

LUCKINGTON & ALDERTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LUCKINGTON AND ALDERTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14th January 2015 AT 7.30PM, IN LUCKINGTON VILLAGE HALL.

PRESENT

Chairman	Mr A Stopforth (AS)	
Councillors	Mr N Banks (NB)	Mr J Buckley (JB)
	Mr P Bamford (PB)	Mr N Neal (NN)
Parish Council Clerk	Mrs V Allman (VA)	

Four members of the public were present

584. Apologies

County Councillor John Thompson (JT)

Councillor Richard McCraith (RM)

Councillor Sue Godwin (SG)

The Council would like to congratulate Sue Goodwin on her recent engagement.

585. Declaration of interests.

None

586. Members of the public to address the council on agenda items and public question time

Representatives of Luckington Church (PCC) addressed the Parish Council

They stated that the roof and both porches of Luckington church are in great need of repair and that they are applying for a grant to repair the roof, the deadline of which is 30th January 2015. Whilst there are plans for fundraising events this year to support this project, they also asked for an expression of support from the Parish council for the application form. This was given – VA to write. The PCC needs monetary support regardless of the grant, since the south porch is in danger of collapsing and they also asked for the Parish council to consider this. This will be on the Agenda for next month.

A member of the public enquired about pot-hole repairs on the Rat Hole. – JB responded that this is on the list 'to be done' and will be addressed eventually.

A member of the public addressed the council with concerns about speeding through Luckington and the state of the cemetery (see correspondence **589**.)

A member of the public had a query from the December 2014 minutes – **578**. 'AS pointed out that it used to be a rule of thumb NOT to pay insurance premiums since these are revenue costs'. He pointed out that this hadn't been the case when he was a councillor and that exceptions had been made in the past to the LCPC and Alderton Duck pond.

Representative of Alderton Duck Pond

A representative of Alderton Duck pond committee addressed the council on two points. He was still looking into applying for Section 106 monies for works to the Duck pond, but had been advised that is not a 'capital project' and therefore might not be applicable. Secondly, he made the point that the trustees demonstrate significant self-help in the running of the pond with regards to food stuffs/labour/ducks fence turning on and off/ specialist ducks being introduced and it is hard to sustain

since there is no subscription and only 32 houses in Alderton. However, the duck pond is a valued community asset with many visitors each year. He asked the council to consider giving a monetary grant to the duck pond – this will be discussed on the Agenda next month.

587. Approval of Minutes of last meeting.

The minutes from the December meeting were approved.

588. Matters arising from the December minutes

Resident request to have street light turned off between 12.00pm and 5.00am outside 23 Avon Rise – RM consulted with neighbours and there were no objections. VA has requested light turn off with appropriate Wiltshire council department.

Bus Shelter Graffiti – ongoing.

8 Church Road – this is still in hand with the Housing Association.

Grass Cutting Tender – contracts to be signed. VA to send out.

Emergency Planning Committee – sand has not yet been delivered since lorry got lost. Flood letters have been distributed to Brookend but not Sherston Road dwellings. RM to do? Adhesive labels for Salt bins are to be attached saying ‘Public Highway use Only’. Agenda item for next month.

589. Correspondence received

Letter from Wilshire Portage asking for a donation – this request was rejected since they do not currently support any children in the Parish.

Letter from Luckington resident with concerns about the upkeep of the cemetery in winter months and the issue of speeding through the village.

Both issues were discussed at length and the following conclusions were made:

Cemetery upkeep – that community goodwill and volunteers are the best way forward with a ‘Community Action Day’ for the cemetery being discussed for the spring. Jobs to be done need to be identified and tackled. This is an ongoing concern that needs to be addressed.

Speeding through both ends of the village – whilst it was agreed by all that this is an issue, there is not much that can be done by the Parish council.

Members of the public who have concerns are urged to write to Pat Geenty – Chief Constable of Wiltshire Police at Wiltshire Police HQ, London Road, Devizes Wilts SN10 2DN.

However, there was positive news in that a ‘School’ sign has now been erected before the school back entrance, by The Pump House and hopefully this will slow traffic down this lane.

590. Finance

The receipts balances and accounts for payment were circulated –

The accounts below were approved for payment by the Council.

