

ALDINGBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Lindy Nash FCCA

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Minutes of the meeting of Aldingbourne Parish Council, held on 4rd March at the Aldingbourne Community Sports Centre

Present: Councillors; Beaton (Chair), Flitter, Foott, Sturges, Turner, Blaylock and Harbord.

In attendance: Lindy Nash, Clerk.

Also present: 4 observers.

695. Apologies for absence - Cllr Warden due to ill health - apologies accepted. Apologies were also received and accepted for ADC Cllrs Thurston and Hughes, and WSCC Cllr Whittington.

696. Urgent Items - None

697. Declarations under the Code of Conduct:

Councillor Blaylock declared his interest as an allotment holder.

698. Confirmation of Minutes:

- i) Planning Committee meeting held on 11th February 2020 - minutes were noted for information only (to be formally adopted at the next Planning meeting on 10th March 2020)
- ii) Full Council Meeting held on 3rd December 2019 (not adopted at February Full Committee meeting as Councillors hadn't received the minutes during the transfer over to the new gov.uk email addresses and one drive storage system) and 4th February 2020 - On a proposal by Cllr Flitter, and seconded by Cllr Harbord, the minutes from both meetings were approved by the Council.

699. Public Session:

Project 180 Update - a pupil from the Ormiston Six Villages provided a great overview of progress with their environment project, highlighting that they'd now finished the polytunnel path, were using tyre planters for potatoes, and had plans for establishing a 'green wall'. The school are now keen to receive donations of scaffold boards and are having an open day on March 28th between 9.30 and 2 when all are very welcome to come along and get involved in this community project.

Crossing on Westergate Street - following an email enquiry from a resident, the Clerk reported that it had been established that a controlled pedestrian crossing is planned for Westergate Street. WSCC Highways will keep the Council informed as work progresses on this initiative later in the year.

700. Reports from County and District Councillors

As previously noted, no County or District Councillors were able to be present at this evening's meeting.

Cllr Thurston had sent her apologies explaining that she was unable to come this evening due to attending a Climate Change meeting elsewhere. She offered to relay this information to Aldingbourne Parish at a later date and APC Councillors agreed to explore this topic further when Cllr Thurston is next available to attend an APC meeting.

701. Aldingbourne Parish Council Strategic Plan.

Following discussion, the Council agreed it's Strategic Priorities for the foreseeable future. The authorities core objectives were agreed to be:

- To promote and represent the community's views and aspirations.
- To provide high standard, cost-effective services and amenities to help meet the needs and wishes of residents.
- To work in partnership, or otherwise, with other statutory and voluntary bodies, businesses and individuals to ensure an improving standard of services and facilities to meet the needs and expectations of residents.
- To promote and support local voluntary groups and clubs that seek to assist residents and visitors.
- To help to create a socially inclusive and caring community which embraces all its residents, irrespective of age, culture, income, race, sexual orientation or religion, and which seeks to develop their well-being, knowledge, understanding and mutual co-operation.

The key priorities that this Authority will be focusing on in the medium term were agreed to be:

- Delivering Aldingbourne's revised Neighbourhood Plan (ANP).
- Strengthening Communications and Building Capacity in the Community.
- Improving Aldingbourne's 'Spaces and Places'.

702. Reports and Recommendations from Working Parties:

- i) Footpaths Working Group - Cllrs were concerned that there continues to be excessive dumping of rubbish on Footpath 299 at the entrance leading from the new housing estate. This raises serious concerns for wildlife in that area. The Council will progress the matter with the relevant management committee of the estate and via ADC's litter enforcement team. However, if the problem persists, steps may need to be taken to close off this footpath access point.
- ii) Communications Working Group - The Clerk confirmed that the new APC job role is soon to be advertised to support the work identified in the Authorities Strategic Plan
- iii) Allotments Working Group - nothing to report.
- iv) Village Signs Working Group - nothing to report.
- v) ADALC - nothing to report.
- vi) ACSC - nothing to report.

703. Clerk's Update:

The Clerk noted that her recent attendance at Year End Finance training had proved useful.

She also noted that her efforts are ongoing to ensure the A29 verge near the newly installed road crossing by the school is reinstated.

704. Finance - Payment of Accounts:

As proposed by Cllr Flitter, and seconded by Cllr Sturges, the following payments were approved:

PAYEE	DETAIL	AMOUNT (£)
L Nash	Monthly Pay for Feb (1260.28) + reimbursement for payment to Helping Hand re 15 litter pickers, bought online, with a 'payment card' requirement (£251.52)	1511.80
Fandango	Feb Fees	144.00
HM Revenue and Customs	HMRC Liability Payment	398.64
Moore East Midlands	External Audit Fees	96.00
Ladywell Accountancy Services	2019/20 Operation and RTI Filing	66.00
MH Kennedy and Son	Inv 12945 re Litter Pick	79.20
TOTAL		2295.64

Also authorised by Cllr Flitter, and seconded by Cllr Sturges are these additional two invoices that were received since the dispatch of the formal agenda for this meeting:

Pensions Regulator 3 Year Renewal Fee £400

D Chaffe re Process matters 2 Neighbourhood Plan Fees £550

Plus, it was agreed that the Clerk would raise cheques for the annual Member Allowance entitlement for 2019/20 for each of the APC Cllrs following their election last May. All Cllrs opted to receive these payments, and declare them as part of their taxable income, with the exception of Cllr Foott who opted NOT to receive her entitlement.

Finally, it was unanimously agreed that, as part of the APC Strategic Priority of delivering the revised ANP, Cllrs agreed that ecological survey work needs to be undertaken to support the retention of biodiversity corridors within the community. Having received a preliminary quotation, they authorised a budget of up to £6,000 for this work to be progressed.

705. There being no further business for discussion the meeting closed at 8.07pm

Signed(Chairman)

Date

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 7th April 2020

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