

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Alderton Village Hall on
Tuesday, 18 February 2025 commencing at 7.00pm.**

Present: M Davies (Chair), N. Broderick, M West, D Rayton, J Kettle, P Woodman
Attendance: Parish Clerk, 2 members of the public, Cllr Gray and Cllr Mason

250218/01 To accept apologies for absence and confirm the meeting is quorate
Apologies were received from Cllr Madle

250218/02 To receive Declarations of interest for items on the agenda below
Cllr D Rayton for **250218/07.1.3** – 14 St Margarets Drive **250218/07.1.6** - 28 Orchard road, **250218/07.1.7** - 36 Beckford road
Dispensation Cllr Woodman – Allotments

250218/03 To receive comments from members of the public
No Comments were received.

250218/04 To confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 21 January 2025
The minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2025 were **AGREED by COUNCIL** and signed by Cllr West.

250218/05 To receive the County and Borough Councillors' reports
Cllr David Gray provided the County council report and shared the following updates:

- The council was not successful in the first stream of unitary councils, so it remains business as usual.
- Jo Walker appointed as new Chief Executive of GCC.
- Gloucestershire is considering three options for local government reform: a single unitary authority for the entire county, two unitary authorities splitting the west (Gloucester, Stroud, Forest of Dean) and east (Tewkesbury, Cheltenham, Cotswolds), or creating a greater-Gloucester authority comprised of the city and surrounding villages (doughnut). The process is ongoing, with potential ministerial decisions by 2028. Elections to take place on 1st May, followed by further elections in the subsequent years. The final decision will rest with central government.
- The settlement for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) payments for waste services, with £900K allocated to TBC and £5M set aside in reserves.
- TBC and GCC have sound budgets in place for 2025-26.
- Children's services have shown improvement, with a positive report received.

Cllr Mason provided the Borough council report and shared the following updates:

- TBC agreed a balanced budget of £13,450,226. This includes an increase in council tax for a band D property of £5 per year, from £144.36 to £149.36.
- Key projects, including Garden Communities and the Joint Local Plan, are ongoing.
- The council has decided not to pursue a name change.

250218/06 To agree or note matters relating to Highways
6.1 To discuss the flooding and sandbags in the village and agree actions

- The Parish Council has received a bulk delivery of sand, which has been placed at the allotment. Twenty sandbags have been pre-filled. **ACTION** Publicize availability of sandbags via WhatsApp and the Parish Newsletter.
- Representatives to provide an update on planned flooding mitigation work at the next Parish Council meeting. **ACTION** Cllr Kettle to liaise with relevant parties to invite to the next parish council meeting with earlier start of 6:30 pm to accommodate discussions.

6.2 To discuss the request for an additional grit bin for Beckford Road
Waiting for an update on grit levels for stocking a new bin from the village snow warden

250218/07 Planning
1. To discuss planning application and agree actions

Reference	Location	Description	Comments
1. 24/00801/FUL 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 raised regarding works proceeding without agreed conditions. The proposed development includes 48 units, with 22 being four-bedroom houses. The housing mix strategy has changed, incorporating study spaces instead of 2-3 bedroom homes, which does not align with the borough's housing needs.
2. 24/00393/OUT	Part Parcels 6318 And 6536	Outline planning application with all matters reserved (except for access from Franklin Road) for up	Awaiting formal comments from Highways.

	Beckford Road Alderton	to 35 dwellings, including affordable housing, allotments and associated infrastructure	S106 funding contribution to the play area at the playing fields rather than creating a separate play area. ACTION Cllr Broderick will submit concerns regarding water and sewage capacity, requesting Severn Trent to conduct a survey. Chief Executive and Lead Member for Planning to be copied into correspondence.
3.	24/00745/FUL*	14 St Margarets Drive Alderton	Proposed dwelling, parking and turning space.
4.	24/00129/CONDIS	Land East Of St Margarets Drive, Alderton	Application for approval of details subject to condition 10 (CMP), 11 (Tree and Hedge Protection), 13 (Archaeology), 14 (Site Waste), 16 (CEMP), 18 (LEMP), 20 (Contamination), 24 (Welcome Pack), and 26 (PROW) of the planning application ref number 22/00624/OUT
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.
6.	25/00064/FUL*	28 Orchard Road Alderton	Extend Front Porch, Rear Extension, and Alterations. And Demolish Rear Lobby Building.
7.	25/00090/FUL*	36 Beckford Road Alderton	Remove wall tile hanging and replace with white render to front and rear elevations

* Cllr Rayton did not participate in discussions.

