

LUCKINGTON & ALDERTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LUCKINGTON AND ALDERTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8TH JANUARY 2014 AT 7.30PM, IN LUCKINGTON VILLAGE HALL.

PRESENT

Chairman Mr A Stopforth (AS)
Councillors Mr G Lynham (GL) Mr J Buckley (JB) Mr P Bamford (PB)
Mr N Banks (NB) Mr R McCraith (RM) Mr N Neale (NN)
Parish Council Clerk Mrs S Wood (SW)
No members of the public were present.

Item
<p>585. Apologies Apologies were given by County Councillor Thomson.</p>
<p>586. Declaration of interests. No interests declared.</p>
<p>587. Members of the public are invited to address the council on agenda items. None</p>
<p>588. Approval of Minutes of last meeting. The December minutes were approved.</p>
<p>589. Matters arising from the minutes - 589.1 Wiltshire Good Neighbour Scheme ClerkSW waiting to hear from Ellen Blacker so item will be deferred to February meeting.</p>
<p>589.2 Insurance of telephone boxes and pump JB and SW to look at this at the May meeting which is nearer the Insurance renewal date.</p>
<p>589.3 Drains JB reported that Wiltshire Council sent out vehicles to many problem drains to undertake "gully sucking". GL reported that the Back Lane at Alderton flooded because the grills were blocked with leaves and dirt. GL cleared the grills for two hours which did eventually alleviate the flood levels. The previous Wiltshire Council parish steward did regularly clear the grills and this should continue once the new parish team scheme is operating properly. Some householders in Alderton took off some grills to help the water flow. The parish council cannot condone this action but if householders are going to lift grills and covers they must remember to replace the covers as soon as possible as they could be held liable if an accident occurs while the cover is removed. Many people have to walk through flooded areas including the fire brigade and other such services so any removal of covers could be very dangerous.</p>
<p>590. Planning 590.1 Planning application 13/06286/LBC – internal refurbishment – Pullens, Church Road, Luckington The deadline for this application was originally 2nd January but has been granted an extension after only receiving it on 22nd December. The Parish Council had no objections to this application.</p>
<p>590.2 13/06680/TCA – Tree works, Children’s Play Area, Church Lane, Luckington The Parish Council had no objections to this application.</p>
<p>591. Correspondence: 591.1 Luckington Resident – Sopworth Road drainage issues A resident from Sopworth Lane wrote to the Parish Council asking if the collapsed road drain outside North End Farm could be repaired. The collapse has caused a blockage underground resulting in a large puddle further down the Lane; compounded by recent rain. The drain was reported to Wiltshire Council by this resident 2 years ago; however no repair has taken place. Clerk SW will look into past records to see if there is</p>

any history on this issue and Mr Simpkins will try and recall information before Highways are contacted.

ACTION - Clerk SW to report at the February meeting.

591.2 Wiltshire Citizens Advice and Wiltshire Victim Support

Both organisations have written to the Parish Council asking for a financial contribution to enable them to continue their work. Wiltshire Citizens Advice last year helped 5,206 people in the area of its Chippenham Bureau which includes Luckington. The organisation offers a free confidential service that can help residents work through their problems such as debt, unemployment, disability, divorce and age or health issues. Wiltshire Victim Support provides emotional support and practical help to all victims and witnesses of crime.

AS suggested looking at these letters before the end of the financial year at the March meeting. All agreed.

591.3 Luckington Resident – Flood Risks

A resident has written to the Parish Council commenting on the December minutes and the Wiltshire Council flooding risks proposals. The resident believes landowners are only likely to remove overgrowth which could be blocking up rivers) if compelled. A spoken word from the Parish Council was not a solution. The resident suggested the flooding at Brook End could be reduced by opening up gaps in the stone wall on the footpath to allow water to flow as it reached the level of the path. This was detailed in an official report by the Environment Department predecessor the South West Flood Defence Committee in 2005, but has not been implemented. They asked if the Parish Council could apply some pressure to the authorities to solve this problem. JB has visited the resident and has taken the report with him. JB will report back to both the resident and the council once the report has been read. After this JB suggests the Parish Council can talk to the Environment Agency about possible solutions. The Parish Council will help in any way possible to reduce the risk of flooding in Brook End.

592. Finance

The receipts balances and accounts for payment were circulated.

