

# Minutes of Meeting – Alconbury Parish Council

Status: Draft

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Date Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2012  
Meeting Monthly Meeting  
Venue Memorial Hall, Alconbury

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Mr Adams	JAd
Mrs Adams	LA
Mrs Aylott-Chair	JA
Mr Bush	AB
Mrs Elphick	EE
Mr Watson	PW
Mrs Williams	PWs
Mrs Sharp-Clerk	JS

District Councillor Keith Baker

4 members of the public

## Item

## Action

### **Public Forum**

Mr and Mrs Pinn, local residents, raised concern over parking within the village, especially along School Lane. They had observed dangerous parking as well as speeding drivers and the parking problem appeared to be worse at school picking up and dropping off times. Mrs Aylott agreed that it was a problem and advised that the Parish Council had been working with school for many years on various schemes to attempt to alleviate the problem. She agreed that the Parish Council would put an article in their next newsletter and Parish Pump article and Clerk agreed to contact local PCSO Gemma Clark to arrange more visits at school time.

JS

Mr Read, local resident, thanked the Parish Council for the donation towards a path around the school playing field. He reported that it had allowed the children to play outdoor sports during the recent wet weather. Mr Read thanked the Parish Council for the new village website, but advised that the minutes and agendas on the website were not up to date. Clerk to action. He also requested that details of the new website were displayed more prominently on the noticeboard.

JS

### **130 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies from Mr Lay due to work commitments, /Mr Fayers Hallin who was unwell and also County Councillors Laine Kadic and Sir Peter Brown.

### **131 Councillor's declaration of interest for items on the agenda**

Mr Adams and Mrs Adams both expressed an interest in item 139 as spouses of allotment holders.

### **132 To sign and approve minutes of previous meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2012**

Minutes proposed by Mr Hardy and seconded by Mrs Williams. Minutes duly approved and signed.

### **133 Actions from last meeting-Mrs Aylott**

- Mr Lay and Mr Watson to discuss the possibility of recognition of original founders of the ASC at

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the ASSC committee meeting-Reported under ASSC item 140

- Clerk to sort out Village Sign repair-Clerk has been in contact with a company in Norfolk and is awaiting a date for them to visit
- Clerk to post new contract to Grass Cutter-Done, however not received back yet.
- Clerk to obtain quotes for Treework. Clerk booked to meet with a potential contractor to get quotes on 30/11/12 weather permitting.
- Clerk to contact Highways Agency reference bridges at Polecat Lane. Done. Twice.
- Clerk to organise a cheque for the Thursday Club donation. Done.

## 134 Update from County Councillors

County Councillors Kadic and Brown were not in attendance and had not sent any updates.

## 135 CAPALC/SLCC

Clerk updated the Councillors on the benefits of the SLCC but concerns were raised over the availability of training with them. Clerk to further investigate training options.

JS

## 136 Alconbury Weald-Mrs Aylott

Mrs Aylott reported that the CD copies of the outline planning application had now been received and the Council discussed the application at length. . A submission from the Parish Council needed to be sent to HDC ASAP. Mrs Aylott raised concerns over the impact of the additional traffic and the lack of provisions for Schools and Doctors Surgeries until over 300 houses had been built. All agreed that this would put an excessive strain on the village amenities. Mr Watson agreed draft a response including all the comment. Clerk to submit report by the end of the week.

PW/JS

## 137 RES Windfarm Update

Mr Adams and Mr Fayers Hallin had attended a meeting of the Community Liaison Group for the new Woolley Hill Windfarm. Mr Adams reported that during the meeting a new chair had been appointed and discussions around the Community Fund had taken place. Mr Adams agreed to attend the next meeting.

## 138 Treework in the Village

Mrs Aylott raise concerns over the inspection of trees within the village, following a recent article in a local paper reporting that a person had died following failures to identify dangerous trees within another local parish. Clerk agreed to contact Bridget Halford to ascertain whether or not the Parish Council requires a tree inspection from a qualified professional annually or whether the tree warden's reports are sufficient.

