**ALDBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Held on

**Monday August 6th 2018 at 8.0pm**

**in Aldbury Memorial Hall**

**Present:** Cllrs Brady (in the chair), Eggar, Juniper, McCarthy, Moore and O’Neill, the Clerk, Borough Cllr Mills and 7 members of the public

**MINUTES**

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Tollinton and Pearce and were accepted by the Council

1. **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr McCarthy declared an interest in item 18/156 b) as Chairman of HAPTC

1. **Minutes of meeting on 2nd July 2018 to be signed as a true record**

Cllr Juniper proposed that the Minutes from the meeting on July 2nd were accepted as a true record; this was seconded by Cllr McCarthy. The Minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

1. **Aldbury Pond**

Cllr Moore had circulated an update to Cllrs on progress of the work on the pond and proposed next steps. Cllr Moore reported that Phase one had begun on July 9th and due to the good weather had been completed on July 13th. The original intention had been to clear the pond down to the level of the liner. It was discovered that the liner had deteriorated and mixed with the gravel making it impossible to separate them. The decision had been taken by Cllrs Brady and Moore to remove the liner as well. Cllr Moore proposed a resolution that the Council retrospectively ratify this decision to remove the liner; this was seconded by Cllr Eggar.

Cllr Moore noted that an invoice had been received from Clearwater for the work. He said that this invoice related to the most recent estimate received from Clearwater in July 2017. He said that the Council had noted and approved this estimate in August 2017 but their later discussions and decision making had been based on costs of circa £10k. Cllr Moore proposed that the Council retrospectively agree the additional amount which corresponds to the estimate of July 2017 of £13,592.90 +vat; this was seconded by Cllr McCarthy.

Cllr Moore reported that DBC and Luton Airport Operations (who had awarded grants to APC) had been informed that phase one had been completed. Cllr Eggar said he thought it should be acknowledged that with the removal of the liner, Phase One had gone further than anticipated. Cllr Juniper said that with the liner removed, the Pond Working Group (PWG) now had a realistic view of the pond and had sight of the depth. Cllr Moore said that the PWG had had some initial discussions about Phase Two and when to start this. A meeting had also taken place with Countryside Management Services (CMS) regarding their management of Phase Two and more detailed proposals on this would be presented to the full Council at the September meeting.

Cllr Moore reported that along with Cllr Brady, he had cleared the chambers of silt at Barley End and Goldings Spring to mitigate the impact of rainfall along Stocks Road. Cllr Moore said Sunnyside Rural Trust (SRT) had provided a quote to clear a third of the pond at Goldings Spring as agreed at the previous meeting, to see how effective a drain this pond is. Cllr Moore acknowledged that the pond is on private land and in Bucks but said that it impacts on the village drainage and potential for flooding. Cllrs discussed whether Bucks CC should be approached as the drainage at this point in Stocks Road is their responsibility. Cllr Moore recommended that the Council accept the quote from SRT for £198 to carry out the work to clear a third of the Goldings Spring Pond. This was agreed subject to sight of the necessary insurance and subject to discussions with Bucks CC stating that APC have carried out the work solely because of the risk of flooding in the village but noting that the responsibility still lies with Bucks CC; proposed by Cllr Moore and seconded by Cllr McCarthy.

Cllr Moore had also received a quote from SRT to clear out 6 grips along Stocks Road. The grips would be cleared from the road to the ditch and will have their own chamber dug. The quoted cost was £50 a grip. Cllr Moore proposed that the Council accept the quote for £300 for SRT to clear the 6 grips along Stocks Road subject to sight of the necessary insurance documents and notification to Bucks CC as above; this was seconded by Cllr McCarthy.

The Council thanked Cllr Moore and the Pond Working Group for their continuing work on the pond. The Council also thanked parishioners for their patience during the work.

1. **Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for Hertfordshire**

Cllr Moore reported that Aldbury Parish Council had been invited to respond to a consultation on Hertfordshire’s Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. Cllr Moore commented that Aldbury was potentially vulnerable to flooding and couldn’t deal with it in isolation. He had put a draft response together which had been circulated to Cllrs who had commented. Cllr Juniper proposed that the draft response be accepted by the Council and submitted to the consultation; this was seconded by Cllr Eggar. A copy of the response had been put onto the APC website

1. **Allotment Tenancy Agreement**

Cllr Tollinton had circulated a revised version of an Allotment Tenancy Agreement and the Clerk had drafted a letter to go to Allotment Tenants with the agreement and their annual invoices. Cllr O’Neill proposed that the agreement and letter be accepted by the Council; this was seconded by Cllr Eggar. The Clerk reported that the invoices would be issued over the next two weeks. Cllr McCarthy asked about the future of the Allotment Working Group. Cllr O’Neill reported that there was more work for the group to do, including signage at the allotments and setting up future governance for the allotments. It was agreed that an update would be provided at the September meeting.

