

ALDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held in Aldbury Memorial Hall
Monday 4 April 2022 at 8pm**

MINUTES

In attendance: Cllr Stretton (Chair), Cllr McCarthy (Vice Chair), Cllr de la Bedoyere, Cllr Holton, Cllr Webb

Gosia Turczyn – Aldbury Parish Clerk

No members of the public.

21/218 Chair's Welcome.

The Chair welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

21/219 Apologies for absence.

The Council accepted apologies sent by Cllr Juniper, Cllr Houghton, Cllr O'Neill and County Cllr Symington.

21/220 Declarations of Interests and Dispensations.

Cllr McCarthy declared an interest in HAPTC as the Chairman of HAPTC.

21/221 Public Participation.

None.

21/222 Hertfordshire Police.

Not present. Clerk received an update from PCSO Martin Leadbitter about crimes that were reported in Aldbury Parish during March 2022:

On 8th March the rear number plate of a Blue Ford Fiesta parked in the playing fields on Stocks Road was stolen. This crime remains undetected.

21/223 Minutes of the meeting held on 7th March 2022.

Minutes of the meeting held on 7th March 2022 were PROPOSED BY Cllr Webb and SECONDED BY Cllr McCarthy as being correct and were to be signed by the Chair.

21/224 Aldbury Parish Assembly.

The Parish Assembly will be taking place on the 25th April at 20:00 in the Memorial Hall with County Cllr Symington as the guest speaker. The Council had agreed to provide some wine.

21/225 Warden's Update.

The Council discussed the following matters:

1. HCC confirmed that work had been scheduled to repair two defective streetlamps.

Signed *S Stretton* Date 09.05.22

2. Wooden post supporting the entrance gate at the allotments is wobbly and there is a large split in the playground entrance gate. The Clerk will obtain a quote to repair the defects for the next meeting.
3. The Clerk will investigate whose responsibility it would be to clear the fallen tree obstructing the Stoneycroft ditch.

21/226 Aldbury Pond.

The Council had approved clearance of the pond at a cost of £950 plus VAT and a skip hire at a cost of £290 plus VAT, which will be provided by the contractor. The work will be carried out by Clearwater Pond and Lake Management Ltd before the May Fair.

21/227 To approve the recommendations by the Staffing Committee.

The Council resolved to accept the recommendations of the Staffing Committee regarding the Clerk's new contracted hours, which will increase from 12 to 15 hours per week. This had come to effect from 1st April 2022 for payroll.

21/228 Speeding and Parking.

1. Stoneycroft parking.

Cllr Holton reported that vehicles had been still parking on the grass verge at Stoneycroft. Dacorum Borough Council, who is responsible for the public land at Stoneycroft had suggested putting wooden posts. The Parish Council considered donating towards the cost of implementing this parking measure, should this be required.

21/229 Glover Landscapes Review (National Parks and AONBs).

It was confirmed that the survey response had been submitted.

21/230 Allotments.

A plot holder requested a gate or bollard to be installed at the entrance to the allotments as a number of people, who are not plot holders, had been parking by the paddock either during the day or overnight. The Council resolved to monitor the situation.

21/231 Recreation Ground.

1. The Clerk liaised with Aldbury Sports Club (ASC) suggesting reviewing of the current agreement between the Sports Club and the Parish Council. The ASC had acknowledged higher cost of grass cutting of the Recreation Ground in 2022 and had made a proposal to cover the cost and pay rent to the APC. Cllr Webb and Cllr de la Bedoyere will draft a list of enquiries, which the Clerk will pass to the ASC. Work in progress.
2. Cllr de la Bedoyere obtained photographic evidence showing that the official footpath located behind the Pavilion has never been followed. The Council suggested sending the photographs to the Countryside Access Officer at DBC asking for advice.
3. It was approved unanimously to spray the basketball court with weed killer at a cost of £30. Cllr Stretton will check the surface and trees around the basketball hoop and report back.

Signed



Date

09.05.22

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21/232 Planning Matters.

