

**Minutes of the Meeting of Alconbury Parish Council
held on Tuesday 25th November 2014 at Alconbury Memorial Hall.**

Councillors present: Mrs. E. Adams, Mr. C. Bodley, Mr. A. Bush, Mrs. E. Elphick, Mr. R. Sale, Mrs. K. Tarabella & Mr. A. Welsh.

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

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr. J. Aylott (personal), Cllr. L. Isles (work commitment), Cllr. S. Tarabella (work commitment) & County Cllr. P. Brown (attending another meeting).

2. Declaration of Interests: Cllr. E. Adams declared an interest in item 16a being a trustee of Alconbury Recreation Field Charity.

3. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 28th October 2014:
Approval of the minutes of 28th October 2014 proposed by Cllr. Elphick, seconded by Cllr. Bodley and unanimously agreed.

4. Report from District and County Councillors: County Cllr. Ashcroft advised that CCC are still looking at ways to economise and that plans for A14/A1 improvements were ongoing. District Cllr. Baker advised that Waitrose was not now moving to Chequers Court, Sainburys were not moving to a new site and the redevelopment plans for Chequers Court appear to have stalled.

5. Village entrance features: No further news. Clerk to speak to Rebecca Brittain at the next liaison meeting.

6. Update on Alconbury Weald: The next meeting will take place on 11th December at 9.30am.

7. ASSC: Cllr. Bodley advised that the Firework Display had been a great success. A band night had been held 2 weeks ago and there is a children's Christmas party planned for 20th December and a family event on New Years Eve. Following a members survey, the club planned to make alterations to the internal layout, making the entrance room more family friendly and moving the TV to another room. The club has also started providing food, such as sandwiches and wraps.

8. Community Orchard/Trees: Cllr. S. Tarabella had put forward a number of proposals following a meeting with Bridget Halford (HDC Tree Officer) on 7th November.

Cllr. Welsh proposed that Cllr. S. Tarabella should go ahead with ordering new trees as indicated on the map provided. Seconded by Cllr. Elphick and unanimously agreed. Cllr. Welsh proposed that Cllr. S. Tarabella should contact Global Tree Solutions to obtain a quotation for pollarding the two willow trees in the bank of the brook opposite Rusts Lane. Seconded by Cllr. Bush and unanimously agreed. Cllr. Bodley proposed agreement in principle to the two circular benches being relocated and the concrete base removed. The new locations to be agreed at the next meeting after consultation with Neighbourhood Watch. Seconded by Cllr. Adams and unanimously agreed.

The Clerk will include information on the tree works in the next edition of the Parish Pump.

9. Memorial Hall: No meeting had taken place.

10. Neighbourhood Watch: No meeting had taken place. The police crime report for September shows 3 recorded crimes, two anti-social behaviour and one vehicle crime. Cllr. Bush advised that there had been a recent burglary in Maple End.

11. Bramble End playground:

- a) Condition report - Cllr. Welsh advised that there were no issues to report. The Clerk had received a quote of £745.50 from Day Today Maintenance to repaint the helicopter unit and the bench. This includes the hire of safety fencing to section off the area and all materials. Wicksteed Leisure had quoted £1340. Cllr. Welsh proposed that the quote from Day Today Maintenance be accepted. Seconded by Cllr. Adams and unanimously agreed. The work will be carried out in the spring.
- b) To consider a request from Cllr. Aylott to install a short section of footpath between the existing path and the playground gate. Councillors agreed that the Clerk should obtain a quotation to install a short section of tarmac.

12. Youth Group: Cllr. Adams reported that numbers attending the club nights were slightly down but still good. The Christmas club night will be held on 5th December and the first meeting of 2015 will be held on 9th January. A committee meeting had been held and the new volunteer pack, constitution and policies had been discussed. The next committee meeting will be held on 19th January 2015.

13. Website: The gallery has been loaded with photographs provided by Mr Read and Cllr. Welsh. Mr. Smith of askiT will now look into loading maps.

