

# ALDERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk and RFO: Julie Whiting

50 Willow Bank Road, Alderton, Tewkesbury GL20 8NJ

Email: [aldertonpc@gmail.com](mailto:aldertonpc@gmail.com) [www.Aldertonparish.council.org.uk](http://www.Aldertonparish.council.org.uk)

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held in Alderton Village Hall, Alderton

on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023 commencing at 7pm

**Present** Parish Councillors: Nicki Broderick, John Kettle, Keith Page, Dennis Rayton and Mike West

In attendance: Julie Whiting, Clerk and RFO  
Borough Councillor, Jim Mason  
County Councillor, David Gray  
3 members of the public

230117/01 To receive and consider apologies for absence and confirm meeting is quorate.

Apologies were received from Cllr John Murphy

He also noted that none of the Borough/ County councillors would be able to attend next meeting due to it clashing with TBC's full council meeting.

230117/02 To receive comments from members of the public:

A resident commented on the very poor state of Willow Bank Road either side of CALA 2 construction with verges destroyed and many potholes and mud on the road. Also broken drain which had caused flooding. He also stated that it was causing huge dissatisfaction to the residents that the road had been closed several times and this had had an equally detrimental effect on Dibden Lane with excess traffic. He also asked if the bridge would be repaired. It was confirmed that following a review of the listed problems, representatives from Highways had made a tour of the village.

Cllr Broderick offered to write to CALA **ACTION NB**

Cllr Page offered to contact Highways again. **ACTION KP**

2 Residents expressed interest in standing for election as councillors.

A resident asked about a sign to show concealed entrance and asking motorists to slow down. Cllr Gray confirmed that a sign could be put up on the property as long as it was not on the road.

230117/03 To receive update on Alderton shindig. None received.

230117/04 No declarations of Interest on agenda Items.

230117/05 To confirm and sign the draft minutes of the November meeting. The minutes were duly signed by the chairman with a caveat that some errors in the accounts had been discovered so a true record of the accounts has been attached.

It was confirmed that Cllr Kettle would continue as Chair until next meeting, when Cllr West would become Chair for a second time in the rotation.

230117/06 To receive the Clerk's report. This was duly received. There had been some discussion as to whether this added anything to minutes or saved any time, so decision was taken to axe this, if this continues to be true over next couple of months.

230117/07 Decision had been made under delegated authority to send an objection to the planned extension to the industrial estate at Toddington, as close to our boundary. It was also agreed to complete a survey on school site sharing.

**ACTION JW**

230117/08 The Borough Councillor reported that there were still problems in planning due to difficulty in recruitment of officers. There was a review of core strategy and funding for garden town.

Council tax is likely to rise by 3% or £5 whichever is larger. Tewkesbury £5. This is subject to approval. New vehicle needed for food waste. Refuse department need to renew fleet soon. Pressure to change to greener fuels. Problem when vehicle gets heavier, still need to power bin lift, so demand on battery. Biofuels being considered, used cooking oil which can also run on diesel. Electric too expensive. Hydrogen for future not far off.

Rolls Royce looking at small modular fission reactors, as need to run at constant load. Future waste standards. Packaging company at Bishops Cleeve developing hydrogen domestic boilers as can use same pipes as gas.

230117/09 County Councillor Gray reported that there had been £40 million increase in the budget and cap removed. Increase of 2% added to council tax. £22 million been allocated to social care and disability services. He reported that the county has always had reserves and can continue their programme.

A417 missing link been approved by secretary of State Air Balloon to close.

B4063 single lane cycle path is to be doubled, so better for walking and cycling. Cheltenham to Bishops Cleeve cycle track costs borne by central government.

Junction 9 received money from Department of transport so can make progress.

66,000 trees planted last year raised to 90000 this year.

Been extremely cold in Winchcombe this year and always a bad time for potholes.

Cllr Page reported about our pothole and road damage issues and reiterated that taxpayers should not have to foot the bill. We will contact CALA and Cllr Grey will support. Also the fact that no satisfactory answer received on weight limit.

