

Minutes of Meeting – Alconbury Parish Council

Status: Draft

Date Tuesday 30th October 2012
Meeting Monthly Meeting
Venue Memorial Hall, Alconbury

Mr Adams	JAd
Mrs Elphick	EE
Mr Fayers-Hallin	VFH
Mr Lay	JL
Mr Pickering-Chair	RP
Mr Watson	PW
Mrs Williams	PWs
Mrs Sharp-Clerk	JS

3 members of the public

Item

Action

Public Forum

Mr Hawkins, local resident, enquired as to whether the Parish Council were aware that it was the 30th Anniversary year of the founding of the Alconbury Sport and Social Club and how the Parish Council felt about encouraging the club to recognise the work put in by the founding members when the club was established. All agreed that some recognition should be encouraged and Mr Watson and Mr Lay agreed to raise the matter at the next ASSC committee meeting.

JL/PW

Mr Lancaster, owner of Globe Lane Van Sales, updated the council on the status of his planning application to convert the van sales to a residential property. He informed the Parish Council of some correspondence and asked if the Parish Council, as statutory consultees, had discussed the application. Mr Picking advised that the application would be discussed under planning and whilst Mr Lancaster would be unable to participate in any discussions during the meeting, he was welcome to stay to listen to the discussions. Mrs Williams expressed her disappointment that the planning officer was unwilling to visit the site.

108 Apologies for Absence

Apologies from Mrs Aylott and Mrs Adams due to holiday commitments. Apologies also received from Mr Hardy, Mr Bush and District Councillor Keith Baker.

109 Councillor's declaration of interest for items on the agenda

Mr Adams expressed an interest in item 119 as a spouse of an allotment holder. Mr Lay also expressed an interest in item 119 as an allotment holder

110 To sign and approve minutes of previous meeting held on 25th September 2012

Minutes proposed by Mr Adams and seconded by Mr Fayers-Hallin. Minutes duly approved and signed.

111 Actions from last meeting-Mrs Aylott

- Clerk to speak with Tree Warden ref working party to weed new hedgerow around ASSC-Done, Tree Warden is organising for November time
- Clerk to contact local PCSO with concerns around parking at the School-Done and PCSO has visited as well

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as the Head Teacher writing a piece in the School Newsletter.

- Clerk to obtain grass cutting quote and organise a contractor for 2013. Done and to be reported under item 122
- Clerk to contact CAPALC and Webmaster with regards to content for the website. Ongoing and contact with CAPALC to be reported under correspondence.
- Clerk was requested to look into dog waste bag dispensers for the village green. This was done and will be discussed under Infrastructure.
- Clerk to contact Highways Agency ref tree branches on the corner of Brookside and Sharps Lane-Done.

112 Update from County Councillors

County Councillor Laine Kadic reported that she was in the process of investigating the options for a bus service after April 2013 and was collating information and usage figures before any decisions would be made. Sir Peter Brown reported that the County Council would be freezing their proportion of Council Tax in 2013/2014. He also reported that the first phase of the new Northstowe development would commence soon.

113 Community Orchard-Mr Pickering

Mr Pickering reported that tree warden, Steve Tarabella would report in detail on the Orchard under item 125.

114 Urban and Civic-Mrs Aylott

Mrs Aylott was absent from the meeting, however, prior to the meeting she had sent briefing notes on the planning application to all Councillors for comment. All agreed that there were no comments at the time of the meeting.

115 Neighbourhood Watch

Mr Hardy and Mr Bush were both absent from the meeting and therefore had nothing to report. Clerk confirmed that she was in the process of investigating the possibility of having the village sign at the entrance to Brookside repainted.

JS

116 Youth Group

Nothing to report.

117 Alconbury Sports and Social Club

Mr Watson reported that the committee at the ASSC has expressed their concern over the increasing amount of dog mess and dogs being walked off lead on the playing fields and sports pitches at the club. He enquired as to the possibility of having a specific dog waste bin at the club; however, Clerk advised that this was not possible as HDC would not empty it. Clerk agreed to ascertain whether an order was placed on some areas of the village prohibiting dogs from being off lead.

