**ALDBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Held in Aldbury Memorial Hall**

**Monday 2nd December at 8pm**

**MINUTES**

Present: Cllr Webb (Chair), Cllr de la Bedoyere (Vice Chair), Cllr McCarthy, Cllr White, Cllr Warren and Cllr Brooks

In Attendance: Gosia Turczyn (Clerk), County Cllr Symington and three members of the public

**24/147 Apologies**

To receive and accept apologies for absence.

The Council received and accepted apologies from Cllr Houghton.

**24/148 Interests**

1. To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda.

Members declared an interest in the agenda item 24/153 Aldbury Parish Council grants; Cllrs McCarthy and Warren in the application received from the Tring Station Residents Association and Cllr de la Bedoyere in the application received from the Aldbury Memorial Hall.

1. To receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests.

None received.

1. To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.

None granted.

**24/149 Public Matters**

To receive questions from members of the public and press on items included on this agenda (max 15 min).

1. County Cllr Symington provided an update on the following matters:
	1. HCC is investigating whether children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities are receiving the support they require at their schools, as she is working to seek improvements.
	2. Parking restrictions around the Pond and Stocks Road – It was reported that the statutory consultation on the proposed double yellow lines, carried out by HCC received 27 responses, with 8 objections citing displacement parking as the reason for their concerns. It was noted that Highways would review the scheme if displacement parking became an issue. Additionally, it was confirmed that the markings will be visually appropriate for the conservation area. The Parish Council was asked whether it would like to proceed with the scheme, and Cllr Webb will draft a formal letter to confirm the APC’s agreement for the scheme to move forward.

A public member suggested that the parking measures should include additional parking provisions to mitigate the effects of displacement parking.

* 1. There is currently no funding available from the HCC Highway budget to implement speeding restrictions on Malting Lane. A short-term solution would be for residents to place stickers on their wheelie bins or put up "Please Drive Carefully" signs.
	2. 20 mph Zone- If the APC wishes to proceed to the next stage, which is the design phase for the 20mph zone, it will need to fund this initiative. Otherwise, it will have to wait an additional two years, as Aldbury is currently 65th in line for the Locality Budget in the 2026-27 financial year. County Cllr Symington will obtain a quote for the design.
	3. Pitstone Quarry Restoration project – Cllr Symington will ask Highways for their comments and share the feedback with APC.
1. Member of the public joined the meeting to speak about 24/02425/FHA Two storey rear extension, First floor side extension. Creation of annexe. Loft conversion including front dormers and rooflights. Fenestration alterations and addition of solar panels and air source heat pumps. Enlargement of existing driveway. Elm Gables Ringshall Road Ringshall Berkhamsted Hertfordshire HP4 1LT

**24/150 Minutes**

To confirm the Minutes of Aldbury Parish Council Meeting held on 4th November 2024 as an accurate record of proceedings.

Resolved, PROPOSED BY Cllr de la Bedoyere SECONDED BY Cllr Warren to approve the minutes as being correct. The minutes were duly signed by the Chair.

**24/151 Reports to the Council**

1. Warden’s report – appendix 1

To note the report and approve expenditure if required.

* 1. The report was noted, and it was PROPOSED BY Cllr Warren and SECONDED BY Cllr de la Bedoyere to approve a quote of £664.02 plus VAT from Wicksteed for 2 cradle swing seats and 2 set of chains.

1.2 The Clerk sent the reference numbers for the two streetlights removed by HCC to County Councillor Symington for follow-up.

1. Clerk’s report; correspondence and items for information only – appendix 2

The Clerk received an email requesting a review of the base for a shed at the allotments due to concerns that concrete may have been laid under the slabs. The Council received feedback indicating that only cement had been used around the edges of the slabs. As a result, the Council agreed to allow the erection of the shed. Additionally, the Council decided to review the Allotment Conditions of Hire and include regulations regarding structures and foundations. This will be added to the March agenda.

1. Hertfordshire police – report from PCSO.

No crimes were reported in Aldbury Parish.

 **24/152 Planning Matters and Consultations – to consider comments on the following:**

1. **Application(s) received:**
* 24/02510/AGD Agricultural Storage Building Street Record Northfield Road Tring Hertfordshire.

This was granted by DBC on the 26th November.

* 24/02514/FHA The construction of a single storey contemporary garden building to be used as a home office. Summer House 13 Malting Lane Aldbury Tring Hertfordshire HP23 5RH

It was resolved to make no comment.

* 24/02425/FHA Two storey rear extension, First floor side extension. Creation of annexe. Loft conversion including front dormers and rooflights. Fenestration alterations and adition of solar panels and air source heat pumps. Enlargement of existing driveway. Elm Gables Ringshall Road Ringshall Berkhamsted Hertfordshire HP4 1LT

It was resolved unanimously to make no objection.

* 24/02487/DRC National Trust, Visitor Centre And Cafe, Moneybury Hill, Ashridge, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, HP4 1LX Details required by Condition 4 (Materials) attached to planning permission 24/00536/FUL (Alterations to Ashridge Estate Visitor Centre and Café including relocation of extraction flue and kiosk door and enlarged kiosk counter openings in north elevation)

 It was resolved to make no comment.

1. **To consider and approve any Parish Council responses to any planning**

**applications received during the period after which the agenda was**

**published. Those applications will be added in the Clerk’s report and can be found on** [**www.aldburyparish.org.uk**](http://www.aldburyparish.org.uk) **in the Meetings tab.**

The Council will consider the planning application PL/0426/24 at Pitstone Quarry, Upper Icknield Way, Pitstone, LU7 9HA at the January meeting.

