

Alconbury Parish Council

Charlotte Copley, Parish Clerk 01487 813606

Minutes of Meeting:

Date: Tuesday 25th June 2019

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Alconbury Memorial Hall

Parish Councillors present: Mr. C. Bodley (Chairman), Mrs. T. Gilbert, (Vice Chair), Mr. M. Gunney, Mr R Johnson, Mrs. S. Brawn, Mr.T. MacLennan.

Also present: The Clerk Ms. C. Copley, County Cllr. I. Gardener, Mr. J. Hudson of Cambs County Council and 4 parishioners.

Public Open Forum: The first member of public raised the following concerns to the Chairman; That the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting May 2019 be published on the website. To voice their thanks that Alconbury is no longer a service centre within the Huntingdonshire 2036 Local Plan. That it was noted within the minutes of the previous meeting the low response to the Electric Vehicle Survey, as was the previously requested survey on the Local Plan and that they hoped both are treated in equal ways. With reference to agenda item 4 regarding Local Highway Initiative Bids that the Parish Council will engage with members of the public on its ideas, in particular to any installation of speed bumps or items that would cause vibrations. Lastly the member of the public asked to address a question to Mr Hudson, Highways Officer of Cambs County Council, could it be confirmed who the land owners are of the land from the Truck Stop, going North from the petrol station slip road. Mr Hudson agreed he would look in to this and get back to the Clerk. A second member of public raised concerns regarding the land below the flyover going over the High Street and Lordsway Park Homes, the graffiti is still present on the columns and the area is being used as a hangout for youths, littering etc, as reported at the meeting of 21st May 2019. The Clerk reported that since the last meeting the following organisations have been contacted in relation to this matter; Cambs Community Policing, Hunts District Council Street Cleanse Manager, Community Safety Team also at Hunts DC and Highways England. The relevant organisations are aware of the situation and the Clerk will keep the Council informed of developments. The Chairman will correspond with the District Councillor representative Mr J White for a response to this issue. Again, villagers are encouraged to report incidents as and when they happen via the online reporting links on the County Council and District Council website and Police 101 if necessary. Conversation then moved to addressing the expansion join on the flyover, Mr Hudson confirmed the potholes have been repaired within the last few days but the residents said they did not believe this to be the case, Mr Hudson confirmed he will investigate and get back to the residents. Mr Hudson also confirmed barrier repairs have been carried out recently with the installation of a solid steel barrier to prevent stones (this is not a sound barrier). Cllr Brawn confirmed following a recent meeting she attended with Highways England lots of road maintenance will be being carried out in the area (reporting on item number 7 below) which will include essential repair works to ensure safety and performance of the road is maintained, additional works will be carried out at the same time to ensure maximum efficiency of road closures, work will include upgrading safety barriers and routine maintenance.

Villagers may find the following websites useful;

Alconbury PC minutes of meetings <http://www.alconburyparishcouncil.gov.uk/meetings.php>

Cambs County Council reporting <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults/>

Hunts District Council reporting https://applications.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/forms/Operations/New_Street_Cleaning_1.html

Highways England road maintenance A1 (M) between Junctions 14 and 17 2019

<https://highwaysengland.co.uk/regions/east/?postcode=&keywords=&roads=&status=>

1. Apologies for absence. Cllr. S. Tarabella (medical reasons), District.Cllr. J. White (did not attend)
2. To receive declarations of interest.
 - a) Councillors to declare any "Discloseable Pecuniary Interests" in any items on the agenda.
 - b) Councillors to declare any "Other Interests" in any items on the agenda.Cllr. M. Gunney declared an interest in the Alconbury Recreation Field Charity
3. To approve and sign the minutes of the last meeting held on 21st May 2019. Cllr. Gunney proposed the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting 21st May 2019 be approved and signed, seconded by Cllr. Gilbert with all in favour it was therefore **resolved** to do so. As the Chairman was not present at the previous meeting, the Chairman then signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office, which was subsequently countersigned by the Clerk.
4. To discuss possible LHI projects with Joseph Hudson, Local Highways Officer, Cambridgeshire County Council. The Chairman presented the 3 possible projects to Mr Hudson with a view to applying for a Local Highways Initiative bid as follows;
 - 1) A new CCTV camera focussed on the brook/bridge area of the village, to capture large vehicles coming over the bridge that shouldn't be. Quotations pending.
 - 2) Rusts Lane and High Street traffic calming
 - 3) The purchase and installation of further village signage, such as "Pedestrians Crossing".Mr Hudson explained to the Parish Council how the Local Highways Initiative scheme works, with the next deadline for applications for funding being the 4th August 2019. After discussions around signage and road layout, Mr Hudson suggested an initial form of traffic calming could be the installation of a Speed Indicator Device, Cllr Bodley proposed the way forward would be for the Council to look at traffic calming options such as remodelling of the junction of Rusts Lane/High Street and possible purchase and installation of SIDs (Speed Indicator Devices) in key locations within the village. With the deadline for applications for funding approaching, County Cllr. Gardener proposed the Clerk arrange a date and time within the next 2 weeks, suitable to Councillors, for them to meet with the Highways Engineer to establish the feasibility of these proposals, Cllr. Gilbert seconded the proposal and with all in favour therefore **resolved** to do so.

