

LUCKINGTON AND ALDERTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of Luckington and Alderton Parish Council Held on Wednesday 10 December 2025 at 7.30pm in Luckington Village Hall

Present:

Chair: John Buckley (JB)

Vice Chair: Sue Godwin (SG)

Councillors:

Nic Johnson-Greening (NJG), Jackie Muggleton (JM), Roger Phillips (RP)

Parish Clerk: Elise Whittleton (EW)

Members of the Public: None

1/2393. Apologies for absence

None received.

2/2394. Declaration of interests

None declared.

3/2395. Members of the public are invited to address the Council on agenda items

No members of the public were present.

4/2396. Public Question Time

No members of the public were present.

5/2397. To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 2025

The Minutes were approved by all and signed by JB.

6/2398. Matters arising from the 12 November Minutes

- 10/2369 EW confirmed to resident the burial plot requirements.
- 11/2390a.i. JB confirmed the three discretionary gully sites have now been checked, there were no blockages.
- 11/2390c. EW submitted LAPC response submitted and noted Sherston objected to LUCK 17 footpath diversion.

7/2399. Review of Clerk's Appointment

JB informed the Councillors that the Clerk's probation period ended 21st November. All **agreed** to confirm EW in post.

8/2400. Planning

a. To review and comment on planning applications received.

- PL/2025/09381** Householder planning permission. Alterations to garage roof. Addition of dormer windows. The Old Post Office, The Street, Alderton, Chippenham, SN14 6NL. Comments by **29/12/2025**
- PL/2025/09424** Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area. **Oak tree - reduce height to clear overhead lines by 1m.** SITE 19 - LAND ADJACENT TO OLD ROYAL SHIP, SOPWORTH LANE, LUCKINGTON, CHIPPENHAM, SN14 6PA. Comments by **23/12/2025.**
- PL/2025/09425** Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area. Group of Ash, Beech, Hazel and Lime trees - selective branch removal to clear overhead lines by 1m. LAND OPPOSITE 5 CHAPEL ROW, LUCKINGTON, CHIPPENHAM, SN14 6PD. Comments by **23/12/2025**
- PL/2025/09426** Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area. Silver Birch and Cherry trees - reduce height to clear overhead lines by 1m. LAND ADJACENT TO 21 HOLLIS GARDENS, LUCKINGTON, CHIPPENHAM, SN14 6NS. Comments by **23/12/2025.**
- PL/2025/09427** Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area. Oak, Plum and Cherry trees - reduce height and selective branch removal to clear overhead lines by 1m. SITE 22 - LAND ADJACENT TO

LUCKINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL, THE STREET, LUCKINGTON, CHIPPENHAM, SN14 6NU. Comments by **23/12/2025**.

vi. **PL/2025/09340** Listed building consent (Alt/Ext). Amendment to Barn 4, as approved under listed building consent PL/2022/01586, comprising: external changes to fenestration and insertion of rooflights; and associated internal works to create an internal vaulted ceiling at first floor level. NEW FARM HOUSE, BACK LANE, ALDERTON, CHIPPENHAM, SN14 6NW. Comments by **01/01/2026**.

vii. **PL/2025/09341** Removal/variation of conditions. Variation of condition 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16 and 19 of PL/2022/01245 (approved plans) to allow changes in the Barn 4 design. New Farm House, Back Lane, Alderton, Chippenham, SN14 6NW. Comments by **01/01/2026**.

There were no objections to any of the applications.

JB reported and Wiltshire Councillor, Martin Smith, escalated concerns about the barn development on land opposite Carriers Farm to Wiltshire Council, who said that it met the planning application requirements as 'permitted development'. They have now raised with the Environment Agency and Wiltshire Highways due to concerns about causing flooding in that area and will provide the Parish Council with an update once one is received.

To note planning applications determined.

PL/2025/08079 Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area. Luckington Primary School, The Street, Luckington. Approved 17 November 2025.

9/2401. Update on financial issues

a. There was a discussion to agree payments as follows:

- i. Gradwell (Clerk's phone): £9.34 by DD
- ii. Refund Clerk for stationery purchase and replace black printer ink cartridge: £30.34
- iii. Clerk's salary (December 2025): £392.50
PAYE (Income Tax deduction, paid to HMRC on behalf of Clerk): £98.00
Clerk's office allowance (November 2025): £26.00

All items were approved and signed off by JB and SG.

b. The following receipts were noted:

- i. C.C Evans internment (13/10/2025) and exclusive rights fee £270
- ii. Burial plot 105 double depth reservation and exclusive rights fee £230

c. Budget planning and precept setting 2026/27

Correction: Minute 9/2401.c. corrected at LAPC meeting on 11/02/2026. Corrections underlined.