1. **Planning Matters**

1. The following application was discussed:

**4/01897/18/ROC – Aldbury End, Newground Road**

Variation of condition 9 (approved plans) attached to planning application 4/00310/18/FHA – 2 storey side & rear extension amendments to the internal floor plan layout. Highway crossover plan amended

NO OBJECTION

(Cllr Eggar informed the meeting he wouldn’t be commenting as although he didn’t have an interest he did know the applicants)

2. The following DBC planning decisions were noted:

**4/01348/18/FHA – Corner Barn, Church Farm, Aldbury**

Change of use from B1/B8 Business/Storage to A3 Cafe

GRANT

1. **Finance**

The July Cashflow statement and Budget Monitoring statement had been circulated and were noted by Cllrs. The Clerk said that an error had been noted which she would amend and re-circulate. The Clerk reported that two donations for the Pond work had been received: £25.50 from the Aldbury Memorial Hall and £300 from Jess Robinson. The Council expressed their thanks for the donations.

1. Cllr Juniper proposed a resolution to make the following payments; this was seconded by Cllr O’Neill

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| Clearwater | £16,311.48 | De-silting works on Aldbury Pond |
| Cllr McCarthy | £26.55 | Expenses – attendance HAPTC Executive Committee Meeting; attendance Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan Examination in Public |
| HAPTC | £128.80 | HAPTC Chairmanship Training Cllrs Brady & Pearce |
| Forde & McHugh | £1,722.69 | Replacement of street lighting bracket on pole C70-FL-66R Toms Hill Road |

b) Cllr Juniper proposed the Council approve the Clerk’s attendance on HAPTC course ‘Prepare for Elections’ and the expenditure of £40 (to be split with TRPC); this was seconded Eggar.

1. **Correspondence**

* The Clerk had received an email from Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust expressing concerns from a parishioner about the effects of the recent pond work on local wildlife. Cllr Moore had responded to the Wildlife trust on behalf of the Pond Working Group clarifying the work that had been carried out and the advice taken by the PWG from CMS and the Environment Agency.
* It was noted that Cllr Juniper had received an email expressing an interest in potentially quoting for Phase two of the pond work.

1. **Meeting open to the Public**

* A member of the public asked about the posts on the Recreation Ground two of which had been knocked down by a vehicle. It was agreed that the Clerk would obtain a quote for work to replace them. **(ACTION)**
* A member of the public asked about the perimeter of the allotments being cut and it was agreed that the Clerk would obtain a quote for the work. **(ACTION)**
* It was noted that the memorial bench for Jim and Mary Wright had been installed at the allotments. On behalf of the Council, Cllr Brady thanked the family who had installed the bench.
* Cllr O’Neill said she had fixed the central gate at the allotments along with an allotment tenant; Cllr Brady suggested an allotment maintenance plan was needed.

1. **Any Other Business and to consider items for agenda of next meeting**

* Cllr Juniper asked the Clerk to add an item on the Canal Bridge at Tring Station to the September agenda. Cllr Juniper also asked that the request to Herts CC regarding drainage in the village be followed up. It was agreed that this would be followed up as part of the Pond Working Group update.
* Cllr Juniper had attended the Ashridge Estate Committee Meeting and informed the Council that the original proposition regarding additional parking along Monument Drive had been ruled out due to certain issues. They were now looking at other options, including the possibility of using Old Dairy field which could have some impact on residents who live within the Aldbury Parish Boundary. Cllr Juniper said that plans were at a very early stage.
* The Clerk said that she would be adding an item on APC grants to be awarded to community groups to the September agenda.
* Cllr O’Neill commented that she had been approached by a parishioner regarding the possibility of applying to list the Valiant Trooper as an asset of community value. It was agreed that she would follow up with the parishioner.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 9.10 p.m

**Next Parish Council meeting – Monday 3rd September 2018**

**Aldbury Parish Council website –** [**www.aldburyparish.org.uk**](http://www.aldburyparish.org.uk)**.**