

**PARISH OF ALDBURY**  
**ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY**  
**HELD AT THE ALDBURY MEMORIAL HALL**  
**25<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 8 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Cllrs Stretton (in the Chair), McCarthy, de la Bedoyere, Holton, Houghton, O'Neill, Webb and Aldbury Parish Clerk.

**Speakers:** Hertfordshire County Cllr Sally Symington sent her written report.

Twenty members of the public.

**1. Welcome to the meeting**

Cllr Stretton welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

**2. Appointment of the Clerk to the meeting**

Gosia Turczyn was appointed Clerk to the meeting PROPOSED BY Cllr Stretton and SECONDED BY Cllr McCarthy.

**3. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Juniper, County Cllr Symington and Duncan Eggar.

**4. Minutes of Annual Assembly held online via Zoom on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 to be signed as a true record**

Approved, PROPOSED BY Cllr McCarthy and SECONDED BY Cllr Stretton, the Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 were accepted as a true record and were duly signed by the Chair.

**5. Guest speaker Hertfordshire County Councillor Sally Symington.**

Cllr Stretton read out a written report on behalf of County Cllr Symington:

**"Aldbury Parish Council Annual Parish Assembly 25 April 2022**

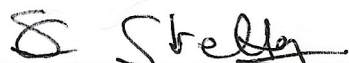
Report from Sally Symington, County Councillor, Tring Division

Thank you for inviting me to speak at your Annual Parish Assembly this evening. I'm sorry not to be joining you in person, but following discussion with the Chair, Suzanne Stretton, it was agreed, given the significance for Aldbury, that I would attend the Tring Town Council meeting this evening at which the planning application for the proposed Marshcroft Garden Village Suburb, which includes the delivery of 1400 new homes, will be discussed and to report back to you all later. The following written report aims to cover the issues I would have talked about and I am, of course, always happy to answer questions and follow up outside of formal meetings.

I was asked to discuss briefly the responsibilities of the county council and my role within it.

Hertfordshire has a two-tier system of local government comprising the county council and 10 separate district or borough councils; one of which is our own Dacorum Borough

Signed:



22.05.23



Council. This system contrasts with, for example, Buckinghamshire which since April 2020 has one 'unitary' council and the London boroughs which also have a single tier of government.

The County Council's key responsibilities include: adult social care; children and young people; education; libraries; highways and transport; planning; public health; waste management and trading standards.

Hertfordshire County Council has a net revenue budget of just under £1bn for the current year and a proposed capital programme of £414m for the same period. Over 40% of the revenue budget is accounted for by Adult Care Services; and Highways and Transport account for a quarter of the capital budget. Each of the 78 county councillors has a highways budget of £90,000 for works or improvements in their area and a members locality budget of £10,000 to provide grants for local projects that promote the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of their area. Please do bring forward any projects in Aldbury that might be suitable for either source funding.

Tring Division is one of the largest in the county by geographic area. Including Aldbury, it comprises three parish councils and Tring Town Council. It is home to one state-funded secondary school and seven primary schools and a not insignificant proportion of Herts County Council's 10,800 hectare rural estate is located in the division.

As well as representing the residents of Aldbury and the wider Tring Division at Herts County Council, I am the Opposition Spokesperson for Resources and Performance and a member of the Pensions Committee. Over the past year, I have put forward motions proposing funding free school meals during school holidays for recipients of universal credit and to end violence against women and girls. I have worked with the Flood Risk Management Team to mitigate the effects of flooding in many parts of the division; supported calls for the simplification of the roll out of 20mph zones and promoted sustainable travel by working to provide more and better cycle routes.

With regards the current year's Highways Locality Budget the allocation of which for Aldbury I have agreed with the Parish Council, I can update you as follows:

The Aldbury 20 mph zone is listed in the Countywide Delivery Programme at 394<sup>th</sup> out of 552. The allocation of Highways Locality Funding will help promote the proposal quicker, ie 22/23 but unfortunately, due to the pandemic, HCC is significantly behind with traffic survey in terms of their actual collection. The Data Team are employing additional resources to help with the backlog and I will keep you updated as to their progress.

