

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Alderton Village Hall on
Tuesday, 20 March 2025 commencing at 7.00pm.**

Present: M Davies (Chair), N. Broderick, M West, D Rayton, J Kettle, P Woodman
Attendance: Parish Clerk, 4 members of the public

250320/01 To accept apologies for absence and confirm the meeting is quorate
Apologies were received from Cllr Gray

250320/02 To receive Declarations of interest for items on the agenda below
Dispensation Cllr Woodman – Allotments

250320/03 To receive comments from members of the public
A complaint was received regarding dog fouling on the playing field and Millennium Copse, prompting a broader discussion about the issue across the village.
ACTION: Clerk to arrange signage and Cllr West to include a reminder in the village newsletter.
A pavement chamber at the Brentwood to Willow Bank Road junction has been reported as leaking water. The member of the public was encouraged to report to Severn Trent and log it on FixMyStreet.

250320/04 To confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18 February 2025
The minutes of the meeting held on 18 February 2025 were **AGREED by COUNCIL** and signed by Cllr Davies.

250320/05 To receive an update from the village hall committee regarding the redevelopment project
Received following report
The Village Hall Committee provided an update on the progress of the redevelopment project:

- Progress has been slow, currently at Step 8 of the architect's plan. The next phase is the public consultation, including an open coffee morning to gather community feedback.
- Following the consultation, feedback will be interpreted (Step 9), and the final design will be costed (Step 10).
- Investigations into the hall's ownership are ongoing. The land and hall are not currently registered, but existing documents appear to provide sufficient evidence of ownership. The Charity Commission is listed as the custodian of the land under an indenture agreement, requiring the hall to be rebuilt or repaired on its current site.
- Relocating the hall has been ruled out. Further clarification is being sought regarding any potential claims on the land, with an update expected in mid-April.
- The committee plans to approach potential funders to assess interest and has met with TBC funding officers for guidance.
- The committee is also interested in the Parish Council's public consultation process.

ACTION Clerk to arrange a follow-up meeting with the Village Hall Committee to share further information.

250320/06 To receive the County and Borough Councillors' reports
Cllr David Gray sent his apologies and provided a report (Appendix A)
No Borough Council report was received.

Cllr West attended the Garden Communities meetings, which are ongoing. The Lead Flood Authority will provide an update at the April meeting. There is urgency in approving the planning application for the new bridge, with a significant number of applications in the area being assessed individually in relation to highways impact.

250320/07 To agree or note matters relating to Highways
7.1 To receive an update from the flooding meeting from 18th March
Councillors met with local landowner representatives, the Environment Agency, GCC Highways, and the Lead Flood Authority to review flood mitigation plans and clarify responsibilities. Work is scheduled for completion by autumn, including funding available for clearing the Copse. Landowners are responsible for future maintenance, the Parish Council will oversee the Copse.
A swale will be created across the top of the playing field to divert water away from the village, and bunds will be installed on the Dumbleton Estate land to slow water flow before it reaches School Road. Concerns were raised about the poor design of Charles Church drainage.
ACTION: Cllr Davies to raise drainage issues with Charles Church management company.
ACTION: Possible foul water contamination to be investigated. Cllr Kettle to follow up.
Issues found with a collapsed drain outside 42 Willow Bank Road, scheduled for repair before autumn.