1. **Decision(s) issued by Dacorum Borough Council:**
* 24/02071/LBC 31 Stocks Road, Aldbury, Tring, Hertfordshire, HP23 5RT External wall paint removal and repairs, outbuilding re-roofing and re-build of gable end with renewal of rainwater goods, replacement of courtyard door, internal plastering. GRANTED
* 24/01967/FHA The Walled Garden, Stocks Road, Aldbury, Tring, Hertfordshire, HP23 5RZ Garage conversion to an annexe, single storey extension in place of single storey wing, replacement porch and external alterations to dwelling. GRANTED
1. **New Dacorum Local Plan (to 2041)**

The Pre-Submission Dacorum Local Plan (2026-2041) and Regulation 19 Consultation were approved by Full Council on 15 October. The consultation will run from midday on Monday 4 November and midday on Tuesday 17 December 2024. Documents and supporting evidence that accompany the Pre-Submission Dacorum Local Plan (2026-2041) can be found on [Let's Talk Dacorum](https://letstalk.dacorum.gov.uk/hub-page/newlocalplan).

The Clerk will submit a response online, using suggested wording prepared by the Grove Fields Residents Association on behalf of the APC. Flyers explaining how to fill out the form were distributed to households in the parish, and it was suggested to coordinate support for individuals who may have difficulty completing the online form.

 **24/153 Aldbury Parish Council Grants –** appendix 3

To consider applications received from Parish organisations and village halls committees.

The Council considered and approved a total of £1,746.45 for the following:

1. Resolved, PROPOSED BY Cllr Warren and SECONDED BY Cllr Webb to grant up to £346.45 to Friends of Aldbury School in accordance with s137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972.
2. Resolved, PROPOSED BY Cllr Brooks and SECONDED BY Cllr Webb to grant £400 to the Tring Station Residents Association for the upkeep of the Iron Room and £1,000 to the Aldbury Memorial Hall committee. These grants were approved in accordance with section 133 of the Local Government Act 1972.
3. It was also PROPOSED BY Cllr McCarthy and SECONDED BY Cllr de la Bedoyere to approve a £600 application for the Churchyard, as it relates to the maintenance of green spaces.

 **24/154 20 mph Zone within Aldbury Parish**

To discuss and agree on actions to progress the initiative.

The Council had agreed that prioritising the parish for the 20mph Zone would benefit the community. It was decided to allocate funds from the reserves for the next stage of the project. A letter will be sent to County Councillor Symington requesting a quote for the design phase.

 **24/155 Filming in Aldbury- December 2024**

To discuss and agree the filming fee.

Filming is scheduled to take place on December 18th and 19th in the village centre. A fee of £10,000 has been agreed to be paid to the Parish Council, and the filming company is in the process of drafting a contract that will include the APC’s filming policy and code of conduct. The name "Aldbury" will be used explicitly. The filming company is aware that carol singing will occur on December 18th and will ensure that their activities accommodate this event. Cllr de la Bedoyere suggested that a policy be drafted to establish a standard day fee for future filming.

 **24/156 Financial Matters and Budget 2025/26 –** appendix 4

1. To review and note the accounts including bank reconciliation, bank statement and monthly budget report.

The Council noted that the bank statement was not available yet and the cashbook was reconciled to the transaction list.

1. To note receipt of income.

Income received in November 2024:

CCLA Investment – Interest received £148.00, allotment rent - £43.00 and Guide to Aldbury - £14.00

1. To pass resolution to authorise the schedule of payments in accordance with the budget circulated to Council.

Resolved, PROPOSED BY Cllr Webb and SECONDED BY Cllr Warren to authorise the schedule of payments:

**BACS/DD presented for payment at the meeting on 2nd December 2024:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **PAYEE** | **DESCRIPTION** | **AMOUNT** |
| M Turczyn (Clerk) Salary deducted from total  | Salary (Paid), HCC Pension – November  | £1,429.33 |
| HMRC Cumbernauld | Clerk’s PAYE November | £81.90 |
| Leigh Newman Contracting | Flail Hedge Trimming at the Recreation Ground  | £161.00 |
| Npower Business Solutions Deducted from total | Street light power – Direct Debit paid in November | £157.35 |
| The National Allotment Society  | APC Membership renewal  | £66.00 |
| The National Allotment Society  | AGC and Allotment association membership fee | £135.00 |
| SJW Services/Steve Welling  | Work to Recreation Ground sign, Aldbury playground and allotment water trough  | £85.00 |
| M Turczyn | Clerk’s mileage& expenses  | £28.80 |
| Martin Walters | Grass cutting November | £313.00 |
| G.I Rogers &Son | Village Christmas tree | £444.00 |
| TEEC Ltd  | Website hosting and domain  | £199.19 |

**Total: £1,828.25**

1. To receive and discuss the draft 2025/26 budget.

Cllr Warren provided an update to the Council on this year’s budget forecast, which aligns with the current budget except for overspending in grass cutting and administration. A second quote was obtained from the grass cutting contractor, and the Council will decide in January which quote to approve for the upcoming year. The draft budget for 2025/26 has been prepared, incorporating a 5% increase in the precept, as more income is anticipated. The Council acknowledged the upcoming increase in employer’s National Insurance contributions in the next financial year, which will affect expenditures and the cost of maintaining open spaces. At the time of the discussion, the Council had not yet received any information regarding Concurrent Services and the Warden grants that are provided by DBC.

The Council will agree the budget and precept at the January meeting.

 **24/157 Meeting close**: 21:30 pm

**The next meeting will be held on Monday 6th January 2025 at 8 pm at the Aldbury Memorial Hall.**