reconciliation (Appendix B) and Payment requests (Appendix C) were agreed and signed by Cllr Crawford &amp; Cllr A Shepard-Price</li><li>b. Cllrs agreed to contribute £500 to WB Libraries as per previous contributions</li><li>c. Cllrs looked over the CIL spreadsheet and agreed the figures. It was agreed to go ahead with Kestrels Mead Playground for 20k and for WBC to subsidise the rest. Clerk to send CIL spreadsheet and current Accounts to Cllr Smith for review with a specific focus on whether we should be keeping our precept at 13.5k next year. Draft v2 to be reviewed at the next meeting.</li><li>d. Cllrs looked over the draft budget for 2024/25.</li><li>e. Confirmed APC member Christmas drinks after the December PC meeting</li></ul> |
| 168/24 | <b>Confirmed the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 10th December 2024 at 7:30pm</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

## Appendix A

### Aldermaston Parish Council – September 2024

#### Planning Applications for Consideration

|  |                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|  | <b>24/02147/FUL</b> – Strawberry Farm Burghfield Road, Tadley – Replacement of fire damaged bungalow                                                                                           | <b>Consultation<br/>20/11/2024</b> |
|  | <b>24/02300/OOD</b> – Land adjacent to Old Kiln House, Silchester Road, Tadley for the erection of 9no. apartments, associated access and parking – Out of District Planning Consultation BDBC | <b>Response<br/>01/11/2024</b>     |
|  | <b>24/02273/DEMO</b> – Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed: Demolition and clearance works for 5 buildings at AWE Aldermaston.                               | <b>Deadline<br/>19/11/2024</b>     |

#### Planning Application Decisions

|  |                                                                                                                                |                                |
|--|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|  | <b>24/01268/COND</b> - Approval Emergency Plan required by 24/00048/FUL for additional jet wash bay and new unit Falcon Garage | <b>Approved<br/>10/10/2024</b> |
|  | <b>24/01277/CERTE</b> - Certificate of Lawfulness for caravan site at Four Acre Farm                                           | <b>Refused<br/>14/10/2024</b>  |
|  | <b>24/01796/NONMAT</b> – Variation of Condition 5 of 20/02527/OUTMAJ                                                           | <b>Approved<br/>09/10/2024</b> |

#### Planning Applications Awaiting Decisions

|  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|--|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <b>24/01941/CERTP – Burnt Pine, Reading Road</b> – Proposed outbuilding following the demolition of the existing building.                                                                                                                                                              |
|  | <b>24/01896/FULMAJ – Aldermaston Recycling Refuse Tip, Paices Hill, Aldermaston, RG7 4PG</b> – Development of a new sustainable recycling centre and ancillary buildings including an office, staff welfare room and associated infrastructure. <b>Objection sent 18/10/2024 to WBC</b> |
|  | <b>24/01959/RESMAJ – Blacks Lake Track Racing, Blacks Lake, Paices Hill, Aldermaston</b> – Construction of an industrial estate to comprise up to 15,917sqm of flexible commercial floorspace. <b>Objection sent 18/10/2024 to WBC</b>                                                  |
|  | <b>24/01233/FUL &amp; 24/01234/LBC - 1 - 2 Dixon Cottages Church Road</b> - Conversion of two one bed Almshouses into one two bed Almshouse – Expiry date 05/12/2024                                                                                                                    |

|  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <b>23/02403/OUT Willow Mead, Mill Lane Padworth RG7 4JX.</b> Outline application for demolition of existing detached dwelling and replacement with 5 self-build services plots – Expiry date 29/11/2024           |
|  | <b>24/01136/HOUSE &amp; 24/01137/LBC - Church Lodge Church Road Aldermaston</b> - Provision of new 3-bay oak framed garage with office accommodation above, located 6m away from the grade II listed Church Lodge |

**Planning Enforcement Cases**

| <b>Date opened</b> | <b>Case Ref</b> | <b>Location</b>                             |         |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------------|---------|
| 21/03/23           | 23/00185/15UNAU | Corbyn, Soke Rd                             | ongoing |
| 04/09/23           | 23/00554/15UNAU | Land adjacent to Woodstock, Paices Hill     | ongoing |
| 07/06/24           | 24/00320/15UNAU | Land to the east of Circus Farm, Reading Rd | ongoing |

**Planning Appeals**

| <b>Date received</b> | <b>Case Ref</b> | <b>Location</b>                         | <b>Application Ref</b> | <b>Status</b>   |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| 16/02/24             | 24/00001/WR     | Land west of Frouds Lane. Out of Parish | 22/02341/FUL           | Not yet decided |

