

**Minutes of the meeting of Alconbury Parish Council  
held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at Alconbury Memorial Hall.**

Parish Councillors present: Mrs. E. Adams, Mrs. J. Aylott, Mr. C. Bodley (Acting Chairman), Mrs. T. Gilbert, Mr. R. Sale, & Mr. A. Welsh.

Also present: Mrs. D. Benham (Clerk) & 1 parishioner.

1. Apologies for absence: Ms. L Isles (personal), Mrs. R. McCormack (personal), Mr. S. Tarabella (personal) & County Cllr. I. Gardener (attending another meeting).
2. Declaration of Interests: Cllr. Welsh declared an interest in item 13, being a trustee of the Memorial Hall. Cllr. Adams declared an interest in item 11, being a trustee of the Alconbury Recreation Field Charity. Cllr. Aylott declared an interest in payment number (4).
3. Co-option to fill councillor vacancy: Carried forward to the next meeting.
4. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2017: Approval of the minutes of 29<sup>th</sup> August 2017 proposed by Cllr. Welsh, seconded by Cllr. Aylott and unanimously agreed.
5. Reports from District & County Councillors: None available.
6. Results from the Woolley Hill Wind Farm Trust panel meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> September: The results of the panel meeting had been circulated to all councillors. Amongst the successful bids, Alconbury C of E Primary School had been granted £5000 towards an interactive whiteboard and IT equipment for use by the wider community, and Alconbury Parish Council had been granted £3500 towards installing a new roundabout at Bramble End playground. Cllr. Aylott proposed that an order should be placed with Wicksteed Leisure Ltd. once an offer letter had been received. Seconded by Cllr. Adams and unanimously agreed. Total cost of the roundabout including installation will be £3999.80 plus VAT. £499.80 will be taken from CIL money held.
7. Alconbury Brook Flood Management Partnership Group and Community Emergency Plan: Alconbury Parish Council hosted a Partnership Meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> September. The Environment Agency (EA) are reviewing the schemes considered in 1998 – 2007, that were shelved due to lack of funding, as there has been a change to the way schemes can be financed. An initial report will be available in November. EA have secured funding, available April 2018, which will be used to increase the number of flow monitoring sites, which will help to improve the modelling accuracy to predict flood risk and assist with funding applications. The Natural Flood Management sub-committee met in May and agreed general principles. EA are preparing a business case for money they have secured from DEFRA and a consultant will look at a potential model. Maintenance procedures are being reviewed and Alconbury Brook is due to be weed sprayed in both the channel and on some of the banks. Alconbury and Alconbury Weston are suitable for Temporary Demountable Defences (TDD). This has been costed and Highways England have been approached for partnership funding. Alconbury Weston have submitted their draft Community Emergency Plan to the EA and Alconbury's plan will be submitted shortly. Balfour Beatty will be carrying out work on the lamp post by the bus stop, to enable EA's contractor to fit a camera which will provide pictures of the water level under the bridge, that residents will be able to view on line.
8. Parish Plan: A further quantity of completed questionnaires have been received. Cllr. Isles to give an update at the next meeting.

9. Update on Alconbury Weald: Notes from the liaison meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> September had been circulated to all councilors. Urban & Civic have erected new signs indicating where the temporary bus stop is located. The next liaison meeting is scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup> November.

10. Alconbury Sports & Social Club: Cllr. Adams advised that bar sales were encouraging and that the cricket wicket was being treated.

11. Alconbury Recreation Field Charity: Cllr. Adams advised that she had fed back the Apple Day plans to the committee. ARFC are entering a scarecrow in the Scarecrow Competition. Several successful cycling events had been hosted. The cost of fireworks had risen so much this year, that despite sponsorship from Urban & Civic and the brewery, the event may have to be cancelled but attempts will be made to secure further sponsorship first.

12. Community Orchard/Trees: GTS have completed the works on the Ash tree which had phone cables growing through it. Councillors have met to finalise plans for the Apple Day on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2pm – 4pm at the Sports & Social Club. Volunteers to meet at 1pm.

13. Memorial Hall: No meeting had taken place.

14. Bramble End playground:

Creative Play have carried out repairs to the roofs of the multi-play unit and the leg on the rolling barrel. The Clerk has queried why some of the timbers on the roofs had not been replaced. The Clerk has also chased HAGS/SMP regarding the outstanding repairs to the motorbike springer.

Cllr. Aylott to contact Mr. Holme about respraying the weeds. The Lottery Fund had acknowledged the application for funding for the Outdoor Gym equipment.

