

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Aldermaston Parish Council held on Tuesday 10th December 2024 at 7:30pm in the Parish Hall, Aldermaston

Councillors Present:	Mrs S Crawford (Chair) Mr R Smith Mr A Shephard-Price Mrs A Woodley Mrs A Faulkner
In Attendance:	District Cllr D Boeck Miss A Lewis - Clerk 2 members of the public

169/24	Open Forum The agent acting for application 24/02545/FUL, for a replacement dwelling at Cedar Lodge, gave some background. The plans are an alternative scheme to a 2022 application for a replacement dwelling at the site which was refused in 2023 and unsuccessfully appealed in 2024. Current plans are for a smaller house with design changes to address reasons cited by the Planning Inspector for the refusal.
170/24	Apologies for absence Cllr D Shirt
171/24	Declarations of interest Cllr S Crawford declared an interest in relation to 24/02271/LBC
172/24	Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting The minutes of the meeting held on 12 th November 2024 were agreed as a true and accurate record with 1 amendment of a councillor's name being mis-spelled. This will be amended and re-published.
173/24	Planning a.) To note receipt and comment upon new applications 24/01959/RESMAJ – Reserved Matters for Blacks Lake Industrial Estate - The additional information relating to this Reserved Matters application were discussed and APC agreed that these did not sufficiently address concerns raised by APC, in particular, the shared entrance, with two other industrial compounds, neither of which have planning permission. The agent has confirmed that vehicle movements from adjacent sites sharing their site entrance are not included in the Trip Attraction analysis in the 2020 Transport Statement (which was what was approved in the Outline Consent). APC has concern about the true impact of the increase of HGV's on the road going to and from the site. APC also notes concerns about insufficient parking and inadequate drainage plans- Object 24/01997/FUL – Replacement portacabin, AWE – to replace 5 other portacabins - No Objection 24/02271/LBC – Replacement windows, Barn End House - Cllr S.C to abstain. Windows require replacement to effectively maintain the building as well as adding security, the windows will be in keeping with the building itself - No Objection 24/02545/FUL – Replacement dwelling, Cedar Lodge - The council discussed what was said in Open Forum and agreed No Objection 24/01234/LBC – Amended Heritage Statement, Dixons Cottage - No Objection b.) To note receipt of any approvals, refusals, withdrawals and appeals 24/02467/PDNOT – Works at Aldermaston Sewage plant - Carried out as Permitted Development 24/02273/DEMO – Prior approval for demolition, AWE - Approval Not Required 23/02403/OUT – 5 self-build plots, Willow Mead - Refused - reflects APC concern over access and flooding

	c.) To discuss planning enforcement cases Young's Industrial Estate – It was noted that Young's has submitted a retrospective planning application for a scaffolding yard next to Screwfix. APC noted that there were other similar areas of development outside the Protected Employment Area and agreed to ask WBC Enforcement to ascertain whether this also requires retrospective consent. APC has concern that any unauthorized development in our parish could negatively impact our local roads and safety in the DEPZ.
174/24	Highways and Footpath matters Blok & Mesh – A resident raised serious concern about the safety of Rag Hill Road with the increase in large lorries using this road to access the new Blok & Mesh business at Padworth Sawmills causing many issues for other road users. Cllrs share these concerns. It was agreed that cllrs will draft a letter to Blok & Mesh requesting their vehicles be driven considerately and that they avoid weight limited routes. WBC Highways have also been made aware.
175/24	Parish Environment Cllrs briefly spoke about Harbour Hill Copse and have agreed to maintain their position that it is unfortunate that woodland is being damaged, but will not become involved in a civil dispute. Cllr Smith raised the issue of recent power cuts and the delay in SSE returning power to homes and carrying out needed tree maintenance, which has been promised. It was agreed that Cllr Smith and Cllr Faulkner will draft a letter to send to SSE.
176/24	Consultation documents requiring consideration The council agreed that they were in favour of councillors being able to join the meetings remotely and vote by proxy, if the need were to arise. However, the expectation is still that councillors will attend in person. The Clerk will respond to HALC on the council's behalf. The Clerk reported that the result from the Casual Vacancy Notice would be available on the 11th December 2024. If there is no need to hold an election, it was agreed the council would publicise the vacancy and work proactively to co-opt a new councillor.
177/24	AWE to include updates from LLC No updates
178/24	Reports District Councillor's report – District Cllr D Boeck gave a brief overview of his November report which included a reminder to the council that the deadline for the members bid is 5th January 2025. Cllr S Crawford will chase-up with the progress of Kestrels Mead playground and if WBC can now not fund the extra amount for the metal feet, the council may make a bid to bridge the gap between APC's budget and the actual cost of the playground. Cllr D Boeck also noted the new CEO, Joseph Holmes. Clerks Report – It was confirmed that there was no set time frame in the insurance documents for Tree Surveys to be carried out, and other Parish Councils have surveys every 1-4years. The Clerk suggested the next tree survey be when the trees do not have leaves and before the council needs to get quotes for insurance next year. It was agreed to re-visit this in early spring 2025. The clerk advised that the council had been approached by South Central Community Integration Team asking if APC would be willing to take on an offender for unpaid work as part of their community payback. It was agreed that as a council we do not have capacity to do this, however the clerk will respond and request clarification on if councillors would need to supervise work and what kind of work would be suitable. It was suggested that Padworth Common BBOWT may be interested in this while they are clearing the common. It was raised to the clerk that 4 bins at Paices Hill may be being removed and was asked if the council would like to pay for their emptying to keep them. It was agreed the council would not fund these due to the land being owned by a business (Youngs Industrial Estate) and run by the BBOWT. The agreement being the financial burden should go to the business owning the land. The Clerk requested if the council would be happy to pay for accrued holiday. This holiday was accrued due to the clerk being new in post and was learning the job, so did not take any annual leave. The council agreed this payment, to be paid next year. It was noted that the clerk will be able to manage their annual leave next year more effectively to not accrue it. Cllr A Woodley reported that the Winter Fair raised £1,259!

