

# **LUCKINGTON & ALDERTON PARISH COUNCIL**

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

## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 13<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2015 IN THE VILLAGE HALL LUCKINGTON AT 7.00PM**

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### **Present**

Copies of the Agenda were circulated to all in attendance. There were 2 members of the public and 6 Councillors in attendance.

#### **1. Approval of Convening Notice**

The Convening Notice was approved.

#### **2. Apologies**

Apologies were given by Councillor Neale and County Councillor Thomson.

#### **3. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2014**

These minutes were approved.

#### **4. Matters Brought Forward from the Meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> May 2014**

Mrs Poole has asked for the roads to be swept and this was subsequently done.

#### **5. Annual Report by the Chairman of the Parish Council, Mr Ashley Stopforth.**

Councillor Stopforth started by stating that the current council members are half way through their term of office which began in May 2013 and runs until May 2017. There were some changes in personnel in the year – Nigel Neale took on the role of Vice Chair, Sue Goodwin joined the Council and Victoria Allman took over the role of Clerk. He then continued to outline the events of the past year:

#### **Precept**

The precept rose by 10% this year, mainly to increase the reserve fund and also in readiness for a cap of 2% that may be introduced by central Government.

#### **Community Support**

The parish council has assisted local charities and community groups both financially and with advice. These charities include The Luckington Children's Playground Charity, the senior citizens Christmas lunch at Luckington Village Hall, the Alderton Village Pond and Green Charity.

#### **Grass Cutting**

A new contract is in place until 31.12.16. Since the Parish Council is not responsible for all the grass in the parish, it can't resolve all the issues that have arisen with the cutting.

#### **Cemetery**

The council adopted new cemetery regulations this year, with a slight increase in burial fees. Many thanks to the councillors and members of the public who helped with the 'Cemetery Community tidy-up', another one is planned for later in the year.

**Notice Boards**

The three Parish notice boards (Luckington Post Office, Alderton High Street and the Cemetery) have been updated. Many thanks to Paul Bamford for doing this.

**Road Re-surfacing**

Major road re-surfacing through both villages this year were a big success.

**Increased profile within the Parish**

The website has now been launched ([www.luckington.org.uk](http://www.luckington.org.uk)) which will publicise the activity of the Parish Council and give the public access to past minutes, local information, accounts etc. in-line with transparency regulations being introduced.

**Other**

It is hoped that the high speed broadband will be in Luckington and, maybe Alderton, by the end of the year.

Finally Councillor Stopforth thanked Tim Guard for his invaluable and tireless work on Community Matters which makes a huge difference in keeping the community informed.

He also thanked anyone who is in anyway involved in contributing to life within the Parish, whether this be with a local charity, helping at school, with community speed watch etc.

He thanked current and past Councillors for all their hard work, especially Nigel Neale for chairing the last meeting.

**6. Other Parish Business**

Robert Simpkins thanked the members of the Council for their work over the past year. He also reported only 1/3 of the Winter Salt has been used.

He asked if there were any plans to fix the Badminton Road since it is still in need of repair. John Buckley advised that Network Rail had still not addressed the problem since that road was not part of the official diversion route during the works. This matter is still in hand and there are plans to skim and redress the surface.

George Lynham reported on the superb job of resurfacing The Street in Alderton and he asked about the surplus materials that had yet to be removed from the drain by Yew Tree Cottage.

Meeting finished at 7.25pm

Mrs Victoria Allman

Clerk to Luckington and Alderton Parish Council