With regards the request for Waiting Restrictions (Double Yellow Lines): I have been advised that the Assistant Highways Manager, Peter Wright, has enough information for the 'Evidence Statement' (photos etc) to be signed off for the next stage. The information will be reviewed this week and following that I will be able to pass on to you a timeframe for moving it forward. If all goes to plan, I am advised that the public engagement stage is likely to progress within the next two months.

A number of other projects remain ongoing, such as discussions around the viability and possibility of installing a cycle way to Tring Station; and improvements to the highway surface at Brightwood Lane. Other issues have been harder to move forward, such as the suggested relocation of the derestriction signs going out of Aldbury along Newground Road. I cannot finish without a reminder to everyone to report all faults on the Herts County Council website. This can be found by entering the words Herts County Council + faults into your search engine; and please let me know if you have any difficulties in getting a response so that I can follow it up.

I look forward to working with you all to achieve your ambitions for Aldbury and delivering the best services Herts County Council can to your community. With apologies for not being with you in person this evening and thanks to Suzanne for reading my report to you. Please do keep in touch.

Sally Symington "



## 6. Chair's Report

Cllr Stretton gave her report about the Parish Council year:

- After 7 months of meeting remotely via Zoom the Parish Council resumed meeting in person in June 2021.
- The Council said farewell to Lucy Carmody, who helped with the Parish Survey, the Parish Council website and launched our Facebook page.
- We welcomed new Councillors Kate Holton and Sallyann Houghton.
- The Council has reviewed numerous planning applications during the last year, a number that seems to increase year on year.
- Over the last year there has been a number of incidents reported to the Police including theft, damage and anti-social behaviour. Such incidents are thankfully few and far between, but it is a reminder for all of us to be vigilant and report any such issues to the police.
- The Gardening Club for some years helped manage the day to day matters of the allotments for which the Council gives their thanks.
- Members of the community joined the playground revamp working group and thanks to their efforts and especially the Clerk they had been successful in receiving £8,000 in grants this year to help with the revamp costs.
- Volunteers for the traffic and parking working party who, had consulted the residents of Aldbury and are working closely with County Councillor Sally Symington, looking to improve the safety and street scene for residents and visitors.
- The Parish Council thanked Sallyann Houghton who led the recent community litter pick and Keith Simkin, our Parish Warden for his sterling work in keeping the Parish tidy and reporting any issues to the appropriate authority.
- The Chair thanked fellow Councillors for their time and effort in carrying out the voluntary role and the Clerk for her work in the past year.

## 7. Aldbury Parish Council Filming Policy.

The "Lord of Misrule" was filmed over 5 weeks in Aldbury and the Parish Council received a fee of £25,000 which was allocated to community projects. The Parish Council reviewed the current filming policy and agreed to consider applications for filming on a case-by-case basis and will neither actively discourage nor encourage to seek out opportunities for filming. The filming agreement will be considered on a separate negotiation depending on the filming requirements.

Members of the public spoke for and against filming and reflected on the disruption caused by the recent filming. It was suggested to appoint a location manager for Aldbury who would negotiate and ratify the filming agreement. The overall feedback received from the parishioners was that the village of Aldbury was amenable to promoting the location given that the terms and conditions are acceptable.

## 8. Meeting open to the Public.

Member of the public suggested to liaise with the school to encourage parents to park in the Recreation Ground car park and walk to school.

There were no further questions and the public enjoyed refreshments.

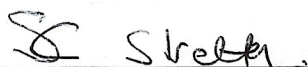
As there was no further business the meeting closed at 20:38

Gosia Turczyn,

Clerk to the Aldbury Parish Council

25<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Signed:

 S. Stretton

22.05.22