

**Minutes of the Meeting of Alconbury Parish Council
held on Tuesday 28th April 2015 at Alconbury Memorial Hall.**

Public Participation: The Chairman answered a query raised by the parishioner present regarding tree planting on the village green.

Councillors present: Mrs. E. Adams, Mrs. J. Aylott (Chairman), Mr. C. Bodley, Mr. A. Bush, Ms. L. Isles, Mr. R. Sale, Mrs. K. Tarabella & Mr. A. Welsh.

Also present: County Cllr. P. Ashcroft, District Cllr. K. Baker, Mrs. D. Benham (Clerk) & 1 parishioner.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr. E. Elphick (personal) & Cllr. S. Tarabella (work commitment).
2. Declaration of Interests: Cllr. E. Adams declared an interest in item 9, being a trustee of Alconbury Recreation Field Charity.
3. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 31st March 2015: Approval of the minutes of 31st March 2015 proposed by Cllr. Welsh, seconded by Cllr. Bodley and unanimously agreed.
4. Report from County Councillors: District Cllr. Baker advised that HDC would not be raising their part of the Council Tax. The District Council has had to become self-supporting as it receives fewer grants from Central Government. County Cllr. Ashcroft advised that CCC were following through on planned cutbacks. Cllr. Aylott asked Cllr. Baker to report back at the next meeting on what was happening with the redevelopment of Huntingdon town centre.
5. Village entrance features: Jo Challis (Highways), Rebecca Britton (Urban & Civic), Cllr. Aylott and the Clerk are due to meet on 30th April to discuss the positioning and possible wording for the new village entrance signs.
6. Results from the panel meeting of Woolley Hill Wind Farm Trust held on 13th April: Cllr. Welsh advised that 8 applications for funding had been received and were considered at the panel meeting. The panel, made up from representatives of the surrounding Parish Councils, were very unhappy at the way in which Cambridgeshire Community Foundation (CCF), who were chosen by RES to administer the fund, were applying the criteria for granting funding. A number of the applications had to be altered or applied for by a different organisation in order to satisfy CCF. The joint bid made by Alconbury and Alconbury Weston Parish Councils for funding to reduce the speed limit on North Road between the villages had been rejected by CCF on the grounds that it did not meet the charitable aims of the fund. However, if Alconbury Recreation Field Charity (ARFC) will agree to make the application instead, it may be possible to secure £3900 which has been put aside. The Clerk has spoken to Laurence Rickard and provided copies of the original application and assurances that ARFC would not be required to make a contribution.
7. Update on Alconbury Weald: No meeting had taken place. The next meeting will be held on 4th June starting at 9.30am.
8. Alconbury Sports & Social Club: Cllr. Bodley reported that plans and quotes for the refurbishment of the bar were progressing well. The second breakfast morning had gone well. The ROSPA inspection of the play equipment had been booked for April.

9. Alconbury Recreation Field Charity: Cllr. Adams reported that the Easter Extravaganza had been a great success with 59 children enjoying the activities. The Fashion Show is sold out and future events include a Family Fun Day and the Charity Cricket Match. The next “Big Breakfast” will be held on Bank Holiday Monday, 4th May. Councillors asked whether smarter advertising boards could be used going forward. There had been a meeting with the Colts to discuss field maintenance and future rental charges.

10. Community Orchard/Trees: No report available. Pollarding of two willow trees had been completed and the Chairman reported that the willow tree that had been pollarded a few months ago, was now starting to sprout.

11. Memorial Hall: No meeting had taken place.

12. Neighbourhood Watch: Cllr. Bush had been unable to attend the last NHW meeting. The police crime report for February shows 2 recorded crimes, classified as: theft, Lark Way: violent and sexual assault, Recreation Field.

13. Bramble End playground:

Cllr. Welsh advised that the new footpaths had been completed and that there were no maintenance issues to report.

14. Youth Group: Cllr. Adams reported that the last club night on 10th April was poorly attended, probably due to it falling in the Easter holidays. A special club night will be held on 1st May to celebrate the club’s 10th Anniversary and the evening will include an “Animal Experience”.