The condition of Polecat Lane was raised with regards to the road and the overgrown verges. Mr Hudson confirmed the Dragon Patcher has been ordered and will be out to repair the potholes and the drainage issues will be investigated.

The Clerk stated a conversation was had with the grass cutting contractor who informed he has been unable to cut the grass verges along Polecat Lane due to them being rutted and uneven. Mr Hudson agreed to investigate this issue and will report back with his findings.

5. Reports from District & County Councillors

After the Annual Meeting of the County Council Cllr. Gardener announced he will continue to serve on Highways/Infrastructure and pensions, Fire Authority and the St. Neots Master Plan. The County Council hope to move to the new offices on Alconbury Weald in December 2020. Bookgate are the contractors selected for the conversion of Shire Hall to offices and a hotel. The Public Rights of Way over Shire Hall still remain with the Civil War earthworks being made more available to the public. The County Council are also looking at household recycling centres with regards to commercial waste, after the consequence of out of area recycling sites refusing commercial waste higher volumes are coming in to the Cambs sites. The plan is to set up a commercial waste permit for vans, this will be free of charge for Cambridgeshire residents. The Combined Authority are taking over transportation (buses and trains) in 2020. The consultation is from now until September 2019 and can be viewed at the following locations;

26th June St. Neots library 2-7pm

29th June Cambs Central Library 10-3pm

4th July Peterborough Town Hall 3-8pm

6th July Cambourne Library 9-1pm

11th July Cambridge Central Library 10 – 6pm

13th July Huntingdon Library 10-3pm

25th July St Ives Free Church 3-8pm

4th September Cambridge Central Library 10-3pm

6. To receive verbal reports from Councillors on their portfolio of responsibilities

Sports and Social Club – AGM coming up shortly. Trustees meeting on Thursday evening, currently looking for trustees
Memorial Hall – Cllr. Tarabella forwarded a report in his absence. Cllr. Tarabella attended the AGM on the 4th June, a new Chairman was voted in along with members of the committee. The Hall is running well

Bramble End Playground – Wicksteed Leisure are due to carry out their annual inspection of the play equipment on Wednesday 26th June. The Clerk will receive the report in due course. Cllr. MacLennan reported all is well with the park and will commence painting of the items shortly. The treadmill on the helicopter is currently away for repairs.

Woolley Hill Wind Farm – Cllr. MacLennan recently attended a Panel meeting in April

Flood Coordinator – Cllr. Gilbert confirmed the Flood Plan will be issued shortly.

7. To receive an update on the Electric Vehicle Survey and EV workshop – Cllr. Johnson attended the recent workshop and advised the next steps would be for the Cambs County Council to conduct a viability study, to establish the possibility of installing a community fast charger within the Memorial Hall Grounds. EV charging points can only be installed, on land owned by the Parish, the Memorial Hall is owned by the Church Commission. Cllr. Bodley proposed the Clerk look in to approaching the Church Commission for their views, seconded by Cllr Johnson, with all in favour it was therefore **resolved** to do so.

8. To receive an update from Cllr. Brawn on the Highways England event, 13th May 2019 re A1 (M) Major Maintenance 2019. Cllr. Brawn attended the Highways England event. Highways England will be carrying out essential repair works on the A1 (M) northbound and southbound and carriageways between junction 14 and the Alconbury interchange to ensure that safety and performance of the road is maintained for road users. The works are currently planned to take place in summer 2019 and commuters are encouraged to check the effect of the works on their journey here;

www.highwaysengland.co.uk/regions/east/

Check live traffic at www.trafficengland.com

Cllr. Brawn proposed the links be circulated where possible to raise awareness of the works, Cllr Bodley seconded the proposal and agreed to place something on Nextdoor and the poster be placed on the village noticeboard, with all in favour it was therefore **resolved** to do so.

9. To approve the draft Parish Newsletter and agree distribution. Cllr. Bodley proposed the draft newsletter be approved for production and delivery routes agreed, Cllr. Gilbert seconded the proposal and with all in favour it was therefore **resolved** to do so.

10. To receive updates following the recent Alconbury Brook Flood Management meeting. – Cllr. Johnson proposed the Riberion ownership document be placed on the Parish website, the document is relevant to anyone who owns land that abuts a watercourse and their responsibilities, Cllr. Bodley seconded the proposal with all in favour and therefore **resolved** to do so. The Clerk will place the document on the website and it can also be made available by contacting the Clerk. Cllr. Johnson then informed the Council the Environment Agency have requested the communities views and preference on 4 options for future flood prevention works, and proposed the Council work in collaboration with Alconbury Weston to gather the information. The options would need to be put to the community. Cllr Brawn proposed a good way to reach out to the community would be to have a stand the village fete, Cllr. Johnson seconded the proposal and agreed to liaise with Alconbury Weston Parish Council and other Councillors for their assistance. The results of the survey are due by the beginning of August. With all in favour it was therefore **resolved** to do so.

11. Police crime report – The Clerk reported 3 incidents of crime have been reported in the village for the month of April 2019.