7.2 To discuss the request for an additional grit bin for Beckford Road
ACTION Clerk to purchase grit bin

8.1 To discuss planning application and agree actions

Reference	Location	Description	Comments
1. 25/00013/CONDIS	Land Behind 52- 74 Willow Bank Road Alderton	Variation or removal of Condition 2 (accordance with the following documents), 13 (to be occupied until the access, parking and turning facilities), of planning permission reference number: 22/00998/FUL	Concerns were submitted to TBC, but no response has been received. A further submission has been made, including a formal planning enforcement breach request, seeking an immediate response.
2. 23/00720/FUL	Land Adjacent To 22 St Margarets Road Alderton	Proposed dwelling and altered access	Nonmaterial amendment, moving the whole build 1m eastwards ACTION Cllr Broderick to write response that this is not within the remit of non-material amendment
3. 24/00393/OUT	Part Parcels 6318 And 6536 Beckford Road Alderton	Outline planning application with all matters reserved (except for access from Franklin Road) for up to 35 dwellings, including affordable housing, allotments and associated infrastructure	Highways response raised concerns and requested a deferral. Access to the allotments remains an issue. ACTION: Cllr Broderick to draft a further response to support the concerns raised.
4. 25/00013/CONDIS	Land Behind 52 To 74 Willow Bank Road Alderton	Application for approval of details subject to Condition 3 (Foul drainage), 5 (Levels), 7 (Planting), 9 (SUDS), 10 (LEAP), 16 (CEMP), 17 (Archaeological), 18 (CEMP), 22 (Ecological management plan), 23 (Landscaping Management Plan), 24(Landscaping Management plan), 25 (Tree works and Protection), 27 (Refuse Strategy) of planning application 22/00998/FUL	
5. 24/01053/FUL	Gilders Yard Gretton Fields Gretton	Change of use of the site from mixed commercial use (Class E) to residential and for the demolition of existing buildings and hardstanding on site and erection of 5no. detached dwellings with associated parking and garden spaces.	ACTION Cllr Broderick to review submissions and follow-up
6. 25/00143/FUL	Frampton Farm Cottages Dibden Lane	Erection of prefabricated log cabin as ancillary accommodation to the main dwelling, for use by the applicant's elderly parent.	While there is no objection to the application the Parish Council questions whether the proposal is ancillary to the main house it lies within the AONB and is visible from the footpath. ACTION Cllr Broderick to draft a response
7. 25/00176/FUL	20 St Margarets Drive Alderton	Rear extension	COUNCIL AGREED to No comment response.

8.2 To note the following planning application decisions

Reference	Location	Description	Decision
25/00090/FUL	36 Beckford Road Alderton	Remove wall tile hanging and replace with white render to front and rear elevations	Permit

8.3 To discuss the need for S106 obligations in respect of community infrastructure for 24/00393/OUT

The Parish Council discussed the potential S106 contributions required to support local community infrastructure in response to the proposed development. The Council AGREED to request contributions towards:

- Play Area - enhancements to the play area specifically to provide for a greater age range
- Community Playing Field –upgrades to the playing field, including storage, drainage improvements and maintenance of the pitch.
- Allotments & Community Green Spaces – Installation of a compostable toilet, expansion of allotment plots with improved water access, and enhancement of community green spaces to ensure sustainable recreational areas.

The Council will submit these priorities as part of the S106 discussions and continue to engage with the relevant authorities to secure appropriate funding.

ACTION Cllr Broderick to forward previous response

250320/09 To receive an update on maintenance of Parish Council Assets:

9.1 Speed Sign (VAS) – no update

9.2 Pest control at the allotments and playing field – No suitable pest control company has been identified to address the mole issue. The search continues, including consulting British Pest Control.

250320/10 To agree or note matters relating to the Allotments

10.1 Matters Arising: Coronation community Grant secured for six fruit trees. **ACTION** hire toilet and turn on water supply for 1st April

10.2 Old Village Shop – The scale of work required could not meet the grant deadline. Future plans may include a sympathetic replacement. Project on hold until after public consultation.

10.3 AAA AGM – Took place and was well attended. Request for the potholes along access tracks to be addressed.

10.4 Concerns were raised of how the new development will cause waterlogging on the southern track

250320/11 To agree or note matters relating to the Playing Field and Changing Facility

11.1 Matters arising

11.1.1 Six-month safety inspection completed.

11.2 Play area inspections – No issues reported. Gate repair scheduled for Friday 21 March

11.3 **COUNCIL AGREED** to enter a three-year contract for the changing facility's energy supply with current supplier.

11.4 **COUNCIL APPROVED** the annual service contract renewal for the BioPure sewage treatment system of changing facility

250320/12 Correspondence

12.1 Letter from resident regarding verge maintenance on Dibden road – The maintenance of this area is probably Bromford's responsibility. However, **COUNCIL AGREED** include this verge with the other village verges that the parish council manages.

ACTION: Clerk to notify contractor about the additional verge and explore options with Greener Gloucestershire.

12.2 **COUNCIL NOTED** the second round stakeholder engagement - no response required

250320/13 To receive an update on the community consultation for priorities and agree actions

Meeting with GRCC will take place 25th March. No actions at this time

250320/14 To discuss the School Playing Field and agree actions

ACTION Clerk to submit Community Right to Bid resubmission
Awaiting response from GCC.