7.2 To note the following planning application decisions

Reference	Location	Description	Decision
24/00622/FUL	20 Orchard Road Alderton	Replacement single garage for double garage with annex above with associated windows and rooflights	Permit
APP/G1630/W/24/3347594	Land to west of Willow Bank Road	APPEAL: Residential Development for up to 9 houses	Refused
23/00720/FUL	Land Adjacent To 22 St Margarets Road Alderton	Proposed dwelling and altered access	Permit

- Cllr Broderick informed the council that she will be attending a free RTP1 seminar on sustainable transport

250218/08

To receive an update on maintenance of Parish Council Assets:

8.1 **Speed Sign** (VAS) – no update

8.2 **Pest control at the allotments and playing field** – Currently no suitable pest control company has been identified to address the mole issue.

COUNCIL NOTED Ashton 88 Football Club has raised concerns about molehills on the pitch, citing them as a safety hazard. The club has suggested applying for FA funding to support pitch improvements. **ACTION** Clerk to follow-up with Ashton 88

8.3 **ACTION** Clerk to explore whether S106 funding for the playing field pitch improvements can be used to replace the bunker with a sports equipment storage shed.

250218/09

To agree or note matters relating to the Allotments

9.1 Matters Arising:

9.1.1 10 trees donated by GCC Ash Dieback Scheme have been received and planted by the AAA.

9.1.2 Shop refurbishment to begin when weather improves (expected end of March).

9.1.3 Exploring options for a compostable toilet.

250218/10 To agree or note matters relating to the Playing Field and Changing Facility

10.1 Matters arising

- 10.1.1 Entranceway groundwork is now completed.
- 10.1.2 Play area gate awaiting replacement mechanism.
- 10.1.3 COUNCIL NOTED that a Fire Check will be carried out on 27th February

10.2 Play area inspections – No issues reported

10.3 Three companies were approached for the tender of the grass cutting and maintenance of Playing field. Two quotes were received. Quotes were based on 14 grass cuts April to October.

- 1) £ 2,268 (inc VAT)
- 2) £ 2,640 (inc VAT) this excludes the second cut to areas other than the pitch

COUNCIL AGREED to contractor 1) quote of £2,268 based on their reliability from the previous year to deliver a good standard of work at a rate which is in line with the 25/26 budget.

250218/11 Correspondence

11.1 To consider areas of brownfield sites for Cheltenham, Gloucester and Tewkesbury for Urban Capacity Study – No suitable areas identified. **COUNCIL AGREED** that no response is required.

11.2 Donation of a defibrillator from Freeman Homes – Council is **interested** and requests further details on the donation and handover. **ACTION** Clerk to respond.

11.3 COUNCIL NOTED correspondence **regarding GAPTC status and name change vote**

250218/12 To receive an update on the community consultation for priorities and agree actions

ACTION Clerk to set up a meeting when GRCC representative is next available

ACTION Clerk to check with TBC for CIL on current developments

250218/13 To discuss the School Playing Field and agree actions

No update

250218/14 Finances – documents circulated prior to meeting

14.1 To record income received up to 31 January 2025

COUNCIL APPROVED December receipts received of **£ 2,472.24**

COUNCIL RATIFIED payments made between meetings

	Payee	Description	Authority	Amount	VAT	Total
FPO	PATA	Payroll	LGA 1972 s111	54.45	0.00	54.45
DD	SSE Energy	Defibrillator Electricity	LGA 1972 s137	40.07	0.00	40.07

