

Minutes of the Meeting of Aldermaston Parish Council held on Tuesday 10th March 2026 at 7:30pm in the Parish Hall, Aldermaston

Councillors Present:	Mrs S Crawford (S.C) Mr R Smith (R.S) Mr A Shephard-Price (A.SP) Mr D Shirt (D.S) Mr E Tilsley (E.T) Mr M Carter (M.C)
In Attendance:	Mr D Boeck (District Councillor) (D.B) Miss A Lewis – Clerk 2 representatives from AWE 2 Member of the Public

Ref No	Agenda Items	Actions
026/26	Open Forum – 2 representatives from AWE spoke on the MOD's purchase of Aldermaston Park (AP) on 5th Feb 2026, their temporary use of the park for contractor parking and plans going forward. They wanted to make clear that the MOD's purchase of the land was not for additional parking, and this plan was agreed after the purchase and is a temporary solution to their parking difficulties on site, they are looking to increase AWE's on-site parking to 5,000. Security was a major factor in the purchase being that AP shares a boundary with AWE. The temporary parking at AP is for construction workers who are then taken via minibus to site, this is to try and limit the traffic at AWE gates in the mornings. They have also increased security on the West and Main gates to increase the speed of security checks to allow cars on-site and decrease back-up on the roads. There are approx. 190 cars currently using AP and traffic has been checked by AWE in the mornings to see the impact on local roads. Parking by vans on Tadley residential streets was reported to AWE and those drivers have been spoken to and told not to park in these areas in future. AWE recognises it needs to be more 'hands on' with monitoring staff & contractors parking habits. It was noted there is no set 'start time' for staff, however this will be looked at to try and limit a bottleneck of traffic at specific times. They noted buildings and environment will be respected under their ownership. Those attending St. Mary's Church will be able to park in the designated area as they have previously. AWE will look at reinstating access to the grounds for dog walkers, but are still working out how this will be achieved in mind of their security needs. Questions: - 1. How many vehicles enter AWE site each day? Approx 3,500. 2. When will on-site construction be complete and if an off-site park & ride is to be built elsewhere, how will that impact Aldermaston? There is an on-going infrastructure pipeline that will require a considerable number of contractors on site for many years, which must be acknowledged. We will carefully consider the impact of any new car park on the local highways and villages. 3. 'Boiler House' gate seems more heavily used recently causing some problems. AWE does reinforce to staff that they are not to turn against traffic when leaving boiler house gate to try to ease congestion. The A340 gate opposite Young's is currently not in use. 4. Are there plans for the MOD to purchase more land around AWE site to help with security? There are tests to purchase any available land which is not straight forward. The nature of AP and its proximity to AWE meant it was a more sensitive area than land separated by a road. 5. We have had residents ask about the current unauthorised development opposite AWE main gate and if this poses an increased security threat? We can not comment on the security relating to this development but we are in close contact with WBC relating to it. We are aware some of the land in question is for sale. MOP said that the increase in traffic, from 6am, is very heavy and this lasts 1hr. It shakes the buildings and is like 'living next to a motorway'. The temporary car park is open 6-7am to avoid school time traffic and fit with construction working hours. 6. Do you conduct speed checks? No, AWE is not permitted to on highways. 7. MOP stated this is a country road and being over used. Can the cars go via Red Lane instead? AWE will look into this and we will feed back to drivers about considerate driving through the village.	

