Alconbury Parish Council

www.alconburyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Parish Clerk: Alison Brown
46 Oakdale Avenue, Peterborough, Cambs PE2 8TA
parishclerk@alconburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of the Alconbury Parish Council meeting held in the Memorial Hall, Alconbury on Tuesday 27th September 2022 at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors: T Gilbert (Chair), S. Brawn, M. Gunney R. Johnson and Mrs Brown (Clerk).

Members of the public: 0 HDC/CCC: Cllr I. Gardener TABFG representative: Mr. C. Dalleywater

0922.070 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Apologies were received and accepted from T. MacLennan (personal).

0922.071 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Cllr Brawn – agenda item 0922.078.1
Cllr Gunney – agenda item 0922.78.3

0922.072 CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLORS
No applications were received for co-option.

0922.073 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
No matters raised.

0922.074 MINUTES FOR APPROVAL
RESOLVED: The minutes of the Alconbury Parish Council meeting held on 26th July 2022 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

0922.075 REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR
Cllr Gardener read out his report which is appended to these minutes.

0922.076 CROWN GARDENS (CG)
Cllr Gilbert reported that she and Cllrs Johnson and Gardener had attended a meeting with People for Places management at CG to discuss the noise distrubance and anit-social behavours being caused by their residents. Cllrs were informed that People for Places do have a disiplincalry procedure in place and explained it to them. From the meeting it transpired that the issues appear to be coming from a local Alconbury residents who is forming friendships with tenants. As it is known that this resident trespasses and goes in over the fence near the main building, Cllrs made a request to People for Places to reinstate a proper 6ft fence to prevent this from happening.

CG residents still seem to be congregating near the bench even though the bottom slats have been temporarily removed. It was noted that all anti-social behaviour in this area must be reported by resdients to the police so that action can be taken. It was agreed by councillors that the slats should be put back onto the bench. The Clerk will contact Steven Mobius and ask him to do this as he had previoulsy offered to do this at no cost to the Parish Council. It was further agreed to review this matter at a later date.

0922.077 BROOKSIDE PARKING ISSUES
No update on the parking issues, however it was noted that a blue car is parking overnight with 2 wheels on the green.

0922.078 COUNCILLORS UPDATES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING
Verbal reports received from the Parish Councillors on their portfolio responsibilities and matters arising from previous meeting;

1. Memorial Hall
   No update.

2. Tree Warden
   Cllr Gunney reported that he was unsure as to how many trees the Parish Council owns. It was agreed that Cllr Maclennan will look at all Parish Council owned land and what trees are growing on it. This informtion will then be given to GTS to quote for a tree survey.

RESOLVED: that for health and safety reasons, Dan Maynard will grind out the tree stump of the recently felled horsechestnut tree and make the ground good with topsoil– cost £180.00

RESOLVED: that the Queen's tree will be replaced as it is showing signs of failure – cost approxiametly £35.00.

RESOLVED: that the clerk will ask Anthony Abbs to provide a quote to strim the basal growth from the tree behind the bench on the High Street with a veiw to adding this task to the annual grass cutting contract.

3. Alconbury Recreation Field Charity
Cllr Gunney reported that due to the death of HM Queen II, the recent Funday has been changed to a Community Day. Two minutes of silence were observed and Reverend Flaherty read out the King's Proclomation. Cllr Gilbert thanked Cllr Gunney for representing the Parish Council during the event. Winter events are being planned.

4. Alconbury Sports and Social Club
See above agenda item 0922.078.3.

5. Bramble End Play Area
Cllr Gunney reported that Wicksteed Leisurie had carried out the annual inspection of the play area and that he had been in attendance whilst it was being done. The detailed reported had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. The report states that the 'helicopter' no longer conforms to health and safety standards and needs to be replaced, and that the edges of the safety matting need attention as they are a potential trip hazard. The surface under the swing also needs repairing. Litter in the area is also an issue.
RESOLVED: that the Clerk will obtain quotations for the safety matting works, surface repair under the swing, and the cutting of the vegetataion and weeding the play area twice a year. Residents will be asked for ideas on what piece of play equipment they would like to see replace the helicopeer. Cllr Johnson agreed to write an article and post on social media. The local Scouts will be asked if they can carry out regular litter picks of the play area.