Luckington and Alderton Parish Council
Financial Data as at 12th January 2015

£

Bank account balances at the report date:

Barclays Current Account	5,924.48
Barclays Deposit Account	2,836.91

<u>Total balances</u>	<u>8,761.39</u>
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Payments for approval at this meeting:

Senior Xmas lunch donation 100122	400.00
Alderton V Hall hire 100123	15.00

<u>Total payments for approval today</u>	<u>415.00</u>
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Receipts given this month

0.00

<u>Total</u>	<u>0.00</u>
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591. To discuss historical and present donations and grants from the Parish council

VA produced figures of all donations dating back to 2001 until present day and these were discussed.

592. To discuss the proposed adoption of a Community Grant Policy by the Parish council

JB presented a draft proposal for a Community Grant Policy which outlined what the LAPC will support, how they offer support to the community, a standardised bidding process and clear guidance to bidders as to what is expected as part of a bid.

After a few minor changes to the policy, most of the council were in support of the concept.

JB proposed that the policy be adopted from this meeting; 3 members voted for and two against. The motion was carried and the policy was adopted.

593. Cemetery Issues

PB reported that he had visited the Cemetery with JB and VA in order to look at the reconciliation of plots with records held by the Clerk. This was a successful visit and many of the recent plots can now be recorded in the appropriate place. However, with the older plots, this will take more time. PB proposed that an electronic register of plots and graves be assimilated and offered to do this over time.

Due to recent requests for types of headstones and reservations of plots, JB discussed the adoption of an emergency policy of burial ground rules and regulations, based on the West Wycombe parish council. 4 members voted for and 1 abstained. The motion was carried and the policy was adopted. VA to amend and circulate. To be reviewed at next meeting.

The issue of cemetery fees will be discussed at the next meeting.

594. Website

AS presented a draft proposal for a Parish website to 'outline the things we do, to be transparent, to provide detail on matters such as grass cutting, budget, etc.' AS volunteered to manage and edit the site and it was agreed that no private details and photos of councillors would be published. The site would be set up with Weebly.com at a 12 month option of US\$4.08 for the year, this would then be reviewed. The proposal was unanimously voted for and therefore adopted.

595. Update on Highways Issues

JB reported that the pothole by the green is being dealt with.

There has been correspondence from the Highways agency confirming the resurfacing works on The Street in Alderton:

'commencing from the crossroads outside 'Fourways' at the start of the village and through the village to approximately 75m after the entrance to Manor Farm.

These works involve the resurfacing of the existing carriageway, the installation of new road markings and the adjustment of surface ironwork.

The works will commence on Monday 9th February 2015 and weather permitting, will be completed by the morning of Tuesday 17th February 2015.

The works will be undertaken between the hours of 09.30 and 15.30. Due to the nature of the works and the local environment, the works will be carried out within a temporary road closure, to ensure that adequate health & safety is maintained for the contractor & local residents.

The main diversion route for all 'through' traffic whilst works are being undertaken within the road closure will be for vehicles wanting to access the road closure from the west, continue south east along Back Lane for approximately 800m to the T junction with Old Royal Ship and then turn left. Vehicles wanting to access the road closure from the north, continue straight along Old Royal Ship for approximately 500m and turn right at the junction with Back Lane.'

JB is still awaiting confirmation of the resurfacing works in Luckington due to start 16th February, however the diversion has now been approved and the works will be undertaken between the hours of 07.00 and 18.30.

There have been works in Luckington in advance of the resurfacing to lay down fibre for the installing of high speed broadband for connection later this year.

The broken sign post in Alderton is being dealt with.

The following roads will be closed overnight due to an inspection of the bridge from evening 26th February to 05.00 27th February - The A429 Chippenham Road (Part), Hullavington and St Paul Malmesbury Without; for a distance of approximately 200m covering the area of Kingsway rail overbridge.

596. Report from outside meetings

There were none

597. Items for next month's agenda and any other business for information only

- Alderton duck pond request for funds
- PCC request for funds
- Cemetery upkeep, fees and amendments to emergency policy
- Emergency Planning Committee

598. Time and Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday 11th February 2015 in Luckington Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 10.35pm.

The minutes were taken by Victoria Allman, Clerk to Luckington and Alderton Parish Council.