**ALDBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Held in Aldbury Memorial Hall**

**Monday 1st July at 8pm**

**MINUTES**

In attendance: Cllr Webb (Chair), Cllr McCarthy, Cllr Warren and Cllr White

Gosia Turczyn – Aldbury Parish Clerk

**24/087 Apologies**

To receive and accept apologies for absence.

The Council received and accepted apologies sent by Cllrs Houghton, de la Bedoyere, Paterson and County Cllr Symington.

**24/088 Interests**

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

Cllr McCarthy declared an interest in the 24/099 3 agenda item as he is the Chairman of HAPTC’s Finance & Management Committee. Cllr White declared an interest in the 24/096 agenda item as he is an allotment plot holder.

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

None.

1. To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.

Cllrs who declared an interest did not take part in the discussion on the above items.

**24/089 Public Matters**

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

 None.

**24/090 Minutes**

To confirm the Minutes of Aldbury Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd June 2024 as an accurate record of proceedings.

Resolved, PROPOSED BY Cllr White and SECONDE BY Cllr Webb that the minutes were a true and accurate record of proceedings and were to be duly signed by the Chair.

**24/091 Reports to the Council.**

1. Warden’s report – appendix 1

To note the report and approve expenditure if required.

The report was noted, and the following actions were agreed:

1. Cllr Warren agreed to obtain a quote for a new Aldbury playground sign.
2. The Clerk will obtain a quote for a new swing seat for Aldbury playground.
3. The Clerk will contact DBC about the broken fence at the Stoneycroft green.
4. Clerk’s report; correspondence and items for information only – appendix 2
5. The Clerk will be on annual leave between 19th August and 2nd September inclusive. The Council decided to cancel the meeting on 2nd September.
6. Hertfordshire police – report from PCSO.

The following report was received, and the Clerk will post a note on the FB page and the Outlook asking parishioners to be vigilant.

“Between 14.00hrs on 31st May and 08.00 hrs on 1st June both number plates of a White Honda Jazz parked on New Ground Road were stolen. This crime remains undetected.

Between 19.45hrs and 20.20hrs on 6th June both number plates of a blue VW Touareg parked in the car park on Toms Hill Road were stolen. This crime remains undetected.

Between 18.15hrs and 19.20hrs on 7th June both number plates of a blue Volvo V60 parked in the recreation ground Stocks Road were stolen. This crime remains undetected.

Between 10th and 11th June offenders have forced entry to a black Toyota parked on Beggars Lane causing damage and removing items from within. This crime remains undetected.

Between 11.30hrs and 22.00hrs on 23rd June both number plates of a blue Mazda CX3 parked on Beggars Lane were stolen. This crime is still under investigation”.

**24/092 Vacancy for Parish Councillor**

 The vacancy is being advertised.

 **24/093 Planning Matters and Consultations – to consider comments on the following:**

1. **Application(s) received:**
* 24/01213/FHA Extension and alterations to rear of property. 6 Malting Lane Aldbury Tring Hertfordshire HP23 5RH

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.**

1. **Decision(s) issued by Dacorum Borough Council:**

None.

1. **To note the response from DBC regarding the Trooper.**

This was noted by the Council.

 **24/094 Tennis Court –** appendix 3

To receive clerk’s report and recommendations and consider approving subscription to an online booking platform.

Resolved, PROPOSED BY Cllr Webb and SECONDED BY Cllr White to merge the tennis court booking with the Memorial Hall booking portal at the annual cost of £250.

 **24/095 Play Areas –** appendix 4

1. To note the RoSPA reports and consider any actions arising from the annual inspection.

The Council received the annual report and noted the recommendations.

Councillors thanked David Demmery, Suzanne Stretton, Beth Cole and the volunteers who helped to complete the playground project. The Council holds £2,394.89 in the Playground Project Earmarked Reserve and these funds will be spent to action the points highlighted in the RoSPA report.

1. To approve a quote of £500 plus VAT from Wildwood UK for remedial work to the play equipment at the Iron Room.

Resolved, PROPOSED BY Cllr Warren and SECONDED BY Cllr Webb to approve an expenditure of up to £500 plus VAT. The Clerk will ask for a detailed quote based on clarification on the value for money.

 **24/096 Aldbury Allotments –** appendix 5

To receive clerk’s report and recommendations and agree on the amount of rent increase for 2025.

Resolved, PROPOSED BY Cllr Webb and SECONDED BY Cllr Warren to raise the rent to £30 for a full plot and £17 for half a plot starting from 1st October 2025.

 **24/097 Filming in Aldbury**

 If update.

Cllr Webb reported that the filming company is drafting a contract incorporating the APC’s filming policy, code of conduct and fees. The filming will take place in the village centre, Memorial Hall, the Greyhound pub and private houses.

 **24/098** **The National Trust and Ashridge Estate**

Update from Cllr White.

Cllr White attended the NT Committee meeting on 17th June and said that the National Trust will continue to engage with all Parish Councils on their proposals. A Transport Consultancy has been committed to carry out a feasibility study and a temporary car park is planned for Meadow, followed by a reduction in 5 years as 3 new gateway sites will be introduced. Parking charges are being proposed for Summer 2025. It was also noted that the number of visitors had reduced following the ending of several activities on Ashridge land. Work has started to restore the Monument and the site will reopen in the next Spring.

 **24/099 Financial Matters** - appendix 6

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

This was noted and agreed, Cllr Webb had signed the documents.

1. To note receipt of income.

No income was received in June.

1. To appoint Hertfordshire Internal Audit Service as an internal auditor for 2024-25 at a cost of £360.64 and approve its Terms of Reference (letter of engagement sent to Councillors in advance).

Resolved, PROPOSED BY Cllr Warren and SECONDED BY Cllr Webb to approve the above.

1. Update on CCLA account.

An account has been opened and the clerk will action the withdrawal of funds.

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

Resolved, PROPOSD BY Cllr Warren and SECONDED BY Cllr Webb to authorise the list of payments:

**BACS/DD presented for payment at the meeting on 1st July 2024:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **PAYEE** | **DESCRIPTION** | **AMOUNT** |
| M Turczyn (Clerk) Salary deducted from the total | Salary, HCC Pension June | £1,429.13 |
| HMRC Cumbernauld | Clerk’s PAYE June | £82.10 |
| Bidwells LLP | Recreation Ground rent | £250.00 |
| M Turczyn | Clerk’s mileage expenses June | £28.80 |
| RoSPA Play Safety | Play areas annual inspections | £211.20 |
| Ray Warren  | Reimbursement for Iron Room sign | £18.00 |
| Martin Walters  | Grass cutting June  | £1,152.00 |
| Keith Simkin | Parish Warden hours (quarter) | £364.00 |

**Total: £2,420.46**

 **24/100 Meeting close**: 20:52

**The next meeting will be held on Monday 5th August at 8 pm.**