6. Woolley Hill Wind Farm
No update.

7. Planning Working Group
No update.

8. Alconbury Weald
Next meeting 31st October 2022.

0922.079 VILLAGE CRIME
The Clerk provided the following crime figures taken from www.Police.uk crime map:
June 2022 – 9 reports of crime within the village.

0922.080 THE ALCONBURY BROOK FLOOD GROUP
1. Charles Dalleywater gave his report which is appended to these minutes.
2. It was noted that the CIL bid for the Flood Group brook improvement works has been submitted.

0922.081 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
No update.

0922.082 INFRASTRUCTURE
Updates received and agreed actions
1. Churchyard
No update.

2. Village Green
Parking on the green continues to be an issue.

3. Roads and Footpaths
Footpath number 2 is overgrown and a hazard to pedestrians using it. Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) has written to residents to remind that they are responsible for cutting back the

vegetation on their rear boundaries. CCC also confirmed that they are responsible for the maintenance of footpath number 19 and have a maintenance schedule for cutting it twice a year. Cllr Gilbert stated that she would update residents with this information.

4. General

1. Village pump posts and bench repair
The village pump posts repairs have now been completed.

Bench near CG – Bench slats to be re-instated as agreed in agenda 0922.076.

Removal of concrete base of old bench on Spinney Lane.
RESOLVED: to accept the quotation from Steve Mobius to remove the concrete base to the old bench on Spinney Lane, top soil the area and reseed with grass seed – cost £135.78.

2. CCTV
No update. It was agreed to removed this item from the agenda.

3. Re-commissioning of Polecat Lane Ford
Cllr Brawn provided the Clerk with 2 use of evidence forms and will try and provide further forms as this will strengthen the case for re-instating the ford.

4. Defibrillator
Both defibrillators have now been installed. Cllr Johnson reported that there will be an article about the defibrillators in the Hunts Post and that they will also be mentioned in a radio programme in October. He also stated that David O'Brian would like to run some teaching session for those who want to learn more about defibrillators. Cllr Gunney stated that the Sports and Social Club may be able to host the event and will take the matter forward. The Chair thanked Cllr Johnson for all the work which he has undertaken to get the defibrillators installed.

5. Neighbourhood Watch (NW) bench request
A request had been received from NW asking for the Parish Council to confirm that they were still agreeable for them to install a bench on the Great North Road crossroads by the bus stop. This had previously been agreed but the buses stopped coming through the villages and it was decided not to go ahead with it at the time.

As there are now two bus services running through the village, and school and college children also use this area to catch their buses, NW think that that it is now a good idea to install a bench. NW will purchase the bench and obtain the relevant planning permission from HDC. The proposed bench is made from recycled materials and will be cemented into the ground for security rather than bolted.
RESOLVED: that the Parish Council is agreeable for NW to purchase and install a bench on the Great North Road crossroads by the bus stop. All costs will be met by NW.

0922.083 IMPROVE OFFER TO TEENAGERS
No update.

0922.084 PLANNING APPLICATIONS
1. Resolved comments submitted on applications

- 22/01799/HHFUL Single storey rear/side extension to bungalow and rear conservatory at 1 Manor Lane, Alconbury, Huntingdon PE28 4EH
RESOLVED: No material considerations.

2. Update on previous planning applications

- 21/00490/FUL - Homefield Farm Great North Road Alconbury Huntingdon PE28 4ER – pending.

0922.085 FINANCIAL REPORTS
1. **RESOLVED:** Payments of outstanding debts:

Unity Trust Bank	Service charge 04/03/2022 - 03/06/2022	£18.00
Creative Play	Seesaw spares	£123.00
CAS Ltd	Parish Council insuracnce 2022-2023	£910.52
Parish Online	Annual subscription	£120.00
London House Signs	Village sign refurbishment	£540.00

