

**LUCKINGTON & ALDERTON PARISH COUNCIL**

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**Minutes of the Meeting of Luckington and Alderton Parish Council Held on  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 7.30pm in Luckington Village Hall**

**Present**

**Chair**

Mr Richard McCraith (RMC)

**Councillors**

Mr John Buckley (JB)

Ms Sue Godwin (SG)

Mr Robert Simpkins (RS)

Mr Sam Evans (SE)

Mr Sebastian Lawrence-Mills (SLM)

Councillor John Thomson (JT)

**Parish Clerk**

Mrs Catherine Keegan (CK)

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**1382. Apologies for Absence**

Mr Nigel Neale (NN)

**1383. Declaration of interests**

SLM regarding Wiltshire Historic Church Trust Donation request.

SLM and SE regarding planning application number 19/07268/FUL regarding Bell House, Luckington.

SE also declared an interest in planning application number 19/06684/FUL regarding 10, The Bell Field

**1384. Members of the public are invited to address the Council on agenda items**

No members of the public attended the meeting.

**1385. Public Question Time**

There were no questions.

**1386. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> of July**

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

**1387. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

RMC - The phone box in Luckington – now up and running as a book exchange. Some very positive comments have been received from residents with how the phone box now looks. Sue Thomas and her team have done an excellent job.

NN had done some good work in contacting Dale Bird about an autumn clear up. Dale has been in touch in response to arranging a meeting and will confirm possible dates soon.

RS has found a post to replace the footpath post outside Slad Brook House. He will replace when the harvest is finished.

Reserves calculation – CK has completed and it shall be discussed within the finance area later in the meeting.

HMRC Payroll number – still need to confirm this has been closed down – CK to follow up.

Winter Weather Provisions – order has been placed and confirmed. SG and Noel Banks are liaising regarding collection and any excess will be stored in RS barn.

Pathway maintenance – JB will get in touch with Dave, the Parish Steward, to see whether he is able to help on this. Dates for the next visits have not yet been received. An update will be available for the next meeting.

### **1388. Correspondence Received**

a) Final Tombraisers' Report has been received. This was acknowledged and appreciated by the Parish Council. Thanks to Liz Brereton for all her, and her fellow Tombraisers, hard work.

b) Request for a £200 donation to Wiltshire Historic Church Trust, which relates to a Ride and Stride event involving walking, cycling, riding between the churches within the benefice. SE asked what the monies raised would be spent on. Luckington Church would spend their 50% on the new kitchen and toilet which is planned for the church. The other 50% goes to Wiltshire Historic Church Trust. SLM left the meeting whilst discussion took place.

The donation can only be £50, due to the beneficiary not being specifically for Luckington. JT noted that it is an excellent effort by SLM undertaking this event, no other individual in Luckington appears to be taking part. It was agreed that LAPC would donate £50 towards this and suggest that Luckington Church make direct contact to request that a further £100 be donated to the church directly for the fundraising for the kitchen and toilet. Proposed by RMC and seconded by both SE and RS. SLM returned to the meeting.

### **1389. To review and comment on Planning Applications**

a) 19/06684/FUL – the deadline for this has already passed. When received there were no objections from Councillors, so 'no objection' was sent through to Wiltshire Council. No further discussion required.

b) 19/07268/FUL – SLM and SE have an interest in this application, so left the meeting. It was discussed briefly and agreed to be a good use of space and design and no objections were raised. SLM and SE returned.

### **1390. To agree payments in accordance with the budget, as listed in the attached financial summary**

It was proposed that the two cheques amounting to £190.45 incurred by the volunteers in renovating the phone box in Luckington should be reimbursed by the Parish Council. Proposed by RMC and seconded by JB. All other cheques were agreed and signed.

At the beginning of the year 2019/20 the reserves were just over £15k. There will be a reduction in this of £3k due to the additional spending this year, then around £10k needs to be kept for 12 months' worth of expenditure, which leaves a figure of £2k for contingencies. It was agreed that these figures were acceptable to the PC, though needed to be reviewed again when agreeing the anticipated Precept for 2020/21.

### **1391. Defibrillator for Alderton**

The defibrillator and case have now been received. The electrician is due to install very soon, and training will then take place and the defibrillator will be fully operational. The reclaim of monies needs to be completed.