	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

COUNCIL APPROVED the February 2025 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	Village Hall	8 meetings of hall hire	LGA 1972 s.111	174.00	0.00	174.00
FPO	CDRC	Ground work for entrance to playing field (to claim S106)	LGA 1976 s.19	999.00	0.00	999.00
FPO	Exps J. Kettle	2 replacement light bulbs for changing facility	LGA 1972 s.111	24.98	5.00	29.98
FPO	GAPTC	Annual membership	LGA 1972 s.143	291.61	0.00	291.61
TOTAL						£2417.10

COUNCIL NOTED the following internal transfers:

- Maturing of CIL (3.6%) acc to CIL 1% acc: £62,171.84
- Current acc to 1% Savings acc: £13,864.76

ACTION Clerk to transfer £60,000 from CIL 1% to tracker with higher rate of interest

COUNCIL NOTED the quarterly internal check was carried out and highlighted that a VAT reclaim is due

14.2 To approve bank reconciliation

COUNCIL APPROVED the bank reconciliation for the current state of accounts 31 January 2025 (Appendix A).

14.3 Budget monitoring – COUNCIL NOTED that due to allocating money into earmarked reserves for the mower replacement and play area repairs – there will be a decrease in the amount carried forward to 2025-26.

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

- 14.4.1 Representatives of St. Margaret's Church have requested CIL funding to support the replacement of their 24-year-old gas-fired boiler, aligning with the Diocese of Gloucester's Carbon-Free 2030 initiative. The church serves as a vital community asset, hosting weddings, funerals, social events, and meetings.
The proposal is to upgrade to an electric under-pew heating system, similar to installations in Chedworth and Churchdown. An additional benefit of this upgrade is the removal of heating pipes currently obstructing access through the South door.
Phase 1: Upgrade to a 3-phase electrical system, required before installation.
National Grid connection cost: £7,315.97 (excluding VAT), quote valid until May.
Phase 2: Installation of under-pew heating. The church is seeking additional funding from sources such as the Greenfield Trust and will undertake fundraising efforts, including grant applications (e.g., National Lottery Heritage Fund).

The Parish Council discussed the request and is supportive of the project in principle, recognizing the importance of upgrading the church's heating system as a valued community asset. The Council notes that a quotation for the electrical work and installation is still needed and encourages the church to obtain quotes and explore grant funding opportunities.

- 14.4.2 S106 and CIL projects for 2025/26 were suggested
- Play area matting repairs and improvements
 - Remove bunker and install new sports equipment shed
 - New dog waste bin to the south of the village
 - Compostable toilet for the allotment

- 250218/15 **To consider the electricity contract quotes for the phone box housing the defibrillator in Cambridges Square**
A five-month quote was received from the current supplier, as they are changing the way unmetered supplies are charged. Two other energy suppliers were approached but declined to provide quotes for an unmetered supply. **COUNCIL AGREED** to renew the contract with SSE Energy starting in March and to review options again at the end of the contract.
- 250218/16 **To agree a date for the Annual Parish Meeting to take place**
COUNCIL AGREED to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on 22nd April 2025 at 7PM
ACTION Clerk to book the hall and notify groups and clubs
- 250218/17 **To note agenda items for next meeting 18 March**
None.

Meeting closed at 10.30 pm. Date of next Meeting: 18 March 2025 commencing at 19.00pm, in Alderton Village Hall.

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Chairman

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Date

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

APPENDIX A

Bank Reconciliation at 31/01/2025			
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2024		124,647.84
	ADD Receipts 01/04/2024 - 31/01/2025		43,250.60
			167,898.44
	SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2024 - 31/01/2025		49,351.33
A	Cash in Hand 31/01/2025 (per Cash Book)		118,547.11
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
	Petty Cash 31/01/2025	0.00	
	Current Account 31/01/2025	1,377.05	
	Savings Account (1%) 31/01/2025	14,442.65	
	CIL Savings (1%) 31/01/2025	71,476.10	
	CIL Savings (3.6%) 31/01/2025	0.00	
	CIL Savings (% tracker) 31/01/2025	31,251.31	
			118,547.11
	Less unrepresented payments		
			118,547.11
	Plus unrepresented receipts		
B	Adjusted Bank Balance		118,547.11
	A = B Checks out OK		