14. Infrastructure report:

- a) Churchyard – Nothing to report.
- b) Village Green – An additional grass cut has been carried out. Cllr. Aylott had asked the Clerk to contact the Environment Agency to ask for the brook to be dredged. Councillors agreed that the Clerk should ask for the footpath across the green, near to The Acre, to be sided out.
- c) Roads and footpaths – Micro asphaltting of Mill Road and High Street has been completed. The Highways Inspector has assured the Clerk that the road will be swept again and when the excess has gone, white lining will be put down, including the Local Highways Improvement Scheme at Rusts Lane. The drains that are low will be raised and the missed area over the bridge will be laid in March/April, along with Rusts Lane, Frumetty Lane and possibly Manor Lane, subject to budgets and priorities. The Clerk and the Chairman attended Highways on 5th November to do a presentation in support of the Local Highways Improvement Scheme bid for funding to have the speed limit reduced between the villages of Alconbury and Alconbury Weston. The result will be known in January 2015.
- d) General –
New street lighting along North Road to ASSC – The Clerk is currently pressing Balfour Beatty for the street lighting design.
Cllr. Welsh attended the first meeting of the Woolley Hill Wind Farm Fund panel on 24th November, which was chaired by Jane Darlington of Cambridgeshire Community

Foundation who will administer the fund. Cllr. Welsh advised that £20,000 would be put into the fund every year for 25 years. A panel of seven representatives from the surrounding parishes will meet annually to discuss applications for funding. Applications can be made for between £250 and £5000 by not for profit, constituted groups, run by three or more unrelated people. Grants must benefit the community. Pupils at Spaldwick and Alconbury schools will be invited to design a logo and there will be a website with full details of how to apply for a grant. The Clerk will ensure that a link is put on the Parish Council website in due course.

15. Planning - Update on applications previously discussed.

1401424FUL – Single storey ground floor extension and infill brickwork below existing bay window. 10, Maple End, Alconbury, PE28 4HF. Approved by HDC.
1400692CLEL- Certificate of Lawfulness (existing) for the use of outbuildings for preparation and restoration of classic and race cars as shown on submitted plan.
Weybridge Lodge, Woolley Road, Alconbury, PE28 4HN. In progress.

16. Financial report:

a) Donation to Alconbury Recreation Field Charity towards grounds maintenance. Cllr. Bodley proposed that a donation of £2000, as per the budget for 2014/15, be given to Alconbury Recreation Field Charity to be used towards grounds maintenance. Seconded by Cllr. K. Tarabella and unanimously agreed. Cllr. Adams took no part in the vote having declared an interest.

b) Payment of outstanding debts.

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

(1) Cq. No. 809 Global Tree Solutions, tree work. £900.00

(2) Cq. No. 810 Smiths Gore, village hall rent. £75.60

(3) Cq. No. 811 Mrs. D. Benham, wages & expenses for November. £644.20

(4) Cq. No. 812 Alconbury Recreation Field Charity, donation towards grounds maintenance. £2000.00

c) Current position.

A copy of the receipts and payments and bank reconciliation was handed to each councillor. A copy will be attached to the minutes. The bank statements were available for inspection and Cllr. Adams confirmed that the balance in the bank accounts was correct as shown on the bank reconciliation.

d) Budget and precept for 2015/16

Cllr. K. Tarabella proposed that Alconbury Parish Council set a budget and precept of £36376 for the financial year 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016. Seconded by Cllr. Adams and unanimously agreed.

17. Correspondence:

a) Complaint received regarding the brambles and overgrown vegetation along the footpath behind Coulson Way. Complaint passed to Highways who have advised that this will be dealt with by the Community Payback team. Highways will write to the residents of Coulson Way reminding them of their responsibility to keep trees and bushes on their land cut back. The Clerk has also requested a leaf sweep.

b) Electoral Review of Cambridgeshire County Council – consultation runs till 19th January 2015. Details can be viewed at www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk.

c) Local Joint Committee 24th November – nobody was available to attend.

18. New agenda items for the next meeting: None received.

19. Date of the next meeting: 27th January 2015, starting at 7.30pm at Alconbury Memorial Hall.

Signed.....

Date.....