**APPENDIX B: FINANCIAL UPDATE**

| <b>Monthly sheet October 2024</b> |                                        |                                        |                  |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------|
|                                   |                                        | Balance Bought Forward (current acct.) | 3,447.38         |
|                                   |                                        | Balance Bought Forward (savings acct.) | 89,308.08        |
|                                   |                                        | Interest                               | 73.40            |
|                                   |                                        | Precept                                | 6,750.00         |
|                                   |                                        |                                        |                  |
|                                   |                                        |                                        | <b>99,578.86</b> |
|                                   |                                        |                                        |                  |
|                                   | Viking Direct                          | Stationary                             | 75.55            |
|                                   | Cllr S Crawford                        | Printer for Clerk                      | 48.99            |
|                                   | Bibby Commercial                       | Dog Waste Empty & Litter bin Empty     | 71.33            |
|                                   | PFK Littlejohn LLP                     | AGAR - Audit                           | 252.00           |
|                                   | Abi lewis                              | Clerk Salary                           | 416.00           |
|                                   | HMRC                                   | Clerk Emergency Tax P30                | 104.00           |
|                                   | Triangle Management LTD                | Grass cut & Weed killer spray          | 301.32           |
|                                   |                                        |                                        |                  |
|                                   |                                        |                                        | <b>1,269.19</b>  |
|                                   |                                        |                                        |                  |
|                                   |                                        |                                        |                  |
|                                   | <b>Balance as at 31st October 2024</b> |                                        | <b>98,309.67</b> |
|                                   |                                        |                                        |                  |
|                                   | Current Account Balance                |                                        | 8,928.19         |
|                                   | Savigs Account Balance                 |                                        | 89,381.48        |
|                                   |                                        |                                        |                  |
|                                   |                                        |                                        |                  |
|                                   |                                        |                                        | <b>98,309.67</b> |
|                                   |                                        |                                        |                  |

## APPENDIX C: PAYMENT REQUESTS

| NOVEMBER 2024 Payment Requests                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                 |             |                      |                 |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| FROM                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | ITEM                            | INVOICE NO  | METHOD               | AMOUNT          |  |  |  |  |  |
| Abi Lewis – Clerk                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Clerk Salary + Tax Refund (Oct) | 475/VA56391 | FPO                  | 624.00          |  |  |  |  |  |
| Abi Lewis – Clerk                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Clerk Salary (Nov)              |             | SO                   | 520.00          |  |  |  |  |  |
| Aldermaston Parish Hall                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Hall Hire                       | APH-2024-41 | FPO                  | 30.00           |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tactical Facilities Management LTD                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Dog Waste & Litter Bin Empty    | SI-2463     | FPO                  | 89.16           |  |  |  |  |  |
| Triangle Management Ltd                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Grass Cutting                   | SI-2006     | FPO                  | 301.32          |  |  |  |  |  |
| SALC                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Payroll Services                | 29316       | FPO                  | 9.00            |  |  |  |  |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                 |             | <b>Payment Total</b> | <b>1,573.48</b> |  |  |  |  |  |
| <i>*Oct Clerk Salary + Tax refund to be paid ASAP after signing off as Oct pay, Clerk Salary Nov to be signed but not paid until 1/12/24 by Standing order.<br/>Clerk salary to be signed a month in advance as agreed by cllrs 08/10/24</i> |                                 |             |                      |                 |  |  |  |  |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                 |             |                      |                 |  |  |  |  |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                 |             |                      |                 |  |  |  |  |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                 |             |                      |                 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Signed.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                 |             |                      |                 |  |  |  |  |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                 |             |                      |                 |  |  |  |  |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                 |             |                      |                 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Signed.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                 |             |                      |                 |  |  |  |  |  |

## APPENDIX D: LLC MEETING REPORT

### Report on 110<sup>th</sup> meeting of AWE LLC 7th November 2024

1. We attended yesterday's meeting. There were approx. 40 reps from Parish/Ward Councillors, and similar number again of AWE "observers". Dominic didn't attend and wasn't mentioned
2. Meeting was led by Ian Rogers, the AWE CNO, their Chief Nuclear Officer. He replaces Janine Mantle, the AWE Corporate Affairs Director. Noted a new government since our last meeting. The new administration has reiterated the government commitment to maintaining a nuclear deterrent and provision of a replacement warhead.
3. There was no sign of Nick Elliott, their newish CEO. To DGS's mind, this is further evidence of the reduced role of the LLC, that used to meet 4 times per year and was chaired by their MD.
4. A regular theme throughout the meeting was their newly found openness and their recent rebranding. It is a shame this was not matched by the visibility of the slide material, that was too busy (their excuse being that the slides should have been circulated in advance – which they weren't!)
5. There was little support for my suggestion that the minutes could be shortened by only recording the agreements reached rather than being a verbatim description. (The

Minutes of LLC -109 run to 26 pages!) The explanation given was that they are read by people who didn't attend the meetings

6. It was reported that the Hub Development was on schedule, and the planned demolition work was ahead of schedule

7. Bryan Lyttle (ex WBC) was tasked with commenting on external planning. As well as noting progress with Local Plan Reviews (WBC, BDBC and Wokingham) he updated us on the Hollies appeal. The Hollies is a 32 house proposed development in the Burghfield DEPZ which was refused by WBC, appealed successfully by the applicant and then challenged by AWE, ONR & WBC and quashed. In August the Planning Inspectorate supported the principle of no new residential development in the DEPZ, and a new appeal into the Hollies was carried out in September. A decision is expected any day. Much focus on this as a test case.