JB provided a budget proposal for the councillors to review. Confirmed that Wiltshire Council provided the draft tax base for 2026/27 of 301.56 and the precept calculator in late November. JB noted a 3.8% increase added to all 2025/26 costs, the current CPI figure. All Councillors agreed to the rationale for the proposed budget and precept increase in 2026/27 to address the Parish Council's current financial issues. This means the current operating deficit will be addressed, funds will be put into projects in the area, plus allow the Parish Council to meet regulatory requirements, including budgeting for future uncontested election costs and relating to the website. The intention is by the time budget setting takes place next year, there will be a safer financial footing established and can return to increases in line with inflation, alongside funding any new projects and increasing the amount in the general reserves over the next few years. **All agreed to set the draft budget as stated in document LAPC draft budget 2026-2027. All agreed to set the precept as £22,191.80.**

The Clerk must return the Precept Requirement form to Wiltshire Council by 20th January 2026. The form was signed by the Chair and Clerk. **Action: EW to return the Precept Requirement.**

10/2402. Wiltshire Council updates

a. Rough sleeper spotlight count

This was held on night of 23/24 November. The Clerk submitted a nil return.

b. Community Governance Review 2025/26

Noted that Luckington and Alderton area are not part of the current review.

11/2403. Lime Down Solar Park update

As part of the Parish Council responding to the Development Consent Order, JB provided a draft Relevant Representation for the Councillors to review. All agreed to the wording and JB will submit this on behalf of LAPC. Each councillor advised they may also submit a Relevant Representation on their own behalf. The deadline to submit is **23:59pm on Friday 9 January 2026**.

12/2404. Cemetery update

EW confirmed to resident the burial plot requirements, who has now reserved plot 105 and paid. The outstanding fees due by A. Slade and Son have been paid.

13/2405. Highways

a. Updates

- i) Local Highway Footway Improvement Group (LHFIG) Survey – JB submitted form on behalf of LAPC (deadline 19 December) to confirm it is a useful group but also to note the challenges with getting any improvements made when a small parish council must contribute 30% of costs.
- ii) Notice Highways urgent closure notice for B4040 (part), Luckington. These rescheduled works will commence on 18th December 2025 and are anticipated to be required for one night between the hours of 19:00 and 23:59.
- iii) Notice and Indicative Plan for a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) for C84 (Part), Luckington and Alderton commencing 12th January 2026. To enable: Wiltshire Council to carry out New Foul Connection and associated works.
- iv) Notice and Indicative Plan for a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) for B4040 (Part), Malmesbury and Brokenborough commencing 20th January 2026. To enable: Openreach to carry out pole replacement works and other associated works.
- v) Drains on Ashbridge Lane have been cleared.
- vi) Drains on Rat Hole cleared again, they were full of gravel.
- vii) Issues with Brookend drains are still ongoing.
- viii) RP agreed to check the grit bins and to let the Clerk know if any are under 50% full, as a request will then be made to Wiltshire Council to top them up.

b. 20mph zone and school travel plan updates

No updates provided for this meeting by Nicole Beazer or Sara Rodwell.

Reporting on issues should continue to be made to Wiltshire Highways via the 'MyWilts App and via the website www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts-online-reporting. The Parish Council advises members of the public to create an account, as this allows for further tracking of reported issues.

14/2406. Report from Outside Meetings

JB attended the Operational Flood Group meeting on 19th November. The flooding consequential on Storm Claudia were discussed, and JB reminded those attending of the need to register with the Planning Inspectorate to make 'Relevant Representation' regarding the Lime Down Solar Park project.

15/2407. Report on website accessibility evaluation

EW ran LAPC website through a free online accessibility tool provided by WAVE and shared the report with the Councillors. There were some areas of concern, mostly on the meeting agenda and minutes webpages. All agreed EW to work through the errors, as and when she has time. EW noted that with the new website as part of 2026/27 budget, and the intention to move to a new provider, this will ensure all accessibility requirements will be met as standard, as part of sourcing that provider.

16/2408. Wiltshire Council tree Grant Application and Planting Support team - funding for tree planting.

RP noted that Wiltshire Council have a commitment to plant native trees and have funding for this left. All noted that the LAPC area has no area suitable for this. However, individual residents may apply for funding for their own land. Councillors agreed to share the news on LAPC website and Facebook. **Action: RP to look for a leaflet that could be used for this purpose and share with EW.**

17/2409. Items for next meeting Agenda and any other business, for information only

EW has been contacted by Andy Geddes, who has volunteered to be the Parish Warden for Luckington under the aegis of the Cotswolds National Landscape. He will be invited to a future meeting to introduce himself and share information about his role.

The meeting closed at 9:05pm.