

Minutes of Meeting – Alconbury Parish Council

Status: Draft

Date Tuesday 29th May 2012
Meeting Annual General Meeting
Venue Memorial Hall, Alconbury

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

Mrs Sharp-Clerk

District Councillor Keith Baker

2 members of the public

Item

Action

Public Forum

Mr Hodgson queried when Urban & Civic would be attending an APC meeting or holding a public meeting to update the village as to progress at the base. He also raised concern that very little appeared to be happening and that jobs which should be coming to Alconbury may be going elsewhere as a result.

Mrs Aylott advised that these points would be covered later on in the agenda under item 185 'Urban & Civic'

Roger Read expressed his concern that Alconbury seemed to be donating a lot of money into projects and events that were for the benefit of both Alconbury and other villages and asked whether other villages also contribute the same amount into such events. Mrs Aylott advised Mr Read that Alconbury Parish Council had approached Alconbury Weston recently with regards to the Jubilee sponsorship but they had already planned an event. All agreed to monitor and contact Alconbury Weston or other villages, when any joint projects were looking for funding.

Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Mr Watson (professional commitments) and also County Councillors Brown and Kadic

1 Appointment of Chair and Officers

Mrs Aylott welcomed the new Councillors, Mr Adrian Bush, Mr Vic Fayers-Hallin and Mr Jeremy Adams to the meeting. She reported that they had been co-opted at the Parish Council meeting held on 23rd May 2012.

All councillors in attendance signed their declaration of office forms. Mrs Aylott was proposed by Mr Pickering to stand as chair again. This was seconded by Mrs

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Adams. Mrs Aylott agreed to stand as chair for another year.

Mrs Sharp, Clerk, was proposed as the RFO for another year by Mrs Williams and seconded by Mr Hardy.

2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Mr Watson (Professional commitments) and also County Councillors Brown and Kadic who had a prior engagement.

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

Mr Lay expressed an interest in item 14 as an allotment holder. Mrs Adams and Mr Adams also expressed an interest in item 14 as spouses of allotment holders.

4 To sign and approve minutes of previous meeting held on 24th April 2012.

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

5 Actions from last meeting-Mr Pickering

Mr Pickering reported on the following outstanding actions from the last Parish Council Meeting:

- Clerk to contact Stagecoach ref local bus service-To be discussed under item 8
- Clerk to raise a cheque for the Glyn Faulkner Trust to sponsor the Jubilee celebrations-Clerk confirmed that this had been done.
- Clerk to order a “no ball games” sign for Bramble End playground-Clerk confirmed that this had been done.
- Mr Hardy to investigate the possibility of a speed limit change within the Village-To be discussed under item 10
- Mrs Sharp to contact Highways Agency with reference to a new bench and movement of bus stop as per NHW request-Clerk confirmed this had been done and passed back to NHW.
- Clerk to investigate the possibility of a brook clearance-Ongoing
- Mr Lay to contact local resident Roger Read for local pictures to put on the new website-Mr Lay confirmed that this had been done

6 Localism Update

County Councillor Sir Peter Brown was absent from the meeting therefore no update was available.

7 Urban and Civic-Mrs Aylott

Mrs Aylott reported that she had been unable to attend the recent meeting at Urban and Civic; however, she was able to report back from Mr Watson's notes who had

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attended in her place.

Mrs Aylott reported that there had been an increasing amount of concern over the final name for the site. Whilst there was no official decision, residents in Alconbury were becoming concerned that the site was being referred to as “Alconbury”, especially as the name Alconbury had been used repeatedly in the recent information brochure sent to local households by Urban and Civic. Mrs Aylott agreed to raise the issue again at the next Urban and Civic meeting.

Mrs Aylott reported that the first building planning application would be submitted around the end of June. Once submitted, HDC would need around 12 months to consider the application. Parish Council’s would have around 3 months in order to consider and discuss the application.

The public consultation evening had been arranged for Wednesday 20th June between 14.30-2200 at the Memorial Hall in Alconbury. All are welcome to attend to view plans and discuss any queries or concerns with Urban and Civic.

8 Local Bus Service

Clerk reported that she had received numerous calls from residents concerned that the village would be losing the bus service imminently after hearing from the bus drivers that this was the case. After contacting County Councillor Kadic, the Clerk confirmed that there were no planned changes to the bus service at the present time.

9 Playgrounds-Mrs Williams

Mrs Williams reported that everything was ok at the village playgrounds. There were new signs at Bramble End, one stating “no dogs allowed” and another stating “no ball games” inside the play area.

10 Neighbourhood Watch-Mr Hardy

Mr Hardy reported that he had investigated the possibility of a 20mph speed limit in the village at the request of the NHW committee and the Parish council. Unfortunately the cost involved in changing the speed limits would be extensive and Mr Hardy had been advised by Cambridgeshire County Council that no funding would be available to assist with the speed limit change. Additional to funding issues, Mr Hardy also reported that any sign changes would need to be done with permission from CCC. Mrs Aylott requested that more research be done into this as it was agreed that a lower speed limit in some parts of the village should be a priority. Clerk to put on next agenda.

Mr Hardy reported that NHW committee had been in contact with Highways Agency with regards to the bench that they wish to put on Great North Road and it was ongoing.