Antony Abbs	Grass cutting 5th Instalement S/O	£2046.00
A Brown – Clerk	Salary and Expenses August 2022	£731.06
HMRC	Clerk's Tax & NI August 2022	£198.99
NEST	Clerk's Pension August 2022 D/D	£26.15
Steve Mobius	Bench repair	£276.57
Antony Abbs	Grass cutting 6th Instalement S/O	£2046.00
Mrs A Brown	Salary and Expenses September 2022	£741.96
HMRC	Clerk's Tax & NI September 2022	£199.19
NEST	Clerk's Pension September 2022 D/D	£26.15
PKF Littlejohn	External auditor service	£240.00
SR Howell & Co	Payroll service April – September 2022	£60.00
Unity Trust Bank	Service charge 04/06/2022 – 03/09/2022	£18.00
Maynard Trees	Fell chestnut tree	£350.00
Stephen Moorbey	Village pump posts repairs	£1302.00
Wicksteed Leisiure Ltd	Play area inspection	£288.00
Dan Maynard Trees	Cut basal growth from lime tree, crown raise to 2m	£60.00
Royal British Legion	Remembrance Sunday poppy wreath donation	£50.00

2. Monies received

Precept – second payment	£19,500.00

3. The conclusion of audit for year end 31 March 2022 was noted. No remarks were made by the External Auditor. The notice has been placed on the website.

4. A request for a £50.00 donation for a Remembrance Sunday poppy wreath was considered.
RESOLVED: that a donation of £50.00 is made to the Royal British Legion for a Remembrance Sunday poppy wreath.

5. Consideration was given to stay part of the SAAA central external auditor appointment arrangements.
RESOLVED: that the Parish Council will continue with the SAAA central external auditor appointment arranagements for the next appointing period until 2026-27.

0922.086 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- CCC Transport Strategies 2022 - public consultation survey is now live and closes Monday 7th November 2022. https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/
- HDC climate change: Local people required to have a conversation with HDC about tackling climate change in communities. HDC are running 4 online focus group sessions to discuss how local people can help HDC shape the Climate Change Strategy and achieve their vision of a net Carbon Zero Huntingdonshire by 2040. (www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/environmental-issues/climate-strategy/getting-involved/)
- HDC press release: Next steps agreed for district council's market towns programme.

0922.087 MATTERS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION
Budget items to be considered at the next meeting.

0922.088 NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 25th October 2022, Memorial Hall, School Lane, Alconbury at 7.30 pm.

Meeting closed at 9:02 pm.

Agenda item 0922.075

Alconbury Parish Council Meeting – September 2022

I attended a meeting along with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Parish Council, with the Tammy Smith, Manager Crown Gardens and Jon Collen from HDC regarding Crown Gardens on 31 August.

I will let the Chair update the Council on this matter

It was reiterated that if anyone sees residents behaving in an anti- social manner, then you should call the police in the first instance and report it to the Community safety and Anti Social Behaviour team at HDC led by Rob Mitchell's. The teams email address is crm_cpe@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

I am in the process of arranging a meeting with Cambridgeshire Police regarding the introduction of a weight limit on the B1043.

The Sound Barrier on the B1043 viaduct should be installed towards the end of the year

Anyone found Fly tipping will be prosecuted by the Huntingdonshire DC. A resident from Huntingdon was recently found guilty of fly tipping in St Neots which results in a fine of £2000, and costs of £1800 as well as being disqualified from driving for 28 days.

The Huntingdon Market Town Proposals can be viewed up until the 28th October and everyone is invited to comment. The review is looking at the regeneration of the Town Centre with a Food Court, Housing, improvements to the Riverside Park, additional trees, café etc and the removal of the ring road around the Town Centre which deters access to the Town and the neighbouring parks etc.

The County Council has prepared an active Travel Strategy for Cambridgeshire, which sets out the approach for improvements to active travel across the county.

The Huntingdonshire transport strategy has been developed to tackle the existing transport problems and address future growth in the District and support the achievement of carbon net zero in Cambridgeshire by 2045. The plan provides a holistic approach to how people will be able to travel where they live and work, of which active travel provides an important option, for those who are not able to travel by car. The active Travel strategy aims to make active travel the go to option for local travel.

You can have your say by visiting: consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com or you can attend one of the consultation events at –

Tesco Superstore Huntingdon on Saturday 1st October between 2pm & 5pm or at The St Neots Market Square on Thursday 6th October between 10am & 1pm

The Greater Cambridge Partnership along with the County Council are looking to implement a Congestion charge within Cambridge from 2028. The daily charge would be £5, payable by everyone entering Cambridge including residents. There would be exemptions for Blue Badge Holders, buses etc.

