

ALDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held in Aldbury Memorial Hall
Monday 5th December 2022 at 8pm**

MINUTES

In attendance: Cllr Stretton (Chair), Cllr de la Bedoyere, Cllr Houghton (arrived during minute 22/130), Cllr Juniper, Cllr Webb and County Cllr Sally Symington.

Gosia Turczyn – Aldbury Parish Clerk
6 members of the public.

22/127 Chair's Welcome.

The Chair welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

22/128 Apologies for absence.

The Council accepted apologies sent by Cllr McCarthy and Cllr O'Neill.

22/129 Declarations of Interests and Dispensations.

Cllr de la Bedoyere declared an interest in the paid subscription for Parish Online.

22/130 Public Participation.

1. An Aldbury Sustainable Group representative received a proposal to carry out a feasibility study for the footpath/cycleway from Tring Station to Aldbury and explained the process and fees involved. He confirmed that funding would be available from West Midlands Trains Limited to cover the costs of the feasibility study, but this would be subject to the agreement with the terms and conditions of the contract. The Aldbury Sustainable Group representative had asked whether Aldbury Parish Council would consider accepting the grant on their behalf. Members agreed to support the initiative in principle and will review the contract and report back at the next meeting. The Parish Council noted that they do not wish to take ownership of the footpath/cyclepath.
2. Speeding and parking – members of the public spoke in objection to the HCC's proposal for parking restrictions such as double yellow lines in the center of the village.
The Council advised there had been a number of public engagement exercises which received significant village support, the result of which forms the formal consultation currently in progress with HCC. The Council discussed different parking alternatives around the village and the County Cllr Symington agreed to liaise with Aldbury school to encourage parents to use the Recreation Ground car park.

Signed



Date 09.01.23

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County Cllr Symington noted the public concerns regarding the proposed parking restrictions and confirmed that this will be passed on to HCC Highways for consideration and encouraged all residents to take part in the consultation.

3. County Cllr Symington reported about the gateway to Tring Station and asked the TSRA to reconsider the size of the gateway due to the narrow location.

22/131 Hertfordshire Police.

The Clerk had received an update of crimes reported in Aldbury during the month of November:

Between 11.00pm on Thursday 10th November and 7.00am on Friday 11th November 2022 an offender (s) has forced entry to sheds on a commercial premises on Stocks Road by breaking a padlock. The offender (s) has stolen cooking oil and food from the location before making off. This crime remains undetected.

22/132 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th November 2022.

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

22/133 Vacancy for Parish Councillor.

Dacorum Borough Council confirmed that there had been no request for a by-election. Cllr Stretton, Cllr Houghton and Cllr de la Bedoyere agreed to form an interview panel. A Casual Vacancy advert was posted on the noticeboard, parish website, Facebook page and the Outlook with the closing date of 31st December for candidates to put themselves forward to be considered for co-option.

22/134 The Annual Council Meeting.

The Annual Council Meeting will be held on the 15th May 2023 (date is being changed due to Coronation Day). The date will be shared in Outlook, parish website and social media.

22/135 Warden's Update.

The Council reviewed the warden's report and agreed the following:

1. The Council agreed to replace 4 posts by the Recreation Ground car park at the cost of £100 but noted that the cost could be higher if it would require removing the concrete.
2. Cllr Juniper will send pictures of the lifted manhole cover to County Cllr Symington who agreed to follow this up with Ringway.
3. The Clerk will send a "Considerate construction" letter to property owner whose delivery truck had damaged the verge at the Green.

22/136 Aldbury Play Area.

No update.

22/137 Planning Matters.

Application(s):

Signed *S. Stretton* Date 09.01.23

1. Damage to a pillar on Trooper Road.
A complaint was made by a property owner whose had a brick structure damaged by a delivery truck. The complaint was passed to Grassmats Ltd who will liaise with the delivery company and the property owner agreed to communicate with them directly.
2. The Council received a request for information related to the Valiant Trooper. The request is currently subject of an internal review.
3. The Clerk received an Email about Enforcement Notice sent by a parishioner to the DBC's planning department. The Email was circulated to members.
4. Cllr de la Bedoyere and the Clerk had been working on updating the Parish Online Mapping software and it was suggested to use the software to record general information about the village assets and ongoing projects with involvement of all Council members, members of the public and community groups.

22/139 Footpaths, Highways and Bridleways.

1. Update on safe route between Aldbury and Tring Station.
This was discussed under Minute 22/130 1.
2. Update on the footpath behind the Pavilion.
It was PROPOSED BY Cllr Juniper and SECONDED BY Cllr de la Bedoyere to move the footpath sign situated behind the Pavilion Council and approve an expenditure up to £300.

22/140 Speeding and Parking.

This was discussed under Minute 22/130 2 Public Participation.

22/141 Recreation Ground.

Cllr Webb had approached the Aldbury Sports Club and Bidwells, the acting agent for the landlord, with a proposal to expand the Recreation Ground car park. Work in progress.

22/142 Aldbury Pond.

Some of the Pond Working group members met with a Technical Support Officer at Inland Waterways Association who advised them on possible solutions to retain the water and will provide estimates of costs for a liner and protective layer option. Work in progress.

22/143 Internal Controls.

Review of the Effectiveness of Internal Controls and Internal Audit.
The Clerk prepared a Policy Statement of Internal Controls and recommended that the Council reviews the effectiveness of Internal Controls and Internal Audit on an annual basis. This document had been introduced for the first time as part of the internal auditor's recommendation. The Council will consider and review the document and report back at the next meeting.

22/144 Financial Matters.

Signed *S. Straley* Date 09.01.23

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 Juniper and SECONDED BY Cllr Houghton and carried unanimously:

BACS presented for payment at the meeting on 5th December 2022:

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
		£1,129.66
HCC Pension	Clerk's Pension November	£287.56
Martin Walters	Grass cutting - November	£232.50
G H Electrical	Repair of power socket and rewire of power supply	£54.00
NSALG Ltd	Local Authority Membership	£66.00
G.I Rogers and Son	Village Christmas Tree	£432.00
M Turczyn	Mileage expenses October-November	£57.60

2. Preliminary discussion on 2023-2024 budget.

Further discussion took place on the next year's budget and the Council agreed to raise the current precept by 10% and set the precept demand at £31,900 with a 6% inflation on the Clerk's salary and associated expenses. Formal approval of the budget and signing of the DBC forms will be done in January 2023.

Meeting closed: 22:21

Signed

S. Strelby

Date

09.01.23

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