# Alconbury Parish Council

www.alconburyparishcouncil.gov.uk
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**Minutes of the Alconbury Parish Council Extra-Ordinary meeting held in the Memorial Hall, Alconbury on Tuesday 25th August 2026 at 7:00 pm**

**Present: Councillors: T. Gilbert (Chair), S. Brawn, L. Baird, S. Button, M. Gunney, R. Johnson, S. Isaacs, R. Johnson, C. Pinn, L. Pinn, T. Trotman and Mrs Brown (Clerk).**

0826.065 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
None.

0826.066 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None.

0826.067 NATIONAL SCHEME OF DELEGATION AND PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE PLANNING PROCESS
Councillors discussed the changes to the National Scheme of Delegation and how these may affect the Parish Council. It was noted that the Parish Council will continue to be consulted on planning applications and its comments will still be considered as part of the planning process, however any future objections should be supported by clear evidence.

Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) has proposed the introduction of two schedules for determining planning applications. Schedule 1 will cover smaller developments and other applications suitable for determination by planning officers, while Schedule 2 will cover larger and more significant developments, including major housing and employment schemes. Brampton Cross would be expected to fall within Schedule 2 due to its scale and its potential economic, social and environmental impact on the local area.

Concern was raised regarding the proposed triage process and the circumstances in which an application would be referred to the Development Management Committee. It was noted that a senior planning officer and the Development Management Committee Chair would have a role in determining whether an application should proceed to committee. It was further noted that the Mayor will have new planning powers, allowing greater involvement in significant planning applications, including the ability to override certain planning decisions.

Councillors agreed that further clarification was required from HDC and that questions should be framed generally and not refer specifically to Brampton Cross.
**RESOLVED:** To seek clarification from Huntingdonshire District Council relating to:

- The criteria and process HDC will use for triaging planning applications for consideration by the Development Management Committee.
- The definition of a “Senior Planning Officer”, who will undertake this role, and how this complies with the relevant legislation and guidance.
- Who the decision-makers will be at each stage of the revised process.
- Will the Parish Council remain a key stakeholders for all planning applications and continue to receive the relevant evidence and information supporting applications.
- The process for referring Schedule 2 applications to Development Management committee
- What appeal, referral, review or further consideration process will be available to Parish Councils where they disagree with a decision or where significant new evidence becomes available.

It was also noted that Brampton Cross is not currently proposed as an allocated site in the draft Local Plan due to concerns about its deliverability. However, it continues to be referred to within the wider North Huntingdon Growth Cluster. It was agreed that clarification is required as to why Brampton

Cross continues to be included in the Local Plan documents despite not being an allocated site and that Cllr Gardener should raise this question on behalf of the Parish Council when he attends the forthcoming HDC Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Performance and Growth Committee meeting on 2nd September 2026 where the panel will be asked to comment on the Pre Submission Local Plan to 2046. Following this meeting, the Local Plan goes before HDC Cabinet on 9th September 2026 and then Full Council later that day. If signed off by Full Council, the Local Plan will move to Regulation 19 Pre-Submission Local Plan to 2046" is planned for September to October 2026, with submission for examination intended by the end of December 2026.
**RESOLVED:** That the Parish Council askes Cllr Gardener to ask for clarification on this matter at the HDC Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Performance and Growth Committee meeting on 2nd September 2026.

0826.068 BRAMPTON CROSS

Councillors discussed matters the Parish Council should bring to the attention of the proposed meeting with developers in October to address any concerns before any Outline Planning permission is submitted for the Brampton Cross development. The following suggestions were identified for discussion:

**Movement and Access**

- Full traffic modelling, including the impact of incidents on the A1 and A14.
- Appropriate access routes to minimise traffic through the surrounding villages.
- Restrictions on construction traffic, HGVs and construction working hours.
- Safe pedestrian and cycling routes.

**Water and Environment**

- Adequate water and wastewater capacity.
- Drainage and flood risk.
- Biodiversity, wildlife and appropriate planting.
- Mature planting and screening to reduce the visual impact of the development, with ongoing maintenance.

**Place and People**

- Appropriate building heights, design and colours to reduce the visual impact.
- Appropriate contributions towards local infrastructure and community facilities.
- Consideration of a community liaison group involving the developer, Parish Council and residents.

**Delivery and Governance**

- Appropriate planning and legal advice sought, particularly in relation to Section 106 agreements.
- The need for any future representations to be supported by clear evidence.

**RESOLVED:** To confirm a meeting date in October 2026 with the Brampton Cross developer, using the matters identified as the Parish Council's initial list of requirements and concerns for discussion at the meeting. It was further resolved to invite all parish councils represented on the original Working Party to attend the meeting.

0826.069 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 29th September 2026, Memorial Hall, School Lane, Alconbury at 7:30 pm.

The meeting closed at 8:24 pm.