### **1392. Replacement of 30mph signs on entries to Luckington on the B4040**

Dave the Parish Steward has dug the sign back in, which was hit by a lorry. No date has yet been received in relation to replacement of both signs.

### **1393. Polling District and Polling Place Review**

There is a polling station in Luckington and another in Alderton. It was agreed that these are sufficient for the needs of the Parish and no changes are needed. Any reduction in the existing provision is both undesirable and detrimental to the needs of the local community. CK to respond accordingly.

### **1394. Community Governance Review**

This is the Wiltshire part of the previous Boundary Commission of England Review. The Parish Council is very happy that current arrangements meet the local community's needs. No changes to the current arrangements are either desirable or needed. A copy of the Luckington and Alderton Parish Council's formal response to the Boundary Commission of England Review should also be submitted with the comments. JT advised that the Boundary Commission of England Review Responses has been delayed. CK will respond accordingly.

### **1395. Changes to Wiltshire Licensing Act**

JB updated the Parish Council that this document was a thorough document, well thought through and should be supported by the PC. CK has responded accordingly, as the deadline fell in the summer.

### **1396. Absence of Councillors**

JB updated the Parish Council on issues that can arise when a Councillor is absent from the Parish Council for several months. If a Councillor is absent for a full six months, then they would automatically be removed from the PC. If you act as a Parish Councillor after this time, it may be treated as fraud. There are two defences available:

1. The Parish Council has to approve the Councillor's absence before the end of the six months, and it must be minuted.
2. There are several statutory exemptions that might apply.

The Parish Council thanked JB for his work and advice on this.

### **1397. Luckington Facebook Site and Administration**

SLM advised that Wiltshire Council has no more monies available to fund Facebook sites. Katherine Bennett and Cathy Marsh have volunteered to run the Luckington Facebook page. SLM asked that the Parish Council sanction this action. JB advised that the PC cannot sanction such an action. However, he felt that Katherine and Cathy should be thanked for taking on this task. SLM agreed it would be good to write to thank them. CK will action.

### **1398. Update on Cemetery Issues**

CK advised that the Cemetery Ledger has now been updated. It has two elements to it, one showing the deaths and the second the graves in the cemetery. CK has carried out a fair amount of work to cross check the two elements, but more does need to be done on this to ensure complete accuracy and completeness. This shall carry on in September. JB asked if it would be possible to make the records electronic and CK confirmed that this should be carried out as part of the work on the ledger. The Scroll has still not been updated but will be done after the work on ledger has been completed.

### **1399. Update on Highways Issues**

JB updated the Parish Council. The Sopworth Road remains as it was, no updates. There is still no date for the French drain work to be completed. Replacement of Luckington signs, as above in 1392. The drain in Church Road has been emptied, but JB is unsure who carried out this work. RS asked if work could be requested on the road behind Luckington School as this was now in a very bad state of repair. JB advised that the My Wiltshire app is fantastic and should be used to report such things.

#### **1400. Update on Grass Cutting**

SE updated and said that all was good with the grass cutting. RM noted that no complaints had been received regarding this during the year, which was great news. RMC thanked SE for all that he has done relating to grass cutting. All agreed.

SE also advised that some discussions had been ongoing as to whether it would be possible to leave an area of grass to become meadow and all the wildflowers this should encourage, therefore also assists bees and a variety of pollinating insects. A discussion was had as to the possible locations of this and it was agreed that SE would do some more work on this, with the help of Jack from JD Estates, to establish where would be a good location to try this. Luckington Playground have agreed that this would be an excellent idea. The Parish Council are generally supportive of this initiative.

#### **1401. Report from Outside Meetings**

SLM updated on the Parochial Church Council meeting and advised that the work on the tombs is due to start on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September. Fundraising events relating to this are also planned soon. The Church is also applying for grants for the kitchen and toilet it plans to install in the church.

#### **1402. Items for next meeting Agenda and any other business, for information only**

JB advised that a Community Action Transport Group meeting had taken place the previous evening, JT concurred, and still on the agenda was the request for Luckington to have picket fences, item 6958. CK to advise Highways/Martin Rose that this was no longer required.

SE asked that a huge thank you should be extended to the Playground Committee for the fantastic work which had been carried out locating the electricity underground.

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

The meeting closed at 8.38pm.