15. Infrastructure report:

a) Churchyard – Work has started on the new path but a number of remains have been uncovered which require re-burial.

b) Village Green – Grass cutting has commenced. Cllr. Aylott proposed that Neighbourhood Watch should be given permission to hold the Village Fete on the green on Saturday 11th July. Seconded by Cllr. Adams and unanimously agreed.

c) Roads and footpaths – District Cllr. Baker had cleared the clippings from the conifer hedge on Mill Road. The Clerk had reminded CCC that the fencing near to the road bridge required painting and asked for the two new footbridges near to the end of Polecat Lane to be repainted. CCC had replied saying that due to budget cuts, only essential maintenance or accident damage repairs would be carried out for the foreseeable future. Councillors agreed that the Clerk should ask Day Today Maintenance for a quotation to carry out the work. Cllr. Welsh advised that CCC had started to cut some of the footpaths.

d) General – no other issues to report.

16. Planning.

a) Update on applications previously discussed.

15/00259/REM – Approval of access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale relating to outline planning permission 1201158OUT for construction of Enterprise Zone Club Building comprising B1, D1, D2 and A3 uses, with car parking, landscaping, lighting, signage, minor ground remodelling and associated works (advanced outside of a key phase). Alconbury Weald, Ermine Street, Little Stukeley. In progress.

14/02227FUL – Replace existing shop front (door and windows) and replace existing window with door. 1 Bell Lane, Alconbury, PE28 4DU. Approved by HDC.

15/00408/REP – Replacement of application TWA/99/APP/13 for proposed rail facilities and rail link to east coast mainline to extend the timescale for commencement, as set in condition 2 (Planning ref: 9701500OUT as replaced by 1000692REP). Alconbury Airfield, Ermine Street, Little Stukeley. In progress.

1401979REM – Application for approval of appearance, layout and scale in respect of primary infrastructure (to support delivery of Primary School), comprising construction of new highways, new junction to Ermine Street, hard and soft landscaping, new electricity substation(s), gas governors, water pressure booster pump, foul and surface water drainage systems, foul water pumping station, utilities infrastructure, all associated earthworks, including ground re-modelling and ancillary works (advanced outside of a key phase). Alconbury Weald, Ermine Street, Little Stukeley. Approved by HDC.

1300666FUL – Change of use from vacant land to provide six permanent pitches for gypsies and travellers. Former Megatron site, Ermine Street. Enquiry adjourned, due to reconvene 6th May 2015. The Clerk advised that two new Alconbury Weald applications would be available to view shortly – 15/00540/REM & 15/00542/REM. Both are for infrastructure.

b) A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Improvement Scheme.

The Parish Council has received a letter from The Planning Inspectorate giving notice of the Preliminary Meeting on Wednesday 13th May. The meeting will discuss how the scheme will be examined not the issues and concerns that have been raised. Councillors agreed that there was no need for a councillor or the clerk to attend.

17. Financial report:

a) Result of the internal audit carried out by Brian Cox & Co.

All complete with no issues raised.

b) To agree and sign the accounts for year ending 31st March 2015.

All councillors had received a copy of the accounts and the receipts and payments spreadsheet prior to the meeting. Cllr. Isles proposed that the accounts be accepted and signed by the Chairman and Clerk. Seconded by Cllr. Adams and unanimously agreed. Chairman and Clerk signed the accounts.

c) To complete and sign the Annual Return.

The Clerk had completed the Annual Return in preparation for external audit. Cllr. Bush proposed that Chairman and Clerk should sign Section 1, Accounting Statement and Section 2, Annual Governance Statement. Seconded by Cllr. K. Tarabella and unanimously agreed. Chairman and Clerk signed Section 1 & 2 of the Annual Return.

d) Payment of outstanding debts.

Cllr. Sale proposed approval of payment of items (1) to (4) . Seconded by Cllr. Adams and unanimously agreed.

(1) Cq. No. 837 Brian Cox & Co., internal audit fee. £144.00

(2) Cq. No. 838 A. Abbs, village grass cutting 1st instalment. £1160.00

(3) Cq. No. 839 Mrs. D. Benham, wages & expenses for April. £730.20

(4) Cq. No. 840 HMRC, PAYE/NI for April. £1.20

e) Current position.

A copy of the receipts and payments was handed to each councillor.

18. Correspondence:

a) email from CCC advising dates for microasphalting of Manor Lane and Rusts Lane.

b) CCC proposed 3rd revision of the Local Validation List for applications for Planning Permission.

c) email from AAGA asking if the Parish Council could put the invoice for water supply from Anglian Water through the Parish Council's accounts so that the VAT could be claimed back. The Clerk had replied explaining that this would not be possible as it would contravene HMRC rules.

19. New agenda items for the next meeting: None requested.

20. Date of the next meeting: 16th May 2015, starting at 7.30pm at Alconbury Memorial Hall.
Annual Parish Meeting, followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

Signed.....

Date.....