

LUCKINGTON & ALDERTON PARISH COUNCIL

www.luckington.org.uk

Minutes of the Meeting of Luckington and Alderton Parish Council Held on Wednesday 16th October 2019 at 7.30pm in Luckington Village Hall

Present

Chair

Mr Richard McCraith (RMC)

Councillors

Mr Nigel Neale (NN)

Mr John Buckley (JB)

Mr Sam Evans (SE)

Ms Sue Godwin (SG)

Councillor John Thomson (JT)

Parish Clerk

Mrs Catherine Keegan (CK)

1403. Apologies for Absence

Mr Sebastian Lawrence-Mills (SLM)

Mr Robert Simpkins (RS)

1404. Declaration of interests

There were none.

1405. Members of the public are invited to address the Council on agenda items

No issues raised regarding the agenda items.

1406. Public Question Time

George Lynham (GL) attended the meeting and wished to raise a few points with the Parish Council.

1. The duck pond has not had any further visits/interactions from the otter, so it is now ready to start being restocked. A selection of previous ducks and new ones are being made ready for introduction.
2. GL has the defibrillator, case and equipment to enable training, and the electrician should be able to install within the next week or two. It is intended to hold two training sessions for the residents of Alderton in the village hall soon.
3. Ashbridge Pike Lane, blocked drains which need clearing. JB advised that Dave Catley, Parish Steward, would be made aware of these, along with many others, which need clearing.
4. From the 8th of January 2020 it would no longer be possible for Barclays customers to withdraw monies from the PO, which has a large impact on the local community. Other banks have signed up to say they will continue to allow cash withdrawals through the PO for the next two years. GL asked the Parish Council to write to Barclays to register their serious concerns at this move and the impact on the local community. The Parish Council agreed.

5. Tying in with the issue with Barclays in point 4, GL advised that the Link organisation are making available Link cash machines to rural areas where a cash machine is some distance away. GL asked whether the PC would consider contacting Sherston Parish Council to ask whether they would consider applying for such a machine to be placed in the Co-Op. The Parish Council agreed. GL said he would provide all the relevant information to CK.

1407. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 4th September

The minutes were agreed by the Parish Council and signed by the Chair.

1408. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Following on from the good work done by NN in liaising with Dale Bird, it had not yet been possible to get a date agreed to meet with one of Dale's team. This will be followed up again through October and if needed a clear up will be arranged within the village. To be discussed at the November meeting.

RS has replaced the footpath post outside Slad Brook House. Thank you, RS.

1409. Correspondence Received

None received.

1410. To review and comment on Planning Applications

There were no objections to either Planning Application, numbers 19/09336/TCA and 19/09330/FUL. This will be sent through to Wiltshire Council.

1411. Update on Financial Issues

- a) To agree payments as listed on the financial summary - agreed and the three cheques were duly signed.
- b) Bank reconciliation was agreed and signed by RMC.
- c) Pension Regulator submission, required every three years, has been submitted successfully.
- d) VAT reclaim has been submitted and monies were received on the 2nd of October.

1412. Defibrillator for Alderton

Update received from GL in point 1406 above. The submission to potentially reclaim monies from the Malmesbury League of Friends has been completed and this will be discussed at their meeting on the 12th of November.

1413. Replacement of 30mph signs on entries to Luckington on the B4040

These have been ordered and Wiltshire Council are now awaiting delivery.

1414. Code of Conduct – Complaints – Wiltshire Council

JB advised that this document had been circulated prior to the meeting. The LAPC have previously signed up to this policy. LAPC noted the new arrangements and will abide by them. This will also be made available on the website.

1415. Council Tax Setting 2020/2021

In the previous year the Precept was increased by 2%. Inflation now stands at 1.7%. The LAPC is running at a deficit in 2019/2020, so this needs to be carefully reviewed for 2020/2021. LAPC is not subject to a referendum. RMC will prepare various scenarios for discussion at the November meeting, when more guidance from Wiltshire Council will also have been received.

