

LUCKINGTON & ALDERTON PARISH COUNCIL

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**Draft Minutes of the Meeting of Luckington and Alderton Parish Council Held on
Wednesday 11th September 2024 at 7.30pm in Luckington Village Hall**

Present:

Chair: Richard McCraith (RMC)

Councillors:

John Buckley (JB)

Councillor Martin Smith (MS)

Nic Johnson-Greening (NJG)

Parish Clerk: Carol Rogers (CR)

Members of the Public: None

2168. Apologies for absence

Nigel Neale, Sue Godwin

2169. Declaration of interests

There were none.

2170. Members of the public are invited to address the Council on agenda items

There were no members of the public in attendance.

2171. Public Question Time

There were no questions.

2172. To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 17th July 2024

The Minutes were approved by all and signed by RMC.

2173. Matters arising from the Minutes

There were none.

2174. The following planning application was considered:

[PL/2024/04198](#): Church of St Mary & St Ethelbert, Church Road, Luckington, Chippenham, SN14 6PH (internal alterations and upgrades to church access and facilities). **There were no objections.**

2175. Clerk's training

Induction training for the new clerk (including WALC Clerk's Toolbox and SLCC New Clerk) was considered. Costs are itemised in the Financial Data section. A selection of introductory training was approved, subject to prior approval. 2 half day online courses have been attended and a further session on parish finances is scheduled.

2176. Update on financial issues

a. To agree payments as follows:

Ryan Russell (grass cutting August): £190.00

Clerk's phone: £14.37

Clerk's training - WALC Clerks Toolbox Sessions 1 & 2: £96.00

Clerk's training - SLCC New Clerk Session: £24.00

All approved, RMC & JB signed.

b. Submission of 2023/24 VAT reclaim. CR confirmed that the LAPC VAT claim has been submitted online at www.gov.uk. The printed HMRC acknowledgement of the claim was signed by RMC.

2177. Lime Down update

The closing date for Statutory Consultees to respond to the EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) was the 14th August 2024. Over 70 National Agencies and Organisations responded, as did 15 County or Unitary authorities and over 50 Parish Councils. Many of the responses were critical of the EIA proposals put forward by the developer. The Planning Inspectorate have now issued their 'Opinion' in response to this statutory consultation exercise, and it can be found here. It includes details of each consultee response (see under documents): <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010168>

The Planning Inspectorate website states that this project is at the pre-application stage. The application is expected to be submitted Q1 2025. When they receive the application, they have 28 days to decide whether to accept it for examination. If they accept the application, the public will then be able to register to have their say and view all the application documents.

2178. Wiltshire's Gypsies and Travellers Development Plan

The pre-submission draft of the [Wiltshire's Gypsies and Travellers Development Plan Document - Wiltshire Council](#) was discussed. Proposals are to increase the size of existing sites and to add new sites, none of which are very close (the nearest is Hullavington). **No action is required for LAPC.**

2179. Highways update

- Recent rain overwhelmed the existing drainage in Luckington village. Some gratings have been cleared but others are still blocked and need re-doing. The necessary work is in hand.
- Road re-surfacing has now been carried out. Contributions in achieving this from Wiltshire Highways and residents are much appreciated.
- The annual survey of salt and grit bins has been carried out. Outstanding work is in hand.
- Any advance notifications regarding highways will in future be posted on Facebook.

2180. Report from Outside Meetings

- The next Operational Flood Group meeting is on 26th September.
- Stop Lime Down Group meetings: JB will continue to meet them and report back.
- Neighbourhood Watch have been reorganising local groups. LAPC is on their mailing list and JB will put relevant items on Facebook.
- Integrated Care Board: MS attended a recent meeting with the CEO and the new MP Dr Roz Savage. The lease on the current surgery premises in Sherston is nearing its end date (in around 3 years) and it is understood that the owners do not intend to extend the existing contract. Urgent enquiries are being made to understand what plans are being developed to resolve this issue. No answers are expected before the end of 2024, but it will continue to be actively pursued.

2181. Items for next meeting Agenda and any other business, for information only

- The Independent Remuneration Panel is about to undertake a review of city, town, and parish allowances within the Wiltshire unitary authority area and will be circulating a survey to this effect on 16 September. It was commented that LAPC would not be proposing any changes to the current allowances scheme.
- Wiltshire Council Draft Enforcement Policy: responses are required by 26th September. LAPC is in agreement with the proposed policy and will respond accordingly.
- Wiltshire Council - Councillor Code of Conduct ([Local Government Association's Model Code of Conduct](#)).
- LAPC needs to think ahead regarding the re-election/election of Councillors in 2025. Given the Lime Down activity it will be increasingly essential to achieve the quorum of Councillors at all meetings.
- NJG commented on reports received that the Claremont hedge is overgrown and obstructing pedestrian use of the pavement. It was confirmed that this can be reported and addressed via Wiltshire Council. NJG will notify the relevant parties.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.