12. Infrastructure report:

(a) Churchyard.

(b) Village Green.

(c) Roads & footpaths. Cllr. Johnson has obtained approval from the homeowner nearest the desired location of the new waste bin to be installed. Once the installation company have decided on the fixings required the Clerk will order the bin and arrange installation. Cllr. Johnson has offered to liaise with the installation company to show them where the bin is to be placed. Once the bin is installed Cllr. Bodley will place an article in the Parish Pump.

(d) General. The Clerk has completed the Acceptance Form from Global Tree Solutions (GTS) to go ahead with the application to the District Council for removal of a tree in a conservation area, to completely remove the poplar tree adjacent to the brook that had previously lost a large limb.

13. Planning.

a) Planning applications:

19/00958/LBC Internal and external repairs to roof covering and structure along with storey post and sole plate investigations and repairs as necessary. – The Bell House, 8 High Street Alconbury. Cllr. Johnson proposed the Parish Council make no observations either in favour or against the application, the proposal was seconded by Cllr. Bodley and with all in favour it was therefore **resolved** to do so.

b) Update on previous applications.

18/02223/REM – Application for approval of appearance, layout, landscaping and scale in respect of the construction of 189 homes, pocket park, associated highways, landscaping and ancillary works, parcel 5 Alconbury Weald – APPROVED

19/000425/HHFUL – 3 The Acre, Alconbury, erection of a single storey extension - APPROVED

18/02499/REM – Reserved matters in respect of construction of new highway and re-use of existing runway/taxi way to form part of a link from the A141, Alconbury Weald – IN PROGRESS

18/02275/REM – Reserved matters in respect of the construction of a new highway to form a link from the A141 to Key Phase 1 and all associated works. Land west of the East Coast Mainline Railway and work of Spittals Way - IN PROGRESS

18/01217/FUL - The erection of a building to accommodate the HQ and Air Ambulance Station for Magpas, including hangar and garaging space for a helicopter and emergency vehicles. With associated landscaping, car parking and boundary treatment with access from Ermine Street – IN PROGRESS

18/01577/REM - Submission of reserved matters (appearance, access, landscaping, layout and scale) in respect of the construction of a new roundabout from the A141 including drainage, landscaping and associated works. - IN PROGRESS

18/00707/FUL - Alconbury Services Rusts Lane Alconbury Huntingdon PE28 4WD

Demolition of motel, services and petrol filling station and change of use from lorry park, motel, services and petrol filling station, to lorry park, incorporating container transshipment storage (within the existing lorry park) and erection of office building with associated car parking and replacement lighting – IN PROGRESS

17/02343/FUL - Land Adjacent 9 Rusts Lane Alconbury

AMENDED PROPOSAL/PLANS Retention of access/driveway to 9 Rusts Lane and erection of a 2-bed bungalow – IN PROGRESS

14. Financial report.

a) Payment of outstanding debts: Cllr. Bodley proposed the payments numbered 1-5 be approved, seconded by Cllr. Gunney with all in favour and resolved to do so, the 2 signatories signed the cheques;

1. Ms C Copley	Clerks wages and expenses for May 2019	£ 633.30
2. A Abbs	Grass Cutting to village, CCC & HDC areas, 3 rd installment	£1920.00
3. Information Commission	Data Protection Fee Renewal	£ 40.00
4. Alconbury RFC	Donation towards ground maintenance	£1000.00
5. Office World	Purchase of ink cartridges – Clerk	£ 41.04

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. Monies received;

AAGA	Remaining allotment rent	£200
	Repairs to village pump surround	£200
CCC	Grass cutting to CCC areas	£2261.98

c) The Clerk forwarded the Parish Council insurance renewal schedule to Councillors on the 14th June 2019. Cllr. Gilbert proposed the Council approve the new unique policy Parish Protect insurance proposal underwritten by Royal Sun Alliance Insurance Group, and that the Council also accept the Long Term Undertaking figure of £632.02 for 3 years. The premium this year has made a saving of £275.98 on last years renewal figure. The proposal was seconded by Cllr. Bodley and with all in favour it was therefore **resolved** to do so.

d) Cllr. Bodley proposed the Council register for the Parish Online mapping tool, to enable the mapping of the Councils assets within the village and Cllr. Johnson agreed to map the assets. The proposal was seconded by Cllr. Gilbert, with all in favour and therefore **resolved** to do so.

15. Correspondence.

a) Several emails highlighting concern over the littering and gathering of youths on the ground below the A1 flyover, High Street. This item has been covered in agenda item Public Forum within these minutes.

b) Several reports of flooding in the village during recent wet weather.

c) Letter from Nigel Finney, Managing Director of Chorus Homes announcing the rebranding of Luminus Homes.

d) Telephone call and follow up email regarding further damage to the village pump surround. The Clerk is liaising with the company responsible who have offered to replace all of the posts as a good will gesture.

16. New agenda items for the next meeting.

Apologies for the next meeting from Cllr. Bodley and Cllr. MacLennan.

17. Date of the next meeting – Tuesday 30th July 2019, 7.30pm, Alconbury Memorial Hall