

**Minutes of the Meeting of Alconbury Parish Council
held on Tuesday 28th October 2014 at Alconbury Memorial Hall.**

Councillors present: Mrs. J. Aylott (Chairman), Mr. C. Bodley, Mr. A. Bush, Mrs. E. Elphick, Mrs. L. Isles, Mr. R. Sale & Mr. S. Tarabella.

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

Open Forum – Mr. Reed reported that the 46a route had a new vehicle with a tail lift and a power operated door. The revised timetable will offer a more convenient service with some journeys being extended to Serpentine Green. Mr. Reed had also provided photographs for the new Parish Council website.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr. E. Adams (personal), Cllr. K. Tarabella (work commitment) & Cllr. A. Welsh (personal).

2. Declaration of Interests: None received.

3. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 30th September 2014: Approval of the minutes of 30th September 2014 proposed by Cllr. Bodley, seconded by Cllr. Tarabella and unanimously agreed.

4. Small grant applications for 2014: Only one application had been received from Alconbury Recreation Field Charity, who were requesting £500 towards fireworks for the forthcoming event on 31st October. Cllr. Aylott proposed that £500 should be donated. Seconded by Cllr. Bodley. Five votes in favour, two abstained, therefore the proposal was carried.

5. Report from District and County Councillors: County Cllr. Brown advised that at the last Highways and Community Infrastructure meeting, 2015/16 budget reductions had been discussed. The winter maintenance budget will be reduced by £750,000 across the county, requiring changes and/or reductions in winter gritting.

Consideration will be given to dimming street lighting between the hours of 6pm and midnight and/or turning off some lighting after midnight. There will be no changes to waste management and recycling services for 2015/16, but savings will need to be found for 2016/17. The library service was being looked at again to see if further savings could be made. Consultations will take place before any decisions are made. County Cllr. Brown advised that the Fire Service would be holding a four day strike this coming weekend. The Cromwell Museum has charity status now and it's future is more secure. County Cllr. Brown has written an article for the Hunts Post on Unitary Status for Local Government and asked councillors for feedback. County Cllr. Brown stressed that many people had put a lot of effort into ensuring that the 46a service continued and he hoped that the recent exchanges in the local paper between various individuals, would now stop.

The Chairman asked District Cllr. Baker to provide an update on the redevelopment of the town centre and the land adjacent to Edison Bell Way at the next meeting.

6. Village entrance features: No further news. Item carried forward to the next meeting.

7. Update on Alconbury Weald: The Clerk attended the last liaison meeting held on 14th October. Demolition work is in progress in the Enterprise Zone in preparation for three new buildings. These will consist of an amenity building, due to be completed in December 2015, a building for the Welding Institute, and a Vocational Training Centre, to be built with £10.5 million from the Local Enterprise Partnership. Three more buildings of 50,000sq ft, 25,000 sq ft and 15,000 sq ft are being planned and these may be built speculatively.

The planning application for the extension to the Alconbury surgery has been approved by HDC and will provide GP services for the first residents until a surgery is provided at Alconbury Weald. Building work to provide the first primary school on site, will start in June 2015 and planning for the secondary school will start in 5 years time, with a view to building in 7 years time.

Negotiations are continuing with Network Rail but there has been no further progress with regard to the southern access.

The next meeting will take place on 11th December at 9.30am.

8. ASSC: Cllr. Bodley advised that he had fed back the information on playground responsibility and that a plan was being put together to manage this going forward. The Clerk emphasized that the repairs highlighted in the recent safety inspection must be addressed. Cllr. Bodley advised that the Fashion Show had been a great success and that the fund raising team is very active. A review of the staff structure within the club is also taking place.

9. Community Orchard/Trees: Cllr. S. Tarabella will be meeting Bridget Halford (HDC Tree Officer) on 7th November to discuss new trees for the village green. The Clerk passed the Parish Planting Scheme application form to Cllr. Tarabella. Clerk to ask Global Tree Solutions to complete the pollarding of the willow tree.

10. Memorial Hall: No meeting had taken place. Hire charges will be increased by 25p per hour for the hall and lounge from 1st January 2015. A working party has been organised to trim the hedge to the front of the village hall, adjacent to the road, as this was not Highways responsibility.

11. Neighbourhood Watch: No meeting had taken place. The police crime report for August shows 4 recorded crimes, one burglary, one criminal damage and arson, one theft and one drugs offence.