250320/15 Finances – documents circulated prior to meeting

15.1 To record income received up to 28 February 2025

COUNCIL APPROVED December receipts received of **£303.37**

COUNCIL APPROVED the February 2025 Payments list

Agreed direct debits

	Payee	Description	Authority	Amount	VAT	Total
DD	Scribe	Accounts & allotment system	LGA 1972 s.111	57.60	14.40	72.00
DD	NEST	Pension	LGA 1972 s.112	132.23	0.00	132.23
DD	EDF	Changing facility Electricity	LG(MP)A 1976 s.19	45.00	0.00	45.00

Payments list

	Payee	Description	Authority	Amount	VAT	Total
FPO	C. Bridges	Clerks salary	LGA 1972 s.112s.2	865.34	0.00	865.34

FPO	HMRC	NI & PAYE	LGA 1972 s.112	57.17	0.00	57.17
FPO	PATA UK	Payroll	LGA 1972 s.112	47.46	0.00	47.46
FPO	A&E Security	Fire safety checks at changing facility	LGA 1976 s.19	196.18	39.24	235.42
FPO	We Build It Ltd	Service contract Bio Puresewage treatment	Public Health Act 1936, s.1 & s.125	330.00	66.00	396.00
FPO	WaterPlus	Allotment water	Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908, s.23 & s.26	17.60	0.00	17.60
FPO	WaterPlus	Changing facility water	LGA 1972 s. 137	32.83	0.00	32.83
FPO	K. Page	Deisel for the allotments	Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908, s.23	48.97	9.79	58.76
FPO	N. Charrington	Hedge cutting at the allotment	Allotments Act 1908 s.8	90.00	18.00	105.00
FPO	J. Kettle	Meeting expenses	Local Government Act 1972 s.111	21.92	4.38	26.30
TOTAL						£1841.88

COUNCIL NOTED the following internal transfers: 1% Savings acc to Current acc: £5,000

COUNCIL NOTED that a VAT claim of £2,821.53 has been submitted

15.2 To approve bank reconciliation

COUNCIL APPROVED the bank reconciliation for the current state of accounts 28 February 2025 (Appendix B).

15.3 Budget monitoring – nothing raised

15.4 To consider expenditure items for S106 and CIL monies and agree actions

S106 for pitch improvements can include a sports equipment shed to replace the bunker. Upcoming CIL amounts have been confirmed for Freeman Homes by TBC.

250320/16 To note agenda items for next meeting 15 April

Meeting closed at 10.10pm. Date of next Meeting: 15 April 2025 commencing at 19.00pm, in Alderton Village Hall.

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Chairman

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Date

2025 Meeting Dates: 15 April, 20 May, 17 June, 15 July, 19 August, 16 September, 21 October, 18 November, 16 December

APPENDIX A - County Council report provide by Cllr Gray prior to meeting

- Local Government Reform - delays due to central government not selecting Gloucestershire for "first tranche". Consequently, County Council elections will go ahead on 1 May.
- Significant uncertainty about any future timing for Gloucestershire, which is highly disruptive for staffing etc.
- Leaders of Gloucester and Cheltenham and 4 of 6 local MPs, promoting schemes to split the county....into up to 4 unitaries. Tewkesbury Borough council is opposing such schemes. I am also opposing such plans ...vigorously, as they would increase bureaucracy and add millions to ongoing costs by splitting existing services, such as children's social care.
- Tewkesbury Borough Council meetings are now webcast, as are planning committees etc. Surprisingly popular (although this may be councillors and their families?). Planning much more popular than main council meetings.
- Both Tewkesbury and Gloucestershire County Council are solvent and have passed balanced budgets for 25/26....unlike Somerset which is cutting services and hiking rates by 7.5%. Cheltenham selling assets, including their main office, so balance the budget.
- 500,000th tree planted under 1million tree planting program be County Council.
- Likely that the local members allowance scheme will be extended by County Council, so after 1 May elections, the incoming county Councillor, whoever that luck individual might be, should have some funds for local projects promoted by the parish council or other local bodies.
- Broadway Road gas main works Toddington to Broadway due to complete by the end of the month.
- It is expected that the same road from Toddington to Winchcombe will be fully resurfaced within the next few months.

Happy to take any questions by email.

APPENDIX B

	Bank Reconciliation at 28/02/2025		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2024		124,647.84
	ADD Receipts 01/04/2024 - 28/02/2025		43,553.97
			168,201.81
	SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2024 - 28/02/2025		52,027.40
A	Cash in Hand 28/02/2025 (per Cash Book)		116,174.41
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
	Petty Cash	28/02/2025	0.00
	Current Account	28/01/2025	3,847.48
	Savings Account (1%)	28/02/2025	9,453.79
	CIL Savings (1%)	28/02/2025	71,538.76
	CIL Savings (3.6%)	28/02/2025	0.00
	CIL Savings (% tracker)	28/02/2025	31,334.38
			116,174.41
	Less unrepresented payments		
			116,174.41
	Plus unrepresented receipts		
B	Adjusted Bank Balance		116,174.41
	A = B Checks out OK		