11 Youth Group

Mr Pickering reported that there had not been a Youth Group committee meeting since the last Parish Council meeting. He had received a copy of the first year financial report from Jacquie Fairbrass and agreed to circulate it to all Councillors.

Mrs Adams reported that numbers at Youth Group club nights continues to increase. Whilst it is positive that the club is well attended, there were concerns that

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there may need to be a capacity number set and potentially children could end up being turned away. Mrs Adams reported that volunteers were still very much needed and anyone interested should contact the YG committee or the Parish Clerk.

Mrs Aylott agreed to send a letter of congratulations to the YG committee on completion of their first year success.

12 ASSC

Mr Lay reported that he had attended the AGM recently. The Chairman of the ASSC committee had resigned and a new chairman had not yet been appointed. There were also 3 new committee members on the committee.

Mr Lay reported that the Community Orchard had become overgrown and there was no path through the orchard. All agreed that this could be discussed with Bridget Halford at the next Parish Council meeting.

There was concern raised over the lack of advertising for the forthcoming Jubilee celebrations at the ASSC. Mrs Aylott agreed to contact the committee organizing the event.

13 Memorial Hall

Mrs Adams reported that she had not attended the last Memorial Hall committee meeting. She was aware that new tables had been purchased and plans had been made to refurbish the main hall floor in July (w/c 16/07/2012)

14 Allotments-Mrs Aylott

Nothing to report.

15 Footpath Diversion-Mrs Elphick

Nothing to report

16 Change of Bank Accounts-Clerk

Clerk reported that CAPALC had advised that changing to Unity Trust Bank would be acceptable. Clerk to investigate opening new accounts with a view to moving all PC accounts over to Unity Trust after the audit was closed and passed later in the year.

17 Clerk's Infrastructure Report

i. Churchyard

Nothing to report

ii. Village Green

Mrs Aylott reported that she had received compliments on the recent grass cut on the green. Mrs Elphick raised concern over a dead willow tree on the green near the ford end.

Mr Bush raised concern over a vehicle that had been seen to be consistently parking on the end of the green by the ford. Mrs Aylott agreed to contact vehicle owner. Whilst discussing the issue, many Councillors felt that they would like to try and reopen the ford. Clerk to put on next agenda for discussion.

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iii. Roads and Footpaths

Clerk reported that she had received a complaint regarding the condition of the road at the top of Great North Road near the A1 flyover after some potholes had been poorly repaired. Clerk had already reported this to Highways Agency.

Mrs Adams raised concern over some trees that were overhanging the footpath on the Great North Road, almost blocking the path totally. Clerk to organise trimming ASAP. Mrs Adams also raised concern about trees in The Maltings that were growing out over the road.

Mrs Aylott requested that the triangle of grass between Mill Road and Brookside be cut.

iv. General

Concern was raised over a large chestnut tree at the ASSC site which looked to have bleeding canker. Clerk to arrange a visit from local tree surgeons.

Mrs Aylott reported that a car had been driven along the footpath from The Maltings heading towards Polecat Lane. A bollard had been irreparably damaged at the time and an incident number obtained from the police. Clerk confirmed that all damaged had seemingly been repaired.

Mrs Elphick raised concern that the permanent repair to the foot bridge on Polecat Lane had still not been completed. Clerk to chase.

Clerk confirmed that she was looking into the ownership of the large oak tree on Mill Road which appeared to be dangerously hanging over the footpath. Mr Pickering raised concern over nettles encroaching onto the footpath at Mill Lane. Clerk to arrange removal.

18 Planning

Planning Applications Received

1200515FUL- Demolition of existing barn and construction of bulk grain store, grain dryer building along with erection of associated grain dryer, pre-store hopper bottomed grain holding bins and bulk out load bins

Weybridge Farm Woolley Road Alconbury Huntingdon PE28 4HN

Councillors viewed the application and resolved not to make any observations.

Planning Applications Determined

None

19 Correspondence

Email from Resident reference site name for Alconbury Airfield development proposals.

This issue was discussed under item 7

Email ref mobile libraries

Mrs Aylott had received an email requesting details of local publications in which the local mobile library service could advertise. It also offered a new online positioning system to locate the nearest mobile library.

Community Orchard

Email received from Bridget Halford of HDC requesting a meeting with the Parish Council to discuss the Community Orchard. All agreed that she should attend the next PC meeting.

Resignation of village Tree Warden

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Mrs Aylott received a letter of resignation from Peter Rowlings, tree warden, after 9 years of dedicated service. All councillors wished to thank Mr Rowlings for all his hard work and commitment. Mrs Aylott advised that she and the Clerk would be putting together an advert for a new tree warden.

Complaints ref horse mess

Mrs Aylott reported that complaints had been received over horse mess repeatedly being found to be on pavements. Clerk agreed to write to local stables to request that horses are kept to the roads.

20 Responsible Finance Officer's Report

Cheques for signature:

Demon Web Hosting-Direct Debit-£11.50

J Sharp-April Salary-£445.95

J Sharp-Broadband expenses-£21.75

Creative Play-Playground resurfacing-TBC (need to confirm precept is received first)

Youth Group Hall Rental £111

Mhp-Parish Council Website-£100.76

Donation to Alconbury School as agreed at April meeting-£250

Eileen Elphick-Expenses £55.78

21 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 26th June 2012 in the Memorial Hall

Jo Sharp-Clerk

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