Aldermaston Parish Council
Email: parishclerk@aldermaston.co.uk

	AWE noted all issues and questions raised and were thanked for their time and speaking. They confirmed their attendance and speaking at the Annual Parish Meeting in April with more up-dates.	
027/26	Apologies for absence	
028/26	Declarations of interest	
029/26	Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting The minutes of the meeting held on 10 th February were agreed (D.B struck from attending) and signed.	
030/26	Planning a.) To note receipt and comment upon new applications. 26/00388/OOD / 26/00387/OOD - Chapel Of The Countess Of Huntingdons Chapel Lane Aldermaston RG7 4QE – O of DPC BDBC: Ref 26/00299/LBC - Erection of single storey extension and reconfiguration of existing school room amenities to provide community meeting space/pop up café/ kitchen and toilet facilities – No Objection. APC is supportive of this however would like to see consideration given to the impact on the local roads and the possibility of reducing the speed limit in specific locations near this development for the safety of residents, specifically those elderly residents from Pinelands Park. 26/00212/FUL – Compound A, A1 & A4 Youngs Industrial Estate, Paices Hill - Section 73 application to remove conditions 6 (Drainage) 8 (External Lighting) and 9 (Landscaping Scheme) of approved 25/00395/FUL - Compound A and A1 and A4 Youngs Industrial Estate Paices Hill Aldermaston Reading – Object – APC accepted condition 6 removal. Condition 8 APC wanted the wording revised not removed, new wording to make clear that any future external lighting would require planning permission, and Condition 9 retained. 26/00450/COND - Youngs Industrial Estate, Paices Hill - Application for Approval of Details Reserved by Condition7 (External Lighting) of planning permission 25/00357/FUL – No Comment 26/00140/FULMAJ - Land at End Of Charlotte Close, Hermitage, Thatcham - Erection of 16 dwellings and associated landscape and highway works. Section 73 application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of Planning Permission 20/00912/FULEXT – No Comment b.) To note receipt of any approvals, refusals, withdrawals and appeals 25/02876/FUL – Strawberry Farm, Burghfield Rd - Section 73: Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) of planning reference 24/02147/FUL (Replacement of a fire damaged bungalow). Amendments to the approved drawings to allow for changes to the dwelling and site plan – REFUSAL 25/00396/FUL - Retrospective planning application for a temporary residential lodge (Use Class C3) – Youngs Industrial Estate – REFUSAL The above Refusals were noted – no comments. c.) To discuss established Planning Enforcement Cases & new reports of potential unauthorised activity It was noted the 3 day court hearing for the unauthorised development on Reading Rd/Strawberry Farm is set for April. There is a plot for sale and it is being sold as a 'yard' not residential. There is concern this site will become a B8 site. The owners are committing offenses by ignoring the Stop Notices issued by WBC and D.B has raised this with WBC and why they are not enforcing action against them. d.) To raise any new planning developments S.C up-dated APC on Padworth Swamills; a site visit took place on 24th Feb but the EAPC meeting planned for 4th March was cancelled last minute. It is not clear when or whether the application will be on a future EAPC agenda. SC and DB trying to find out reason for the March cancellation and the new application determination date. APC considered seeking legal advice on this development and it was agreed to contact Keystone Law to explore strength of case and cost of any legal opinion. 2 residents have said they would contribute to legal costs.	Clerk/S.C Clerk/S.C
031/26	Highways and Footpath Matters a.) S.C up-dated that the shared SID that was damaged while in the care of Beenham PC is irreparable. We await an up-date to see if BPC's insurance will replace it.	
032/26	Parish Environment a.) To up-date on the iron railings at the rec ground – Clerk up-dated that WBC has requested more information from the contractor to enable them to close the pathway to complete the railings replacement. It was agreed the clerk would look into grants with the current quote for works. b.) Using PlaySafe for the RoSPA was agreed. Inspection will take place in April. c.) S.C sent an e-mail asking if affordable housing would be considered for Aldermaston given the DEPZ. S/C will share this e-mail with councillors.	Clerk
033/26	Consultations a.) APC agreed to WBCs request for PCs to respond to the Government Consultation on Local Government Reorganisations – we agree with WBC that the option more beneficial to us would be the 'two unitary authorities' proposal and will complete the survey to reflect this view b.) Thatcham proposed New Community Hub – No Comments	S.C

Aldermaston Parish Council
Email: parishclerk@aldermaston.co.uk

034/26	AWE LLC up-date AWE will speak at the APM.	
035/26	Casual Councillor Vacancy APC voted and it was unanimously agreed to co-opt Des Farndell.	Clerk
036/26	Grant request APC decided against organising a Armed Forces Day event, APC recognises and respects the contribution of our armed forces but doesn't have a military affiliation that justifies us hosting an event.	
037/26	Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Council Meeting Clerk up-dated APC on current confirmed speakers. S.C to contact Aldermaston History Group and A.SP to contact Aldermaston Scouts for their attendance. It was agreed for APC to book the main hall rather than the Billiards Room. AWE as a main speaker with Q&A is hoped to bring a larger audience. Refreshments were agreed.	Clerk
038/26	Audit APC agreed to employ C. Connell to complete APC's internal audit.	Clerk
039/26	Reports a. Clerks Report – Clerk reported that MailChimp's free account has been suspended due to too many subscribers. It was agreed to remove councillors from the mailing list to advertise the APM and APC will consider other more permanent options for communications in May. Thomas Landscapes has requested to move one of the April grass cuts of the Rec to this month due to grass growth – approved. Clerk reminded APC of her annual leave w/c 23 rd March. b. District Councillor – c. R.S is attending Padworth Common meeting on 14/03/2026, if any cllrs would like him to ask any questions, please get it touch.	
040/26	Finance a. Payments and Bank Reconciliation were agreed and signed – Appendix B and C.	
041/26	Confirmed the date of the APC and next monthly meeting 14th April 2026 at 7:30pm	

Appendix A:

Aldermaston Parish Council – March 2026

Planning Applications for Consideration

26/00212/FUL	Compound A, A1 & A4 Youngs Industrial Estate, Paices Hill - Section 73 application to remove conditions 6 (Drainage) 8 (External Lighting) and 9 (Landscaping Scheme) of approved 25/00395/FUL - Compound A and A1 and A4 Youngs Industrial Estate Paices Hill Aldermaston Reading (consultation deadline 26/02/2026 – extension requested)	
26/00388/ODD / 26/00387/ODD	Chapel Of The Countess Of Huntingdons Chapel Lane Aldermaston RG7 4QE – O of DPC BDBC: Ref 26/00299/LBC - Erection of single storey extension and reconfiguration of existing school room amenities to provide community meeting space/pop up café/ kitchen and toilet facilities	
26/00140/FULMAJ	Land at End Of Charlotte Close, Hermitage, Thatcham - Erection of 16 dwellings and associated landscape and highway works. Section 73 application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of Planning Permission 20/00912/FULEXT	