JS

118 Memorial Hall

Nothing to report.

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119 Allotments

Mrs Aylott had informed Mr Pickering prior to the meeting that she had requested a copy of the AAGA AGM minutes from Mr Vanbergen.

120 Playgrounds

Mrs Williams reported that she had visited the Bramble End playground and there were no issues to report. Mr Watson had visited the ASSC playground and there were also no issues to report.

121 RES Wind Farm Update

Mr Pickering reported that Mrs Aylott had attended a meeting with Mr Adams and Mr Fayers-Hallin to get an update on the progress of the Woolley Hill Wind Farm. The main points from the meeting were that consent for the Wind Farm was given in March 2012 and site investigations had been taking place since then. Following the investigations, RES were preparing a method statement. The Wind Farm will consist of 4 turbines which will be a maximum of 30.5 metres to the tip. Construction will commence in Spring/Summer 2013 and turbines should be delivered in January 2014.

122 Grass Cutting in the Village

Clerk recommended that the quote from the current grass contractor be used for the next 3 year tender. All agreed to this. Clerk read the new contract to Councillors who all agreed that it was acceptable and that the Clerk should send this to the contractor to be signed.

JS

123 PC Website

Mr Lay confirmed that the website was now “live” and running well. Clerk confirmed that there were still some outstanding issues surrounding content which would be discussed further next month after exploring the possibility of joining the SLCC.

JS

124 Footpath Diversion-Mrs Elphick

Nothing to report

125 Trees in the Village

Mr Pickering reported that a well detailed and comprehensive tree report had been received from the new tree warden, Steve Tarabella, which all councilors had seen. Councillors thanked him for the hard work in compiling the report. The report was discussed with details of trees that need professional work and Mr Pickering asked Mr Tarabella if he could compile a list of urgent matters and aspirational projects. He agreed to do this. Clerk agreed to obtain quotes for the urgent works required.

JS

126 Clerk’s Infrastructure Report

i. Churchyard

All agreed that the Churchyard was looking much better since the tidy up.

ii. Village Green

It was reported that there was a dead Willow Tree on the green near the Ford

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(opposite Bell Lane). Clerk agreed to contact Highways Agency to ascertain ownership and possibly arrange removal.

JS

iii. Roads and Footpaths

Mrs Elphick reported that the footbridges at Polecat Lane had still not been repaired. Clerk to contact Highways Agency as a matter of urgency.

JS

iv. General

Mr Adams enquired as to the possibility of waste bins at Church Way and along Polecat Lane. Clerk to contact HDC.

127 Planning

Applications received:

1201477FUL-Change of use of workshop to residential storage. No observations noted.

1201434FUL-Erection of a 3 bedroom dwelling at Globe Lane Van Sales-The Parish Council opted to recommend approval of the planning application as it was felt that a residential property would be more in-keeping with the Village than a commercial premises. The Parish Council took in account Mr Lancaster's information offered during the public forum.

128 Correspondence

Thank you card from Rainbow Guides

Clerk reported that a lovely handmade “thank you” card had been received from Rainbow Guides for their donation from the participatory budgeting exercise.

Request for donation from Alconbury Thursday Club

Clerk had received a request for donation from Alconbury Thursday Club. All agreed to give £150 and this would be actioned at the next meeting.

JS

Information received regarding SLCC

Clerk reported that she had received some information from the Society of Local Council Clerks and was investigating the organisation as an alternative to CAPALC. Clerk agreed to make this an agenda item next month.

JS

Request for permission to plant memorial tree at the ASSC.

Clerk reported that a request had been received by the ASSC from a member who wanted to plant a tree in memory of a loved one. Permission was being sought from the PC as the land is PC owned. All agreed that this would be ok. Clerk to inform ASSC

129 Responsible Finance Officer's Report

Cheques for signature:

J Sharp-August Salary £445.95

J Sharp-Broadband expenses £21.75

Cheques proposed by Mrs Elphick and seconded by Mr Adams.

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- 130 **Date of next meeting**
 Tuesday 27th November 2012 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall

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