179/24	Finance a. Bank reconciliation (Appendix B) was noted as having an error, this will be corrected and signed at January's meeting. Payment Requests (Appendix C) was signed by Cllr R Smith and Cllr A Shephard-Price b. Cllrs looked over 2025/2026 Budget and were happy with it with one amendment that the £500 given to West Berks Libraries was listed under grants. It was agreed that the Precept request is likely to remain at £13,500, but both the Budget and Precept will be agreed and finalised at January's meeting
180/24	Confirmed the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 14th January at 7:30pm

Appendix A

Aldermaston Parish Council – December 2024 Planning Applications for Consideration

	24/01959/RESMAJ – Blacks Lake, Paices Hill – Amended plans/additional information to consider	
	24/01997/FUL – AWE Aldermaston – The removal of 5no. existing portacabins and the erection of one large portacabin to comprise Welfare Facilities	
	24/02271/LBC – Barn End House, Paices Hill, Aldermaston – 4 windows on 1 st floor to be replaced with bespoke timber windows in style of existing but with double glazing	
	24/02467/PDNOT – Sewage Treatment Works Fishermans Lane, Aldermaston - Thames Water to undertake works under Permitted Development Rights	
	24/02545/FUL – Cedar Lodge, Soke Rd, Silchester – Erection of replacement dwelling following removal of existing	
	24/01234/LBC – 1-2 Dixon Cottages, Church Rd - Additional drawings/amended plans	

Planning Application Decisions

	24/02467/PDNOT – case closed	22/11/2024
	24/02273/DEMO – No prior approval needed	19/11/2024
	23/02403/OUT – Outline Plan Refused	29/11/2024

Planning Applications Awaiting Decisions

	24/02300/OOD – Land adjacent to Old Kiln House, Silchester Road, Tadley for the erection of 9no. apartments, associated access and parking – Out od District Planning Consultation BDBC	
	24/02147/FUL – Strawberry Farm Burghfield Road, Tadley – Replacement of fire damaged bungalow	
	24/01941/CERTP – Burnt Pine, Reading Road – Proposed outbuilding following the demolition of the existing building.	
	24/01896/FULMAJ – Aldermaston Recycling Refuse Tip, Paices Hill, Aldermaston, RG7 4PG – Development of a new sustainable recycling centre and ancillary buildings including an office, staff welfare room and associated infrastructure. Objection sent 18/10/2024 to WBC	

	24/01959/RESMAJ – Blacks Lake Track Racing, Blacks Lake, Paices Hill, Aldermaston – Construction of an industrial estate to comprise up to 15,917sqm of flexible commercial floorspace. Objection sent 18/10/2024 to WBC – Consultation 05/12/2024
	24/01233/FUL & 24/01234/LBC - 1 - 2 Dixon Cottages Church Road - Conversion of two one bed Almshouses into one two bed Almshouse – 24/01233/FUL has amended documents, expiry date 18/12/2024
	24/01136/HOUSE & 24/01137/LBC - Church Lodge Church Road Aldermaston - 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

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
07/06/24	24/00320/15UNAU	Land to the east of Circus Farm, Reading Rd	ongoing

Planning Appeals

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

APPENDIX B: FINANCIAL UPDATE

Monthly sheet November 2024			
		Balance Bought Forward (current acct.)	8,928.19
		Balance Bought Forward (savings acct.)	89,381.48
		Interest	80.81
	Parish Hall	Meeting Room Hire	30.00
	Bibby Commercial	Dog & litter bin empty	89.16
	Triangle Management	Grass Cutting	301.32
	SALC	Payroll Servcies	9.00
	Abi Lewis	Clerk Salary + Tax Refund (Oct Pay)	624.00
	West Berks Council	Library Contribution	500.00
			1,553.48
	Balance as at 30th November 2024		96,837.00
	Current Account Balance		7,374.71
	Savigs Account Balance		89,462.29
			96,837.00

APPENDIX C: PAYMENT REQUESTS

DECEMBER 2024 Payment Requests				
FROM	ITEM	INVOICE NO	METHOD	AMOUNT
Abi Lewis - Clerk	Clerk Salary (Dec)		SO	520.00
West Berks Council	Contribution to Library Service	612241	FPO	500.00
Tactical Facilities Management LTD	Dog Waste & Litter Bin Empty	SI-2614	FPO	71.33
Thomas Landscape Services	Grass Cutting	INV-1008	FPO	301.32
Aldermaston Parish Hall	Hall Hire	APH-2024-55	FPO	15.00
Abi Lewis - Clerk	Printer Ink Cartridges	6666835129	FPO	35.24
Digital House	Website Hosting - Annual Cost	INV-13020	FPO	172.80
			Payment Total	1,615.69
Note - Triangle Management is now Thomas Landscape Services LTD				
Note - Contribution to Library Service was paid in November, it was agreed at Nov monthly meeting but not on payment requests form				
Signed.....				
Signed.....				