VAS flashing speed limit. Council has not been able to agree the terms of liability with GGC in case of accident claim. Cllr Gray to investigate. **ACTION Cllr GRAY**

230117/10 There was a short discussion about the latest email from a resident asking for more information about the burning of brash. It was agreed that the council had risk assessed the fire and concluded there was no risk. The chair agreed to reply to him.

**ACTION JK**

230117/11 Cllrs West and Broderick were interviewed this week for the Daily Express and a very good report appeared in the paper about the village being invaded by developers.

Cllr Broderick reported on planning meeting with the Inquiry Inspector for Rainier Appeal. TBC had now belatedly refused the Application. The appeal will be just before and after Easter which the council had unsuccessfully tried to change as not the easiest time for residents to attend. Residents will be able to attend and comment.

Re Black Box had formally submitted an application and the PC has submitted an objection.

Cllr Gray commented that there had been an offer of a county deal from Mr Gove. Gloucestershire is a prime candidate. More money into county rather than central government grant funding. Savings could be made by districts and county working together to reduce cost of services for example Ubico.

230117/12 a) Ratified preapproval of Clerk's IT equipment as assets

b) Clerk's preapproval of training courses undertaken ratified.

c) Clerk's report on training needs and membership of SLCC agreed about £1200.

Also needed some training for new councillors from May-short courses around £30 each.

d) Council audited payment list and bank reconciliation agreed

e) Budget agreed for next year at around £40000 and precept for April 23 to March 24 set at an increase of 5%, so £19040 needs to be submitted by end of January, so ready to go now.

**ACTION JW**

There will be some expenses. There is a need to repaint windows and doors on playing field changing room Some fencing around Millenium Copse needs repairing. The playing field was rolled with a roller that has been donated to APC and more rolling required to help deter moles.

CIL money from new housing currently hold £17K. Expecting £90K next financial year. However, there are strict guidelines about how it is spent, but it was agreed the council needs to canvas village opinion about ways it could be spent to the benefit of most. Clerk would contact Anj Patel for more details about process and limitations. It was generally felt that it might be a project for the new council, although arousing interest may encourage a more diverse group to stand for council which Cllr Gray agreed had been the case in other parishes.

Clerk reported that a recruitment information pack was coming from GAPTC to help councils with attracting a more diverse group of councillors. The two potential councillors gave clerk their details.

**ACTION JW**

May elections Cllr Page informed the meeting that if there is more interest than places then there would be elections which needed to be paid for. However, this year as it is the 4 yearly elections, TBC foots the bill.

- 230117/12 cont. f) Internal audit costs £250. Clerk asked to ascertain from GAPTC last date possible for Internal Audit.
- 230117/13 Some residents had been disturbed by a new sign from Highways at GCC pinned to gate off Dibden lane marking the footpaths across the field. It had however been ascertained that this was purely a renewal of land ownership.
- 230117/14 Highways: This has already been covered in 230117/02
- 230117/15 KP reported football team back playing and solar panels on roof tripping out. May need service. Storeroom key been cut for (Forest School)
- 230117/16 Cllr Page outlined that waste/poo bins had been positioned wrongly. The one opposite the allotment entrance should be further round by the layby. One bin has been placed inside the playground area, when there should have been 2 by the gate to the playing field and the one hanging on the fence by the playing field needs to be further down past the millennium copse by the stile. This needs urgent attention, as one near children and one opposite allotment is on dangerous bend for collection. Councillor Page reported this was well on its way to resolution.
- Agreed KP would move old concrete bin to 'tank turn' for use by picnickers and Cllr Mason would assist speedy action. **ACTION KP**
- 230117/17 Cllr West reported that newsletter would appear again this month thanks to Mary Merheim and that deadline for copy would be 19/20<sup>th</sup>
- Cllr west would produce copy with input. **ACTION MW**

**Meeting closed at 9.26pm.**

Dates of Next meetings: 21 Feb 2023, 21 March, 18 April