

# Minutes of Meeting – Alconbury Parish Council

Status: Draft

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Date Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2012  
Meeting Monthly Meeting  
Venue Memorial Hall, Alconbury

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Present	Mrs Aylott	JA
	Mrs Adams	LA
	Mr Adams	JAd
	Mr Bush	AB
	Mr Fayers-Hallin	VFH
	Mr Hardy	IH
	Mr Lay	JL
	Mr Pickering	RP
	Mr Watson	PW
	Mrs Williams	PWs

Mrs Sharp-Clerk

District Councillor Keith Baker  
County Councillors Laine Kadic and  
Sir Peter Brown

1 member of the public

## Item

## Action

### **Public Forum**

Mr Eddie Baker reported to the Parish Council that since his concerns were raised over the state of the High Street road, the County Council Highways Agency had attended the site twice, once to mark out the various areas of damage and once to repair some of the damage. He had then received an email stating that work was complete; however, he advised that this was not the case as there were still areas of damage not repaired, although they were marked out in preparation. Clerk agreed to contact Highways Agency in order to ascertain when the works would be completed. Mr Baker also raised concern over a tanker lorry that was driven through the gate at Lordsway park in order to access the sewerage farm in the early hours of the morning on a Saturday in August. Clerk advised that she had already attempted to contact Anglian Water to no avail but would continue to try and contact them to request that this is not repeated.

JS

### **87 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies received from Mrs Elphick.

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

Mr Lay expressed an interest in item 98 as an allotment holder. Mrs Adams and Mr Adams also expressed an interest in item 98 as spouses of allotment holders.

### **89 To sign and approve minutes of previous meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2012**

Minutes proposed by Mr Bush and seconded by Mr Lay. Minutes duly approved and signed.

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

Mr Pickering reported on the following outstanding actions from the last Parish

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Council Meeting:

- Clerk to contact HDC reference new “burger van”-Clerk has spoken with them, to be reported under correspondence
- Clerk to write to owners of house with Leilandi trees on Mill Road-Clerk has hand delivered a letter
- Mr Adams to report back to PC from the AAGA AGM meeting-Will be done under item 98
- Clerk to contact RoSPA to establish if any compulsory signs are needed at either playground-Clerk has contacted them and will report under item 99
- Clerk to obtain quotes for grass cutting and report back to meeting-To be reported under item 100
- Clerk to contact Terry Peck, local builder, to see if he can improve the concrete plinth under the metal bench on the village green-Clerk has spoken with him and he is going to take a look in the next week or so and send me written details and a quote of what can be done. Clerk will EMAIL everyone once this is received to ensure any work needed can be done before the next meeting
- Clerk to confirm if gritting route will remain the same in light of Stagecoach withdrawing the bus service-County Council advised that details of the routes to be gritted would be sent to all local Parishes around 10<sup>th</sup> October.
- Mr Pickering reported that since the July meeting he had completed his outstanding action of attempting to contact CCC with regards to street lighting, however, he had not been able to speak with anyone. He agreed to continue to try and speak with someone to highlight the Parish Council’s concerns over the length of time being taken to complete the works.

## 91 Update from County Councillors

County Councillor Lain Kadic asked the Parish Council if they had received any feedback on the bus service 46a. Mrs Williams reported that she had been told that whilst it was a good reliable service, there had been concerns over the seemingly low numbers using the service. Mr Adams reported that he had been told that the drivers were very courteous and helpful, often going out of their way to help those less mobile.

Councillor Kadic confirmed that she had received a very small number of complaints with regards to the timetable but she assured the Parish Council that she was continuing to monitor bus usage and would do so in the future.

Councillor Kadic reported that the County Council were considering introducing a charge for households with a second green garden waste bin. This was yet to be confirmed and Councillor Kadic would report back to the Parish Council when she received more details.

## 92 Community Orchard-Mr Pickering

Mr Pickering reported that he had visited the Community Orchard and there had been extensive weeding carried out by the tree warden. Mr Pickering had spoken with Bridget Halford from HDC who had advised that there needs to be some thought around where the grass needed to be cut in order to have a pathway

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between the trees. Mrs Aylott suggested the Clerk speaks with the Tree Warden to ascertain what work was required with more weeding and tidying at the site along with some possible planting and filling of space to the hedgerow around the football field and ask him to suggest when would be the best time to arrange for a working party to do this.

JS

## 93 Urban and Civic-Mrs Aylott

Mrs Aylott reported that she had not attended a meeting with Urban and Civic since the last Parish Council meeting, however, she had received a press release from Rebecca Britten stating that work was to commence on the new HCV entrance on the old A1 road. This would be the entrance for all HGV/HCVs requiring access to the site and was due to be completed by the end of the year. Work would then begin on new incubator building and tree planting at the existing entrance.

