

**LUCKINGTON & ALDERTON PARISH COUNCIL**

[www.luckington.org.uk](http://www.luckington.org.uk)

**Draft Minutes of the Meeting of Luckington and Alderton Parish Council Held on  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 7.30pm in Luckington Village Hall**

**Present**

**Chair**

Mr Richard McCraith (RMC)

**Vice-Chair**

Mr Nigel Neale (NN)

**Councillors**

Mr John Buckley (JB)

Ms Sue Godwin (SG)

**Parish Clerk:** Dr Sheona Beaumont (SB)

---

**1913. Apologies for Absence**

Councillor Martin Smith (MS).

**1914. Declaration of interests**

RMC (on PCC of Luckington Church) in respect of Correspondence item.

**1915. Members of the public are invited to address the Council on agenda items**

There were none.

**1916. Public Question Time**

There were no questions.

**1917. To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

The Minutes were approved by all and signed by RMC.

**1918. Matters arising from the Minutes**

There were none.

**1919. Correspondence received:**

a) Letter from Deborah Bourne, Wiltshire Association of Local Councils (23/11/22), which in summary, states 'it is unlawful for a Council to give a grant to the local church'. The Council recognises that a previous funding decision in 2019 was unlawful, though it was made with the best intentions, and is now implementing measures to ensure this does not happen again.

**1920. To review and comment on the following planning applications:**

a) [PL/2022/08804](#): AVONDALE, BROOK END, LUCKINGTON, CHIPPENHAM, SN14 6PJ (Demolition of existing dwelling and erecting a four bedroom dwelling with detached double garage). Neighbours have communicated to Councillors that this application, again being revised, has not changed significantly. LAPC had previously rejected this application in 2021. The Council object to this re-submitted application because nothing is materially or substantially different from the previous application: its bigger prospect continues to overlook the neighbours and is out of keeping with the area housing, and questions are unanswered about the effects on the watercourse.

b) [PL/2022/08361](#): MANOR FARM, THE STREET, ALDERTON, CHIPPENHAM, SN14 6NL (Replacement general purpose agricultural building (destroyed by storm damage) with associated tree felling works). No objections.

c) [PL/2022/09228](#): THE OLD SMITHY, CHURCH ROAD, LUCKINGTON, CHIPPENHAM, SN14 6PG (tree fell). No objections.

d) [PL/2022/09299](#): NORTHEND HOUSE, NORTHEND, LUCKINGTON, CHIPPENHAM, SN14 6PN (Two storey side extension. Porch. Rear orangery). No objections.

e) [PL/2022/09362](#): BANK COTTAGE, BROOK END, LUCKINGTON, CHIPPENHAM, SN14 6PJ (20% reduction to Ash Tree). No objections.

#### **1921. Update on Financial Issues**

a) To agree payments as listed in the attached financial summary:

- £240.00 Clerk backpay (National Salary Award E02-22, April – November 2022)

b) To agree Clerk salary increase as per the National Salary Award E02-22 (NALC). The previously circulated document from NALC implements a 7.5% increase, which for the Clerk's current salary point of SCP19 means an increase to £14.48 p/h (from £13.48 p/h).

Approved, RMC and JB to action.

#### **1922. Grass Cutting Tender Applications**

Three applications were considered, from Jack Derrick Estate and Garden Maintenance, Ryan Russell Estate Maintenance, and Hathaway Gardenscapes. The Council were grateful for the opportunity to consider three local businesses. After a short discussion, Council agreed to offer the contract to Jack Derrick.

#### **1923. Budget**

RMC presented the budget, with proposed increases of 2%, 5% and 10%. Given that Council has anticipated costs of approx. £13,000 costs, with £11,000 income, there was a discussion about the need to cover the upcoming lock-up/cemetery maintenance. JB proposed ringfencing the current reserve in the budget as follows (to cover liabilities, as recommended by NALC): 10% contingency, 60% cemetery fund, 30% lock-up. RMC proposed 5% increase, JB seconded, everyone agreed. SB to put reserve figure on monthly accounts.

#### **1924. Donations Policy and Community Grant Policy update**

JB outlined the principle additional clause to these policies: 'Luckington and Alderton Parish Council, for legal reasons, cannot consider applications from churches or other religious organisations'. Council agreed to adopt these amended policies. SB to update them on file and online.

#### **1925. Cemetery update**

Nothing from Loxleys in regards to cemetery land, SB to chase. SB reported sign still outstanding due to bad weather.

#### **1926. Highways update**

JB reported that salt-bins haven't been filled. Parish Steward and Nicola Mundy (Winter Weather Coordinator, Wiltshire Council) are on it, in an unexpectedly busy season. Fingerpost replacement still ongoing.

#### **1927. Report from Outside Meetings**

None to report.

#### **1928. Items for next meeting Agenda and any other business, for information only**

Parish Precept.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.