

ALDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**Held remotely via Zoom on
Monday 1st June 2020 at 10 am**

MINUTES

In attendance: Chairman Cllr McCarthy, Vice Chairman Cllr Moore, Cllr Juniper, Cllr Stretton, Cllr Pearce, Cllr Tollinton, Cllr O'Neill and Cllr Webb and Dacorum Borough Cllr Phil McDowell,

Gosia Turczyn – Aldbury Parish Clerk and the Village Warden.

No members of the public.

20/32 Chairman's Welcome.

The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

20/33 Apologies for absence.

None.

20/34 Declarations of interest and Dispensations.

Cllr Pearce, Cllr O'Neill, Cllr Tollinton and Cllr Juniper declared an interest in planning application 20/00988/FHA Georgia, Trooper Road, Aldbury, Tring, Hertfordshire, HP23 5RW.

20/35 Public Question Time.

Dacorum Borough Cllr Phil McDowell updated the council about the way Dacorum Borough operates during the pandemic.

20/36 Hertfordshire Police.

Herts Police PCSO M Leadbitter sent an update about crimes that were committed in Aldbury during May 2020. Vice Chairman Cllr Moore read out the report:

- 1) There have been no crimes in the village in relation to burglaries, car crime etc.
- 2) On 15th May two males stopped in a vehicle travelling on Toms Hill Road were arrested for possession of weapons and drugs.
- 3) On 20th May an offender has stolen a moped from Tring Railway Station but has abandoned it nearby following being disturbed by a local resident.

20/37 Minutes of meeting held on 11th May 2020.

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th May 2020 were PROPOSED BY Cllr Webb and SECONDED BY Cllr Moore as being correct and were to be signed by the Chairman.

Signed 

Date 6 July 2020

20/38 Warden's Update.

The village warden resumed his duties on the 22nd May and sent the wardens' report to the Clerk. He reported about collecting large amount of litter during his weekly checks, that is being left behind by visitors. He reported about significant buildup of clothing and footwear left by the charity container outside the village shop.

Cllr Tollinton will contact the charity who is responsible for emptying the container to collect the overflowing clothing.

The warden suggested carrying out a general maintenance within play areas during his weekly checks. Cllr Pearce will provide a key to the Aldbury Play Area and Cllr Stretton will email him the code to unlock the Iron Room Play Area.

20/39 Aldbury Sports Club and Recreation Ground.

Basketball Area – Cllr Stretton took photographs of the surface and redistributed them to councillors. In her view the area needs weeding and hedges cut back. She reported that the area was being used by people playing basketball.

A discussion took place whether to retain the basketball area and get a quote to resurface it or leave it as hard standing area which would require tidying up.

Cllr Juniper said that if the area is being used as basketball area, then the uneven surface could be a tripping hazard and therefore it should be resurfaced.

Cllr O'Neill will report back at July's meeting about the cost involved in resurfacing the area.

20/40 Footpaths and Highways inc Bridleways.

Cllr Tollinton reported that she is not aware of any problems and that the National Trust has cleared the blockages.

20/41 Allotments.

1) Freedom of Information Act request.

Cllr Moore reported that the request has been dealt with and that the Parish Council's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act and the associated codes of practice have been fulfilled and that this matter is now considered closed.

2) Setting up a small working party to review governance of the allotments.

The Parish Council discussed setting up a formal point of contact which would be involved in assisting with day to day management and activities of the allotments and liaising between the garden club, the allotment tenants, and the council. Cllr Moore proposed to speak to the garden club about setting up a small working party. Cllr Moore and Cllr Stretton will draft a letter regarding the funding and communication and circulate to the councillors before drafting a formal document.

20/42 The Iron Room Play Area.

ROSPA carried out the annual inspection on the 19th May 2020. Report to follow.

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20/44 Aldbury Pond.

Cllr Tollinton circulated photographs of the pond and reported that the pond is looking empty due to dry weather.

20/45 Tennis Court.