## 94 Neighbourhood Watch-Mr Hardy

Mr Hardy reported that he had recently attended a Neighbourhood Watch meeting where there had been a number of concerns raised. The first was concern over a vehicle that was parking on the green at the Lordsway Park end of the High Street near the junction of Frummety Lane. Clerk agreed to visit the site and speak with the owner of the vehicle if the problem continued. The NHW committee asked for the Parish Council to advertise for a volunteer to assist with planting in the village planters. Mr Fayers-Hallin will advertise in the Newsletter. There had been concern raised over plants that were overhanging onto the High Street. Clerk confirmed she had already contacted the property owner to no avail so would speak with Highways Agency as it was obstructing the Highway. Mr Hardy confirmed that the NHW committee were prepared to offer a donation of up to £400 towards a sign for the Community Orchard. Clerk agreed to email Bridge Halford to ascertain what sort of signs or labels would be required. It was confirmed that the Christmas Tree would be erected on 5<sup>th</sup> December and carols around the tree would be held on the evening of Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

Mr Hardy reported that concerns had again been raised over parking at the local primary School. Clerk agreed to contact local PCSO Gemma Clark, to arrange a site visit to try and alleviate the problems and to ask the Headteacher to remind parents about the parking issues.

## 95 Youth Group-Mrs Adams

Mrs Adams reported that there had not been a Youth Group committee meeting since the last Parish Council meeting, however, there had been a successful club night with a total of 141 attendees.

## 96 ASSC-Mr Watson/Mr Lay

Mr Lay advised that there was nothing to report from the last ASSC meeting. There would be a club night with the band “Frenzy” playing on 17<sup>th</sup> November

## 97 Memorial Hall-Mrs Adams

No meeting held since last Parish Council meeting. Boiler was awaiting repair at the time of the Parish Council meeting.

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## 98 Allotments

Mr Adams reported that he had attended the recent AAGA AGM meeting in Mrs Aylott's absence. There were no issues for the Parish Council from the meeting, however, Mr Adams reported that the AAGA were investigating the possibility of purchasing a lawnmower and strimmer to maintain the grass area at the allotment site. They were also looking into the possibility of purchasing a second water tank and increasing the amount of chippings on the access track.

## 99 Playgrounds

Mrs Williams had nothing to report from her visual inspection of the Bramble End playground. Clerk reported that she had been in contact with RoSPA as requested at the last meeting and they had confirmed that there were no compulsory signs needed at either playground.

## 100 Parish Council Grass Cutting

Clerk reported that she had received a quote for £6960 pa (£580 per cut) from the existing grass contractor for grass cutting for 3 years from 2013. Huntingdonshire District Council had been unable to provide a date on which they could visit the sites for quoting, however, advised that a rough quote would be a minimum of around £12,000. Clerk advised that she would be meeting with one further contractor and would email the quotes to all Councillors prior to the October meeting.

JS

## 101 PC Website-Mr Lay/Mrs Aylott/Clerk

Mrs Aylott advised that there had been communications between the Parish Council, the new Webmaster and CAPALC with regards to content on the website. The Parish Council decided unanimously, after consulting with CAPALC, that Income, Expenditure and Precept details as listed on the annual report, should be entered under the "accounts" heading. Clerk to email the webmaster.

JS

## 102 Footpath Diversion-Mrs Elphick

Nothing to report

## 103 Clerk's Infrastructure Report

### i. Churchyard

Mrs Aylott reported that there had been a Churchyard "tidy up" on 22<sup>nd</sup> September which had been well attended and very successful. There was still work to be done and it had been suggested that another session be held around Easter time, followed by an annual tidy up each September.

### ii. Village Green

Mr Bush commented that he felt there was an increase in the amount of dog waste being left on the Village Green. Clerk to investigate the possibility of dog waste bag dispensers on the green and near Church Way.

JS

### iii. Roads and Footpaths

Clerk confirmed that she would be speaking with Highways Agency with regards to the road on High Street near Lordsway Park. Concern was raised over a sunken drain along The Maltings, Clerk to contact Highways Agency in

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the first instance

JS

## iv. General

Mrs Williams expressed concern over tree branches in the brook. Mr Pickering reported that he had very recently seen someone clearing the area.

Clerk agreed to speak with NHW committee to investigate the possibility of having the village sign re-painted.

104

## Planning

### Planning Applications Received

None

### Planning Applications Determined

None

105

## Correspondence

### Email from tree warden ref fallen branches

Clerk had received an email with regards to branches near the ford on Brookside. Clerk to speak with GTS to ascertain if the tree needs trimming.

JS

### Emails from resident concerned about the bus service

Clerk had received an email from a resident unhappy with the new 46a timetable. She confirmed that she had passed this on to County Councillor Laine Kadic who was dealing with it.

JS

### Email regarding parking on the grass at Bramble End

Clerk had received 2 complaints about a car that had parked on the grassed area near Bramble End playground. Car has not been seen since, however, Clerk agreed to monitor.

(Action point of JS required )

### Email with concerns over new catering van in Maypole Square

Clerk had received 2 emails of concern over the catering van in Maypole Square. Following discussions at the last meeting, Clerk had already spoken with HDC who had advised that the van can only be removed by the police if it is causing a nuisance as it is not situated on HDC owned land.

(Action point of JS required )

106

## Responsible Finance Officer's Report

### Cheques for signature:

J Sharp-September Salary £445.95

J Sharp-Broadband expenses £21.75

Paul Tait-Final website invoice £120

MH-p-New website invoice £108

Youth Group-Running expenses (from YG account) £1000

SJH Gardening £95.00

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Cheques proposed by Mr Adams and seconded by Mr Hardy.

- 107     **Date of next meeting**  
**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2012 in the Memorial Hall**

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