1416. Local Government Boundary Commission for England Review – Final Recommendations

Huge thanks extended to JB whose work on this and submission of a substantial document, has meant that Luckington and Alderton Parish will not experience any changes in this Review. The objections submitted by LAPC have been upheld by the Commission. JT advised a lot of discussion had gone on at Council level regarding this and fortunately now all had settled down and a minimal number of changes had been implemented. One of the main concerns had been around the area of Tidworth where now almost 25% of the Army is based/are living. Parliamentary seats are now more equal.

1417. Parking in Luckington

JB advised the Parish Council that he had been contacted by Tim Guard, through Community Matters, as various people had asked the question about parking in the centre of Luckington and where it is allowable to park and where it is not legal to park. JB had received a map showing part of Luckington from Matt Perrott, but it was agreed a map showing more of the centre of Luckington would be requested and this would then be circulated.

1418. Dates for the LAPC 2020

These were agreed and CK will book halls accordingly. The potential change of start time for LAPC meetings will be discussed at the November meeting.

1419. Update on Cemetery Issues

CK advised that she has now input all the details of Graves and Deaths into an Excel spreadsheet. This now needs thorough checking and cross checking and confirmation to records held, that they are complete. This will continue over the next couple of months.

The autumn clear up of the cemetery will be discussed at the November meeting and either Dale Bird's team will be able to help or a community clear up will need to be organised for this year.

1420. Update on Highways Issues

JB updated the Parish Council. The dates for the Parish Steward, Dave Catley, to visit are still substantial delayed in being sent out to parishes. Dave however is doing an excellent job.

The Headmaster from Luckington School had been in touch to ask about parking in the centre of Luckington and more specifically around the school area. JB has met with the Head and explained some of the history. When the enlarged map of the centre of Luckington is received, this will provide further clarification, for future reference.

Blocked drains in Brook End - Dave has cleared some of this already and it is booked to have the gully sucker attend. JB will also visit a concerned local resident to discuss and explain some of the history relating to the drainage in that area. CK will also attend if possible.

Church Road - it has been confirmed that there is sewage entering the drainage system. A camera needs to be used to attempt to determine where this is coming from. This has already been attended to by the gully sucking team.

Sopworth Lane French Drain - still outstanding. Potholes at the back of the school have been fixed. 30mph signs, as mentioned previously, have been ordered and delivery is awaited.

1421. Update on Grass Cutting

SE advised there was not much to report. The grass was cut on the 15th October and it had been noted that the guys who turned up for the grass cutting did an excellent job, especially in the wet conditions, and appeared to be taking a pride in their work. The grass cutting contractors this year have carried out a much better job than in previous years and this was noted, and appreciated, by all.

Richard Henshall (RH), Chair of the Playground Committee, is keen to have parts of the orchard and another area on the edge of the playing fields, near Bell field, used as a trial for a meadow area, as discussed at last month's meeting. SE will meet with RH again and report back.

1422. Report from Outside Meetings

There were none.

1423. Items for next meeting Agenda and any other business, for information only

SG advised that she had been asked regarding a hedge in the village being overgrown, but that had since been resolved.

Review of Financial Regulations 2019 will be carried through to the November meeting – RMC.

CK advised that she felt the website needed a review and asked that all Councillors look through and let her know of any areas that need a closer look. This will then be discussed at the November meeting.

Budget for 2020/2021 will be discussed next month.

Change of LAPC meetings to 7pm to be discussed in November.

RMC had received an email from Nick Burrige to make the Parish Council aware that on the 20th and 21st of June 2020 Nick is intending to hold a photography exhibition in The Ship, to celebrate the development of the village over the years. It is hoped that this will coincide with the Luckington Open Gardens, so that they can complement one another. This is all part of the Heritage Lottery Grant for the Tombstone Restoration in the Churchyard. The first event in relation to this is the Sir Stewart Menzies talk to be held on the 22nd of November.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.