

## **Alconbury Parish Council Annual Report 2022/2023:**

I'm happy to report that during the period 2022/2023 the Parish Council (PC) has remained relatively stable. However, during the elections in May 2023 we lost Two (2) councillors; David and Maralyn Moate. We thank them for their contributions to the council during the 2 years they were councillors.

Bob Johnson and I were duly elected as Vice Chair and Chair.

This year has seen the PC discuss several key community issues, some of which remain ongoing at the time of going to print:

### **Parishioner Safety:**

Two defibrillators have been installed in Alconbury village at the Memorial Hall (thanks to the fund raising by Dawn Pupins) and outside the village shop (thanks to funding from Woolley Hill Wind Farm, the Parish Council and the Pharmacist). An 'opening' ceremony was performed by Jonathan Djanogly MP. Both will be maintained by our local first responder David O'Brian. David has also volunteered to run a functionality demonstration at a date yet to be determined.

### **Traffic items:**

- Cambridgeshire County Council in collaboration with The Highways Agency have installed a sound barrier between the B1043 and the properties at Lord's Way. It is hoped this will further alleviate the noise disturbance suffered by residents.
- Continuation of our pursuit of a weight limit (B1043): a traffic survey has been requested in partnership with Urban & Civic
- We considered making a Local Highways Initiative submission for a 20mph zone near Alconbury CofE Primary School. However, as the school already takes part in the School Streets initiative space where the school temporarily closes the road outside its gates to create a pedestrian and cycle zone during school opening and closing times it was felt that there would be no additional benefit regarding a 20mph zone.
- We will be discussing the purchase of one or more Speed Indicator Devices at our council meeting in May with a view to raising awareness of speed limits in the village.
- Brookside - we would also like to hear your ideas with regards to improving traffic flow/preventing regular HGV access

### **Infrastructure:**

- We have repaired one of the benches on the village green, the posts around our 'Parish Pump' as well as ensuring any council owned trees are maintained and felled as necessary. At the time of going to press a comprehensive survey of all council owned trees is being undertaken.
- "The Alconbury's Flood Group" (TAFG) has continued to liaise with the Environment Agency and keep the council up to date with regards to progress with all local schemes which will alleviate flooding within our village.

### **Our Neighbourhood:**

We have initiated the development of a '**Neighbourhood plan**' to future proof our village and have a voice in its future development. This initiative is being conducted by the Parish Council, Councillor MacLennan is taking the lead. All parishioners will be asked to complete a short survey during the

summer 2023. We would appreciate a response from you all. It will be your opportunity to shape the future of your village.

Finally, I'd like to end by thanking all of the councillors and our Parish Clerk for their continued support and hard work through the year. I'm particularly proud that we have continued to deliver on all of our promises that we made in last year's Annual report and much more on top. I know that we will continue through the next year to make improvements and represent the best interests of our village.

We currently have several vacancies.

If you're interested in village matters and would like to be involved in any of our upcoming activities please contact either the parish clerk or myself.

## Annual report from the Responsible Financial Officer

The Parish Council started the financial year with £58,898 in the reserves and with an annual spend of £36,485 we have been able to carry forward £68,389 at 31st March 2023. Alconbury Parish Council continues to remain financially stable for the year ahead.

The District Council and County Council continued to carry out maintenance for areas that they were responsible, although at times they have been slow to resolve reported issues.

The Parish Council contractor has continued with the village grass cutting that is delegated from, and largely funded by, Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) and Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC). The shortfall in the costs is funded by the Parish Council.

All the Parish Council's obligations have been fulfilled and grants have been given to:

- Alconbury Sports and Social Club – Jubilee Fun Day: £50.00
- Alconbury Recreation Field Charity – Up keep of the field: £1000
- Alconbury Recreation Field Charity – Children's Christmas party: £50
- The Royal British Legion - Remembrance Day poppy wreath: £50
- Cambridgeshire Search and Rescue - purchase of dry suit: £350