Planning Application Decisions

25/02876/FUL	Strawberry Farm, Burghfield Rd - Section 73: Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) of planning reference 24/02147/FUL (Replacement of a fire damaged bungalow). Amendments to the approved drawings to allow for changes to the dwelling and site plan	REFUSED
25/00396/FUL	Retrospective planning application for a temporary residential lodge (Use Class C3) – Youngs Industrial Estate	REFUSED

Planning Applications Awaiting Decisions

26/00059/FUL	The Old Mill House, Station Road - Retrospective erection of timber store cabin in car park area of wedding venue for storage of equipment (Consultation date – 13/02/2026)	
25/02880/HOUSE	26 Maidas Way, Aldermaston - Construction of a single-storey rear extension including excavation within 3 metres of the neighbouring property, and/or work on a party wall as defined by the Party Wall etc. Act 1996 (extension to respond – 14/01/2026)	
25/02391/COND	Blacks Lake Track Racing, Paices Hill - Approval of details reserved by Condition (29) Drainage of planning permission 20/02527/OUTMAJ	
25/01915/FULMAJ	Padworth Sawmills, Rag Hill – Part retrospective retention of storage shed, entrance gate, gabion walls, railings and hard surface	
25/02203/FULMAJ	Site of Unit A, Youngs Industrial Estate, Paices Hill – Reconsideration of application 24/02552/FULMAJ following its quashing by the High Court: Construction of industrial units (Class E/B8) in a single building	
25/01226/FUL	Sascron Ltd, The Smallholding – Retrospective construction of an industrial building for preparing cars for sale and MOT testing facility (expiry date 19/08/2025)	

Planning Enforcement Cases

Date opened	Case Ref	Location	
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
	24/0008315/UNAU	Padworth Sawmills	Ongoing
	24/0034115/UNAU	Padworth Sawmills	Ongoing
	25/0022815/UNAU	Land North of Tory House	Ongoing
	25/0022715/UNAU	Scrap Yard	Ongoing

Aldermaston Parish Council
Email: parishclerk@aldermaston.co.uk

Planning Appeals

Date received	Case Ref	Location	Application Ref	Status
10/06/2025	APP/W0340/W/25/3367065	Church Lodge, Church Rd, Aldermaston	24/01136/FUL	Not yet decided
16/02/24	24/00001/WR	Land west of Frouds Lane. Out of Parish	22/02341/FUL	Not yet decided
	11/-1563/FULD	Chestnut Coppice, Raghill - Certificate of Lawful Use for Non-compliance with conditions 12 13 & 14 attached to planning permission	24/00911/CERTE	Not yet decided

APPENDIX B: FINANCIAL UPDATE

Aldermaston Parish Council

Bank account: Community Account

Date range: 01/02/2026 to 28/02/2026

Date	Reference	Supplier / Customer	Description	Receipt	Payment	Balance
			Opening balance b/fwd			£2,590.32
02/02/2026	Clerk Salary	Abi Lewis - Clerk	Clerk Salary (Jan)		672.64	
12/02/2026	TRANSFER	Savings Account - APC	TRANSFER	10,000.00		
17/02/2026	476263987	Lloyds Bank	Service Charge		4.25	
23/02/2026	475PF00175479260	HMRC	National Insurance		38.35	
23/02/2026	AbigailLewisFILC	SLCC Enterprises	FILCA course for Clerk		168.00	
23/02/2026	APH-2026-179	Aldermaston Parish Hall	Hall Hire		15.00	
23/02/2026	ChristmasDrinks2	Cllr Sophie Crawford	Christmas Drinks Dec 2025		41.50	
23/02/2026	Feb26	Abi Lewis - Clerk	Mileage		16.20	
23/02/2026	SI-4984	Tactical Facilities Management Ltd	Dog and Waste Bin Empty		77.27	
		Total Payments			1,033.21	
			Closing balance			£11,557.11

Bank account: Savings

Date	Reference	Supplier / Customer	Description	Receipt	Payment	Balance
			Opening balance b/fwd			£67,962.30
09/02/2025	INTEREST	Lloyds Bank	INTEREST	30.72		
12/02/2026	TRANSFER	COMMUNITY ACCOUNT - APC	TRANSFER		10000	
			Closing balance			£57,993.02

APPENDIX C: PAYMENT REQUESTS

March 2026 Payment Requests				
FROM	ITEM	INVOICE NO	METHOD	AMOUNT
Aldermaston Hall	Hall Hire	APH-2026-198	FPO	30.00
Tactical Facilities Management	Dog & Waste Bin Empty	SI-5153	FPO	77.27
HMRC	National Insurance	475PFOO1754792611	FPO	38.35
Abi Lewis	Clerk Salary		FPO	672.64
Abi Lewis	Mileage	Mar-26	FPO	13.50
			Payment Total	831.76
Signed.....				
Signed.....				