Luckington and Alderton Parish Council

Financial data as at 8/01/2014

£

Bank account balances at the report date:

Barclays Current Account	3,674.83
Barclays Deposit Account	2,835.48
<u>Total balances</u>	<u>6,510.31</u>

Payments for approval at this meeting:

Luckington Playground Charity*	650.00
Community 1 st – Insurance additions	238.42
<u>Total payments for approval today</u>	<u>888.42</u>

* Agreed at last month's meeting.

592.1 Banking

GL has spoken with the bank to update current online banking facilities. GL will report back at the next meeting.

593.Update on the Blind House/Lock Up

GL informed the Parish Council that the Lock Up has now been successfully registered under the parish council's ownership by the Land Registry. The whole process has gone very smoothly with no appeals or objections and GL is just waiting for the paper work. Wiltshire Council Highways have confirmed in a letter that the land in front of the Lock Up is used as a highway and maintained at Highways expense. Once title deeds and documentation has been received they will be filed by the clerk. NB will paint the Lock Up a dirty black in the summer when he is painting the telephone box.

ACTION – JB and GL to write to owners of the Pump House to thank them for their help regarding the matter.

594. To discuss the ownership of the Luckington website domain

In December's meeting concern was raised that control of the ownership of the website domain was no longer held by a councillor and could present a data risk. AS has compiled a document regarding the current position of the Luckington and Alderton Parish Council domain name, email and website and options on how to proceed further. The Parish Council agreed to transfer domain name / e-mail ownership.

ACTION - AS to facilitate transfer of the domain name and e-mail ownership to the Parish Council.

595. Update on Luckington Cemetery and paddock

595.1 SW has contacted Matthews Funeral Directors in Malmesbury who has kindly agreed to send a list of burial fees from similar sized villages. This will help the Parish Council compare its fees with other parishes.

ACTION– Clerk SW to report back at February meeting.

595.2 NB reported that the far side of the cemetery wall has collapsed. **ACTION** -NB to talk to Robert Simpkins about rebuilding the wall (Plus ownership of wall to be established).

595.3 The rent for the paddock has now gratefully been received and concern has been raised regarding the boundaries of the paddock. This matter will be discussed at the next meeting.

596. Update on local road /bridge closures

JB attended a meeting on 19th December organised by the NFU. In attendance were local farmers and landowners, Network Rail, Wiltshire Council and representatives of Sherston and Didmarton Parish Councils. JB has received and circulated notes of the meeting. No new reopening dates have been provided and the severe weather has added to delays. Parties at the meeting agreed a sweeper would be organised whenever needed. The worst roads have now been swept. JB informed the Parish Council that he will only call on the sweepers when necessary. Wiltshire Council is meeting with Network Rail to discuss replacement of ruined grips. There has been some improved signage and contractors are being advised to travel via Acton Turville. There is a large crane coming through the area at the weekend. JB has been in contact with Network Rail about the correct procedures that they legally need to follow. JB will update when more news is in.

597. Highway issues

Potholes along the road to Fosse Lodge were due to be repaired this week. However due to the weather it has been delayed. The road out of Alderton is terrible as is the Rathole, etc. The roads currently being used as the diversion routes will be resurfaced later this year. **ACTION** - JB to chase and manage queries.

598. Matters for Highways and Parish Team

Mentioned previously. Drains and grips to be checked outside the Old Chapel and Church Lane.

599. Reports from outside meetings.

599.1 NB reported that the Wiltshire Air Ambulance have signed a ten year contract for a new helicopter which will be in operation from December 2014.

599.2 PB has contacted Martin Rea from Sherston regarding future public transport opportunities and solutions. MR has yet to hear further from JT about possible funding for schemes such as community mini buses and car shares. MR will report back to PB when he has news.

599.3 NB reported that the village hall was built to commemorate the end of the First World War and asked if the PC were planning to hold an event in remembrance of the start of the war. If so the village hall would like to be involved. The Parish Council will discuss this at the next meeting and will be happy to hear ideas from anyone on how best to commemorate this moment in history.

600. Items for next months' agenda and other matters for information only.

All previously discussed.

601. Public Question Time

No questions.

602. Time and Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be on 12th February 2014 at Luckington Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm. Minutes were taken by S Wood, Clerk to Luckington & Alderton Parish Council.