JS

## 139 Allotments-Mrs Aylott

Nothing to report

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**140 ASSC-Mr Watson**

Mr Watson reported that the ASSC committee had welcomed the idea of a plaque to commemorate the founders of the ASSC, however, had requested a donation from the Parish Council towards it. All agreed that the committee need to investigate costs and report back to the Parish Council before a decision could be made. Clerk agreed to email concerned parties and advise them to speak with Mr Watson before next meeting,

JS

**141 Community Orchard**

No report as Mr Pickering had resigned from the Parish Council. All agreed that the Clerk should request that the tree warden does a monthly inspection.

JS

**142 Memorial Hall-Mr Watson/Mrs Adam**

Mrs Adams reported that the last committee meeting was purely to make arrangements for the 10 year celebrations which had been well received.

**143 Neighbourhood Watch**

Mr Adams reported that the Neighbourhood Watch AGM was scheduled for 16/01/2013. The Christmas Tree was due to be delivered on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2012. Carols around the tree will take place at 6.30pm on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

**144 Playgrounds-Mrs Williams/Mr Watson**

Mrs Williams confirmed there was nothing to report from Bramble End playground. Mr Watson confirmed that there was nothing to report from the ASSC playground.

**145 Precept 2012-2013**

All agreed that the precept discussion had gone well and the precept as proposed could remain with the exception of one change. The precept amount for 2013-2014 was to be reduced from this year's precept to £36,376

**146 Clerk's Infrastructure Report**

**i. Churchyard**

Nothing to report.

**ii. Village Green**

Mrs Aylott reported that the Village Green had suffered from extensive flooding due to the recent wet weather. This had left a number of residents marooned and unable to leave their streets. Local residents David Senior and Ray Pickering had been to various houses adjacent to the brook, advising them to put their flood protection measures into place and offering help to do so. Mrs Aylott wished to thank them for this on behalf of the Parish Council.

All agreed that a formal flood protection plan needed to be put into place. Mrs Aylott suggested two Councillors with a few residents organise this plan. Information would be circulated in a Flyer or the next newsletter. Clerk agreed to obtain a list of all the properties with flood protection measures in order to ascertain which would be the most vulnerable and the people who may require help in a flood to administer the protection measures.

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Mrs Aylott also reported that Mr Adams had found the contact details for the original ~~contractor~~ **repairer** of the Village Sign and Clerk agreed to contact them to organise repainting the sign.

JS

### **iii. Roads and Footpaths**

Mrs Elphick reported that the footbridges at Polecat Lane had been closed. Clerk confirmed that this was due to flooding and part of the footbridges being washed away. Highways Agency had been in contact and were arranging emergency repairs ASAP. They were looking to replace the footbridges totally in the new financial year.

### **iv. General**

Mr Bush enquired as to whether the Clerk had received any correspondence about the streetlighting scheme that was still ongoing. He was concerned that the job was very much still not finished and was causing problems throughout the village. Clerk to contact the company concerned.

### **147 Planning**

No applications received; however, an application for Alconbury was listed on the HDC planning portal website. Clerk to chase for a hard copy.

JS

### **148 Correspondence**

#### **Email from Church Project 21**

Clerk reported that she had received an email asking the Parish Council to support an application for funding from Amey Cespa by the Alconbury Project 21. All agreed that this was ok and should be supported.

#### **Email of complaint ref horses cantering on the Village Green**

Clerk had received an email complaining that horses were still cantering along the village green, leaving large and dangerous ruts in the grass. Mrs Aylott reported that she had found a copy of the bylaw stating that horses are not allowed to ride on the green and requested that Mrs Sharp send a copy of this to all the local yards explaining that the Parish Council do not wish to enforce the bylaw, however, if horses continue to damage the green they will be left with no choice but to enforce it.

JS

#### **Request for donation from Royal British Legion**

Clerk reported that she had received a request for a donation from the Royal British Legion. All agreed to donate £100

### **149 Responsible Finance Officer's Report**

#### **Cheques for signature:**

J Sharp-August Salary £445.95

J Sharp-Broadband expenses £21.75

Donation for Alconbury Thursday club £150

Cheques proposed by Mrs Adams and seconded by Mr Bush

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150      **Date of next meeting**  
            **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2012 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall**

**Jo Sharp-Clerk**  
**5 Red Lion Close, Alconbury**  
**Tel: 01480 896164**  
**E-mail: [ParishClerk@alconburyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:ParishClerk@alconburyparishcouncil.gov.uk)**

**[New Website www.alconburyparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.alconburyparishcouncil.gov.uk)**