8 When questioned whether AWE would intervene in objection to commercial applications like Aldermaston Recycling Bryan said no because to do so would be a contradiction given that AWE itself would be requesting development with similar impact in the future. This seemed non-sensical and a departure from the line that John Steele was taking when he made a strong, detailed objection to the Easy Concrete application in 2022. In that response John included a whole section on why the EC development was inappropriate based on its potential to put unacceptable constraints on AWEs current and future operations i.e. that constant approval of relatively small scale industrial operations in the AWE UPA could mean its own applications for necessary new facilities would be refused because of unsafe proximity to such a densely populated and developed area. He also pointed out that if nearby sites had to be evacuated or abandoned due to a radiation incident the compensation cost would fall to AWE and then in turn to the public purse. This is a conversation SC was told to pursue off-line which she intends to do!

9. In his presentation of the latest AWE Travel Plan, Andy Burnett-Cale appeared ignorant of the imminent disappearance of the #44 Bus Service, which didn't help the credibility of his reference to a bus service to the railway station! Total employee numbers for the 2 AWE sites; Aldermaston 6,966 and Burghfield in the region of 650. (In recent years SC had underestimated the Aldermaston number, thinking it to be about the 5,700 level.) This is significant given that Single Occupancy car travel to the site is 75%.

10. There was a presentation from the Future Materials Campus team which has been presenting at their Community Drop-in events to highlight the opportunities the new development will offer to local businesses and potential employees. Graham Bridgeman (ex-Deputy Leader of Conservatives when they led WBC) was keen to 'book' the team for Stratfield Mortimer annual parish conference next year. He later pointed out to SC (in a private conversation) that hosting an annual parish meeting was a statutory duty for a parish council under the 1972 Local Government Act (Part III, Parish Meetings), so maybe we need to revisit our decision to let the practice lapse post covid. If we revive the meeting we too could consider getting a guest speaker from AWE.

11. The regulators (ONR and Environment Agency) were joined by the Defence Nuclear Safety Regulator (DNSR). All 3 gave AWE a clean bill of health.

12. The presentation by Scott Davies-Hearn of AWE and Carolyn Richardson of WBC became bogged down on local issues (such as why our Emergency Plan does not feature in the WBC off-site Emergency Plans) and unfortunately ran out of time! Both reported successful completion of EP exercises that they are legally obliged to undertake; Level 1 on site exercises at Aldermaston and Burghfield in May and October 2024 and the off site ALDEX last year (next ALDEX will be March/April 2026). SC asked if WBC Emergency Planning had secured any more resources following the admission by AWE at the last LLC meeting that the ONR inspector had raised concerns about the capacity and capability within West Berkshire to support their emergency response. Carolyn Richardson told us that she had been allocated no more resources since then and in fact she is currently in danger of losing two staff, so described herself as just 'treading water'. Perhaps we consider using this revelation as reason for a follow up submission to our recent Objections to Aldermaston Recycling and the Blacks Lake applications? Our comment would be that we do not have confidence in the WBC planning department's ability to assure us that any new development in the DEPZ can be safely accommodated.

13. In the last 6 months, there have been 2 Community Complaints, over alarms and traffic. We were assured that both have been satisfactorily resolved.

14. AWE claim to have a good relationship with the Peace Movement, and no surprises (Protestor Activity) are expected.

15. The Community team gave us a summary of all the activities that they'd done in schools within a 20 miles radius to promote STEM subjects (reached 30 primary and 82 secondary schools in the last 12 months). To mark the 75 anniversary of AWE they will also be hosting an exhibition in Newbury Museum from 2<sup>nd</sup> December which will include objects from their archive.

16. AWE now has a 4 person drone team using the technology in all sorts of useful ways; mapping the site, using thermal cameras to identify leaks to rooves and pipes, and giving an otherwise unseen perspective on explosives tests. An enthusiastic team with some impressive kit!

17. The next meeting (LLC-111) is scheduled for 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025 (ie 2 meetings per year).

Mrs S Crawford & D G Shirt  
8<sup>th</sup> November 2024