15. Youth Group: Cllr. Adams advised that 66 juniors and 23 seniors attended the September club night, enjoying a visit from the Ramsey Raptors. The Youth Club stall at the village fete made a welcome profit and the children will be making scarecrows at the next club night on 6<sup>th</sup> October. The November meeting has been moved to 10<sup>th</sup> November. More helpers are still needed.

16. Police crime report: The July crime report showed 6 reported crimes .

17. Infrastructure report:

a) Churchyard – Nothing to report.

b) Village Green – Badly fitting small manhole cover near to 38 Brookside – Highways closed the report without dealing with the problem. The Clerk has now contacted the Highways Supervisor directly. The new grit bin by the village sign, has been filled by Highways. The wooden railings by the footbridge next to the ford on the High Street side is rotten, and has been reported to CCC for repair.

c) Roads and footpaths – The overhanging hedge on the footpath from The Maltings to Alconbury Weston has been cut back. The Rights of Way Officer is contacting various landowners to ask them to cut back the hedges and trees along North Road. Residents have cut back the brambles and nettles on the footpath from Rusts Lane to Chapel Street. Future maintenance to be discussed at the November meeting.

d) General – The Clerk has had further communications with Royal Sun Alliance, as the payment for the insurance claim was not received as promised. A cheque in full settlement should be received by 2<sup>nd</sup> October. The Clerk made a complaint about the poor quality of the grass cutting carried out by HDC to areas that they own. As a result, an additional cut was completed.

18. Planning – Update on previous applications.

17/01619/HHFUL Demolition of existing conservatory. Single storey rear extension. 8 Beech End, Alconbury. In progress.

15/00749/FUL Change of use from parking and maintenance of 2 HGV lorries and trailers and a pickup truck to a mixed use of parking and maintenance of 2 HGV lorries and 2 trailers and a pickup truck and storage and sale of aggregates. Including the construction of new aggregate storage bays. Top Farm, Ermine Street, Alconbury. In progress.

Alconbury surgery has made an appeal to have the “gradualisation period” of 3 months extended to 6 months, in the event that a new pharmacy opens in the village shop.

19. Financial report:

a) Payment of outstanding debts - Cllr. Welsh proposed approval of payments (1) to (5). Seconded by Cllr. Adams and unanimously agreed. Cllr. Aylott did not take part in the vote.

(1) Cq. No. 998 A. Abbs, 6<sup>th</sup> instalment for grass cutting. £1220.00

(2) Cq. No. 999 A. Abbs, 6<sup>th</sup> instalment for verge cutting. £500.00

(3) Cq. No. 1000 Global Tree Solutions, tree work. £336.00

(4) Cq. No. 1001 Mrs. J. Aylott, reimbursement for sundries purchased for Apple Day. £21.53

(5) Cq. No. 1002 Mrs. D. Benham, wages & expenses of Parish Clerk for September. £671.78

b) Current position - A copy of the receipts and payments and bank reconciliation was handed to each councillor. Cllr. Bodley confirmed that the balance in the bank account was correct as shown on the reconciliation.

20. Correspondence:

a) Huntingdonshire Town & Parish Council Conference 9<sup>th</sup> Oct., Burgess Hall, 9.30am – 1.30pm.

b) Road Works Bulletin 1<sup>st</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> September.

c) Brookside – Road closure for gas works.

d) Specialist fertility services to be suspended in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough.

e) ACRE annual review.

f) A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon News.

g) Cambridgeshire Matters September Newsletter.

h) Fair Funding for Cambridgeshire.

i) Annual catch-up for Clerks & Councillors 22<sup>nd</sup> September.

j) Email from parishioner regarding the temporary bus stop.

k) A14 planned closures.

l) Roadworks and Events Bulletin 16<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> September

m) Cambridgeshire Town & Parish Council Conference 17<sup>th</sup> Nov., Burgess Hall, 9am – 1.30pm.

n) Cambridgeshire Highways Depot Open Days.

o) Email from parishioner with concerns over flooding, regarding the new bridge being constructed to the south-east of the village. Clerk to advise the parishioner to contact Highways England.

p) Precept forms received for 2018/19 with notification of election costs.

q) Letter and poster received from HDC advertising “Recycle Week”

21. Clerk’s annual appraisal: Now Overdue. Cllr. Bodley to follow this up.

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

23. Date of the next meeting: 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017 starting at 7.30pm at Alconbury Memorial Hall.

Signed.....

Date.....