The implementation of the congestion charge is linked with improved bus services to Huntingdon, Alconbury Weald, St Neots etc. With costs likely to be £2 each way

The County Council has launched an urgent appeal to encourage residents to consider becoming Foster Carers

The County Council will provide you with:

Local training and development close to you

Generous pay and benefits including a startup package

24/7 support from a Supervising Social worker as well as an amazing first year next steps training programme.

Local support groups with other Foster Carers and peer mentoring

To become a Foster Carer, you must be over 21, have a spare bedroom and be willing and able to provide a stable and loving environment in which a child or young person can thrive

If this is you, please get in touch

Visit:

Email: fostering@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

If you have any question's please do not hesitate to contact preferably by email on Ian.Gardener@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Kind regards

Ian

Cllr Ian Gardener

County & District Councillor for Alconbury

T29

Agenda item 0922.080.1 Alconbury Brook Flood Group (FG) Report September 23rd 2022

Alconbury Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme.

FG submitted cross section data thanks to several members who helped with measurements. New brook survey had been commissioned by EA to improve modelling, will cause delay of 2-3 months

2nd meeting with EA on scheme options, main issue cost estimate too high and benefits too low

Discussion took place about how to improve the viability of the scheme including

- New survey and modelling demonstrating more benefit
- Improving design to get best benefit for least cost
- Inflation, optimism and climate change factors to increase benefit
- Alternative funding streams with less constraints on contractor choice to reduce cost
- Combination of options to increase benefits

Joe Pugsley from the EA also to look at rejected options for acceptable elements which might add to benefit

FG will look at acceptable concepts to see if they can be applied elsewhere in the catchment and make enquiries.

40 Ponds project (Landscape Recovery/NFM)

- Work on Black Lodge Pond refurbishment has started, our amazing volunteers have cleared much of the undergrowth. 2 more small trees to remove this weekend. Excavation by contractor to start-ASAP.
- Buckworth Brook floodplain (scrape) improvement, awaiting meeting of Wind Farm trustees to see if funding available before we can proceed. If possible, work to be completed by Christmas.
- Alconbury Weston Pond. Design work complete but now struggling with planning consent. Currently looking at getting consent for ponds as mining projects through Cambridgeshire rather than through a Huntingdonshire District Council planning application.
- Possibility of creating a Catchment Area Partnership with Natural England. An initial description of our projects has been submitted. Outcome could be financial support for individual projects of up to £20,000 including, possibly, some arrangement to give FG admin support to help increase its capacity.

CIL funding

An application was submitted by the FG on behalf of Alconbury PC to install 10 trapped drains near the Village Green in Alconbury. The cost is very high, partly because so many services traverse the drain pipes. We have our fingers crossed.

Flyover Gabions

Progress being made with design work

Volunteers/ Maintenance

Teams in Alconbury and Alconbury Weston have been working every Saturday and have cleared 700m of bank and, under permit, some silt/reeds under permit. Work will continue during October to:

- Clearance near the upstream footbridge in Alconbury Weston including silt removal, back gardens, at the back of Bridge garage and finishing off near the Dutch Arches. A tree permit has been applied for to remove a, mostly dead, Willow from the bank downstream of the main footbridge.
- Clear back gardens and near the Heritage Bridge in Alconbury. Under permit, complete silt removal near the flyover. Clear the banks near the second gate on the sheep field.

We expect the Internal Drainage Board (who are doing the banks this year) to start and complete flail mowing of banks in the next few days, so we can identify areas that still need work.

Cambridgeshire Flood Conference.

Cambridgeshire held a very helpful conference attended by several FG members. Very interesting talks including Flood-RE about insurance and help to 'build back better', and the National Flood Forum. We also presented our work. Many good contacts made, and conversations had. Good event.

Alconbury Parish Council

RECONCILIATION - Unity Trust Bank Current T1

From Accounts	£29,222.14
Payments not cashed . . . . . Add	
Receipts not entered . . . . . Subtract	
Statement should be	**£29,222.14**

Alconbury Parish Council

RECONCILIATION - Unity Trust Bank Instant Access

From Accounts	£34,935.71
Payments not cashed . . . . . Add	
Receipts not entered . . . . . Subtract	
Statement should be	**£34,935.71**

Created by Scribe