12. Playgrounds: The repairs to Bramble End play area have been completed by Wicksteed Leisure. The Clerk is awaiting a quote from Day Today Maintenance to repaint the equipment.

13. Youth Group: No report available.

14. Website: The gallery facility is now working and both Mr Reed and Cllr. Welsh have supplied photographs of the village which AskiT will load in the next few days. Once this has been done, the Clerk will look into adding parish maps.

15. Infrastructure report:

a) Churchyard – Nothing to report.

- b) Village Green – Work to pollard the willow tree and replace the village sign post are both in hand. Cllr. Aylott proposed that the Clerk should request an additional grass cut by the Parish Council’s contractor. Seconded by Cllr. Elphick and unanimously agreed.
- c) Roads and footpaths – The conifers on Mill Road have been cut back – Clerk to ask for the arisings to be cleared. Micro asphaltting of Mill Road and High Street should take place in the next week.
- d) General – New street lighting along North Road to ASSC – The Clerk advised that the design from Balfour Beatty should be ready for the next meeting. One of the posts surrounding the village pump had been damaged by the groundwork subcontractor working at Maypole Square. This had now been repaired satisfactorily and the Clerk had obtained a new sign as discussed at the August meeting, which Cllr. Sale kindly agreed to install.

16. Planning.

- a) Update on applications previously discussed.
- 1401435FUL – Single storey rear extension, internal alterations, conversion of garage to family room, window enlarged within family room and replacement external windows/doors throughout extension and existing dwelling. New garage doors and colour to match replacement external doors. 7, Rusts Lane, Alconbury. Approved by HDC.
- 1401424FUL – Single storey ground floor extension and infill brickwork below existing bay window. 10, Maple End, Alconbury, PE28 4HF. In progress.
- 1401109TREE – Felling and removal of one Holm Oak and replant. Public House Manor Hotel, 20 Chapel Street, Alconbury. 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.
- b) 1408220COND: Condition information for 1201158OUT – ,C8,C9,C17,C21,C217 and C28. Alconbury Weald, Ermine Street, Little Stukeley. The Clerk had forwarded the information to the planning group and asked for them to comment.
- c) Letter received from HDC asking whether the Parish Council would be in favour of further affordable housing being built on land adjacent to Globe Lane. Councillors agreed that the Clerk should ask for more information before this could be discussed further but should also state that in the last Parish Plan, 66% of residents said that they did not want to see more housing built in Alconbury.

17. Financial report:

- a) Payment of outstanding debts.
- Cllr. Bodley proposed approval of payment of items (1) to (5). Seconded by Cllr. Bush and unanimously agreed.
- (1) Cq. No. 804 Huntingdonshire District Council, Electoral services. £165.00
- (2) Cq. No. 805 Mrs. D. Benham, wages & expenses for October. £762.63
- (3) Cq. No. 806 Alconbury Recreation Field Charity, donation. £500.00
- (4) Cq. No. 807 Wicksteed Leisure Ltd, Bramble End play area repairs. £596.42
- (5) Cq. No. 808 Royal British Legion, poppy wreath. £20.00
- b) 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. Aylott confirmed that the balance in the bank accounts was correct as shown on the bank reconciliation.

c) Request for a donation towards the poppy wreath for Remembrance Day.
Cllr. Aylott proposed that Alconbury Parish Council make a donation of £20 to the Royal British Legion for the poppy wreath that will be laid in Alconbury church. Seconded by Cllr. Isles and unanimously agreed.

d) Preliminary discussions on the budget and precept for 2015/16.
A copy of the spend to date, projected expenditure to 31st March 2015 and a draft budget for 2015/16 was handed to each councillor. A final decision on budget and precept for 2015/16 will be made at the next meeting.

18. Correspondence:

a) Preferred bidder selected to improve older people's healthcare and adult community services.

b) Quality Council Scheme relaunch.

c) Clerk has submitted an article for the next edition of the Parish Pump.

d) HDC Strategic Partnership Growth and Infrastructure Group meeting report.

e) Local Joint Committee – nobody available to attend.

f) CAPALC AGM – nobody available to attend.

g) Parish Planting Scheme – Cllr. S. Tarabella to complete the application form.

19. New agenda items for the next meeting: Budget and Precept for 2015/16. Parish Plan to be reviewed at the February 2015 meeting.

20. Date of the next meeting: 25th November 2014, starting at 7.30pm at Alconbury Memorial Hall.

Signed.....

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