Cllr Tollinton reported that she had had enquiries about booking the tennis court. Cllr Stretton suggested putting a note in the Aldbury Outlook about how to book the tennis court. Cllr Tollinton will email the Aldbury Outlook.

20/46 Aldbury Parish Insurance.

The Aldbury Parish Council Insurance was renewed with Pen Underwriting Limited at the price of £522.73. The council entered a 3 years Long Term Agreement.

20/47 Asset Register.

Cllr Webb said that the Asset Register is work in progress and will report back at July's meeting.

20/48 Financial Regulations and the Financial Management and Risk Assessment.

The Council adopted Financial Regulations and the Financial Management and Risk Assessment with minor amendments to the process relating to the Clerk's pay. The Clerk will keep timesheets of hours worked that will be authorised by Cllr Webb before passing it to the payroll provider.

20/49 Planning Matters:

Application(s):

20/00988/FHA Construction of New Garden Shed and Greenhouse to Replace Section of Fencing and Existing Sheds/Greenhouse, Georgia Trooper Road Aldbury Tring Hertfordshire HP23 5RW (Re-consultation). No objection.

20/01244/AGD Construction of Steel Framed Agricultural Barn, Westlands Farm Station Road Aldbury Tring Hertfordshire HP23 5RS. Objection because of the visually detrimental effect on the AONB.

Decision(s):

04/05/2020 20/00555/FHA 5 Clarkes Spring Aldbury Tring HP23 5QL. Granted.

20/50 Clerk's Report and Correspondence.

- Aldbury Parish Council - Pen - Insurance Renewal -emails from Came and Co.
- Hertfordshire Pension Fund – email regarding LGPS.
- Email from Mr Ernest Newhouse regarding audit visit.
- HAPTC Bulletin May 13th and May 20th.
- Aldbury Recreation Ground - Request for access. Email from Raiders Chairman, attachment included.
- Message from Hertfordshire Volunteering and People Assistance Cell - Bulletin no.9 and no.10.
- HCC COVID-19 Stakeholder weekly update - 15.05.20 and 22.05.20
- Notification of play area inspection in May for Aldbury Parish Council, email from ROSPA.

- Correspondence with Payroll provider.
- Unity Trust Bank Statement.
- HAPTC New Clerk Induction training.

The council was approached by the Chairman from Berkhamsted Raiders about access to the football pitch at Recreation Ground. The Parish Council discussed whether the Sports Club would benefit from renting the football pitch to Berkhamsted Raiders on a regular basis. The council resolved that it will not get involved in this matter and will leave it to the Sports Club to decide about the future arrangements between the Sports Club and Berkhamsted Raiders. PROPOSED BY Cllr Moore and SECONDED BY Cllr Tollinton and carried unanimously.

20/51 Tring Station Travel Plan.

The Chairman reported about the discrepancies in the document sent about Tring Station Travel Plan.

A discussion took place about the proposals set out and whether they are adequate. It was PROPOSED BY Cllr McCarthy and SECONDED BY Cllr Juniper and carried unanimously to set up a working group who will respond back to the proposals set in the document. Cllr Juniper will draft a letter and distribute it to Dacorum Borough Cllr McDowell and the working group including The Chairman and Cllr Stretton for comments.

20/52 Aldbury Traffic Calming Consultation.

Cllr Tollinton said that there has been no progress since the last meeting and that the Parish Council is still waiting for the decision from the Police and Crime Commissioner about the funding. Cllr Tollinton will report back at July's meeting.

20/53 Financial Matters.

- 1) A resolution was passed to authorize the following payments PROPOSED BY Cllr Pearce and SECONDED BY Cllr Tollinton and carried unanimously:

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
HMRC Cumbernauld	PAYE	£30.00
Wellpest	Rodent control at allotments	£150.00
HAPTC	New Clerk Induction training	£45.00

- 2) Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for review and approval. The internal audit is taking place the 9th June 2020 and the AGAR forms will be reviewed and approved at the meeting in July.

The meeting closed at 11:42 am.