

# Luckington and Alderton Parish Council

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## Draft Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 7pm in Alderton Village Hall

### Present

John Buckley (JB)  
Sue Godwin (SG)  
Nic Johnson-Greening (NJG)  
Jackie Muggleton (JM)  
Roger Phillips (RP)

Carol Rogers – Parish Clerk (CR)

Martin Smith – Wiltshire Councillor

### 1. Apologies

Sue Godwin (SG)

### 2. Parish Councillors to choose and vote in a new Chair and Vice Chair

JB was willing to stand as Chair for the year. NJG proposed and RP seconded. This was voted for unanimously.

It was agreed that the vote for a new Vice Chair would be held in the next meeting of the Parish Council.

### 3. Clerk handed meeting over to newly elected Chair

### 4. Chair and Vice Chair to sign Declaration of Acceptance of Office

JB signed as Chair.

### 5. Declarations of interest.

There were none.

### 6. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 8<sup>th</sup> of May 2024

These minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

### 7. Matters Brought Forward from the Meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024

There were no matters brought forward.

### 8. Annual Report by the 2024/2025 Chair of the Parish Council, Mr Richard McCraith

I would like to start by thanking all the Councillors for their support throughout the year and all the help they have given.

We continue to look after grass cutting, the cemetery and general village support.

We have had much time taken up with opposing a huge solar park (2000 acres) - Lime Down Solar Park. This has produced a lot of local opposition and as a Parish Council we are offering as much support as the local area

needs with meetings and information. I would very much like to thank John Buckley for dedicating a lot of time reading all the paperwork produced and coming up with two reports which have been put forward on behalf of the Council in opposing this scheme; as it goes towards the Planning Inspectorate at the end of the year, there is still a long way to go.

We have had a change of Clerk this year and Carol was a pleasure to work with and I would like to thank Carol for the dedication that she gave the job.

Our grass cutting contract has stayed the same and we have awarded the contract to Ryan Russell for the next two years. We thank Ryan Russell for doing such a great job and keeping the village in such a good state.

We are in the process of making sure the small paddock by the cemetery will be maintained.

We have made sure the cemetery has been well looked after.

For next year we will be spending about what we get in leaving not much for reserves. We have not given any donations. Our finances have remained healthy and we have approximately £13,000 in our accounts after the year end. We increased the precept by 10% for 25-26.

We have had only 5 Councillors this year which does suit the way things are run. However, as we are allowed 7 people in total, we are always open to new blood.

A special mention and thanks go to my Vice Chairman Nigel Neale who has now come off the Council having served the village for 24 years.

This is my last year on the Council after 14 years and I hope I have served the village to the best of my ability.

## **9. Other Parish Business**

A vote of thanks was given to Richard McCraith for his years of service.

The meeting finished at 7.11pm.