Application(s):

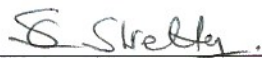
- 22/00692/TPO Works to trees. Ashdown Station Road Tring Station Tring Hertfordshire HP23 5QU No objection.
- 22/00382/FHA Construction of a single storey timber clad garden building. Toms Barn Stocks Road Aldbury Tring Hertfordshire HP23 5RU No comment.
- 22/00732/FHA Replacement Conservatory to single storey rear extension. Appletree Toms Hill Road Aldbury Tring Hertfordshire HP23 5SA No comment.
- Notification for prior approval for a proposed change of use of agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (Class C3), and for associated operational development 22/00851/APA Change of use of land from agricultural to residential Orchard Cottage Stocks Road Aldbury Tring Hertfordshire HP23 5RX
The parish council resolved to object to this planning application based on the following:
 1. Confirmation of "prior approval" (which is not an application for full planning permission) should be rejected as being an inappropriate approach to the change of use of the land from agricultural to residential. No justification for the change has been put forward.
 2. Confirmation of "prior approval" (which is not an application for full planning permission) should be rejected as being an inappropriate approach to the change of use of an agricultural building to a dwelling house (Class C3). No justification for the change has been put forward.
 3. If "prior approval" were to be confirmed, this would be a step towards undesirable residential infilling in the AONB.
 4. If "prior approval" were to be confirmed, this would add to the existing access problems in a narrow country road.
 5. Development is not permitted in view of the Chilterns Beechwood SAC Development Restrictions.

Decision(s):

- 22/00131/LBC Replacement of modern window with doors Town Farm Stocks Road Aldbury Tring Hertfordshire HP23 5RU Granted
- 22/00426/TCA Works to trees. Old Rectory Toms Hill Road Aldbury Tring Hertfordshire HP23 5SA Raise No Objection
- 21/04421/DRC Details as required by 6 (Hydrants) and 7 (scheme of investigation) attached to planning permission 20/00136/FUL (Demolition of barn, indoor school and hay barn. Construction of 6 No. dwellings) Pendley Farm Station Road Tring Hertfordshire HP23 5QY Granted
- **Habitats Regulations Assessment and Planning Applications.**

A document in draft had been produced by DBC which can be found on their website, outlining concerns for natural habitats in the areas including Ashridge, part of Chilterns, Tring Woodlands and Aldbury radius up to Church

Signed



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Farm. DBC will be holding a virtual briefing on the 20th April and the Clerk will find out whether the briefing will be made available to the public.

21/233 NALC Smaller Councils Committee letter to small councils.
Cllr McCarthy gave brief introduction and members noted the content.

21/234 Clerk's Report and Correspondence.

1. Great British Spring Clean 2022
The event will be held on 23rd April at 10 am with Cllr Houghton leading it. Tea and coffee will be provided after the litter pick at the Memorial Hall and the Clerk will post a note on Facebook asking volunteers to bring cakes. The equipment and maps of the route will be available to volunteers. A risk assessment will be carried out before the event takes place and will be sent to DBC.
2. Queen's Green Canopy.
The Council sought recommendations from Barchams with regards to what tree would be best suited to plant at the Green for the Queen's Green Canopy. It was resolved to go for the Field Maple variety called Queen Elizabeth and plant a more mature tree that would include triple stake and protective wire netting around the trunk, PROPOSED BY Cllr Webb and SECONDED BY Cllr de la Bedoyere. The Council will set up a working party and produce a quote for the next meeting. The tree planting will be scheduled for September 2022.
3. Pre-renewal insurance documents. The Council's insurance is due to be renewed by 31st May 2022. The Council is under Long Term Agreement until 31st May 2023 with Pen Underwriting Ltd. A renewal quote will be available at the next meeting.
4. The Council noted that the Aldbury School Head will be leaving as of September 2022 and there is a vacancy for a new head.
5. The Council resolved unanimously to nominate Cllr McCarthy as a HAPTC Executive Committee representative.

21/235 Financial Matters.

1. The accounts including bank reconciliation and monthly budget report have been circulated prior to the meeting. A resolution was passed to authorise the following payments PROPOSED BY Cllr Webb and SECONDED BY Cllr Holton and carried unanimously:

BACS presented for payment at the meeting on 4th April 2022:

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
		£2,293.63
HCC Pension	Clerk's Pension March	£230.05
HMRC	PAYE	£4.44
Microsoft	Annual subscription for licenses	£383.04
Nick de la Bedoyere	Reimbursement for Microsoft single user license	£135.36

Signed  Date 09.05.22

Bidwells	Allotment Rent	£375.00
HAPTC	E learning course – New Cllr Training	£14.00
HAPTC	Annual Subscription	£538.99
Keith Simkin	Sundry Items	£2.75
Keith Simkin	Warden Hours	£220.00
Martin Walters	Grass cutting	£390.00

2. To approve the final accounts for Year End 31st March 2022.
The Clerk had requested an Investment Account Statement from NS&I and the accounts for Year End 31st March 2022 will be approved at the next meeting.
3. Update on Unity Trust Bank signatories.
The Council resolved to add Cllr Houghton as signatory for Unity Trust Bank.

The meeting closed at: 21:37

Signed SC Strelby Date 09.05.22