

LUCKINGTON & ALDERTON PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LUCKINGTON AND ALDERTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14th SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 7.30pm IN ALDERTON VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT

Chairman	Mr A Stopforth (AS)	
Councillors	Mr J Buckley (JB)	Mr R McCraith (RM)
	Mr P Bamford (PB)	Mr N Neale (NN)
	Miss S Godwin (SG)	Mr N Banks (NB)
County Councillor:	Mr J Thompson (JT)	
Parish Council Clerk	Mrs V Avery (VA)	

867. Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

868. Declaration of interests

There were no declarations of interest.

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

There were no members of the public present

870. Matters Arising from Last Meeting

- (RM) – in his capacity as a member of the Luckington Playground Committee, asked that it be minuted that he objected to the comments in the July Minutes from (NB), that the ‘Parish Council is being used as a financial milch-cow by the Luckington Playground Committee’. (RM) said that the Playground Committee has not been given/offered any money by the Parish Council since 2013/14. (AS) confirmed that that money was offered to the Playground Committee but it was not taken up, this was regarding the Rosper work. The invoices requested, in line with policy, were never received by the Parish Council so the money couldn’t be handed over.

It was also noted by the Parish Council that the comments and opinions were that of (NB) and not of the Parish Council as a whole.

- (AS) replied to the complaint received from Ms Hinckley but a reply has not been received.

871. Confirmation of the last meetings minutes

Minutes from the meeting in July were approved and signed.

872. Parish council to comment on planning schedules and applications:

Application Ref: 16/05861/LBC

Application for Listed Building Consent

At: North End House, Sopworth Lane, Luckington, SN14 6PL

Proposal: Strengthening works to existing staircase.

Councillors have no objections

Application Ref: 16/08690/TCA

Application for Work to Trees in a Conservation area

At: The Old Parsonage, Church Road, Luckington, SN14 6PG

Fell 1 Apple Tree, 2 mtr reduction to Cedar, 3 mtr height and 1.5 mtr lateral reduction to Thuja, 1 mtr reduction to Purple Plum and Acer and fell 1 Cherry Tree.

Councillors have no objections

Application Ref: 16/08020/FUL

Application for Full Planning

At: Fountain Cottage, The Street, Alderton, Wiltshire, SN14 6NL

Proposed replacement of existing stables with garden room and store.

Councillors have no objections

873. Correspondence received

- Email from Theresa Bray at Wiltshire County Council Re: New Premises Licence Application for The Old Royal Ship and Shop and Moor.
Councillors agreed to the licence and asked (VA) to email Theresa Bray and confirm.
- Email from Ollie Phipps, Wiltshire County Council. Re: Parish Emergency Scheme

(NB) announced that there is sand and salt available but he needs to collect it from the various depots. There is already 10 bags of salt in the Luckington Lock Up. He has some 'snow warden' tabbards. (NB), (PB) and (JB) all have a key to the Lock Up and so the PC is covered team wise. (NB) encourages self help in an emergency as the Wiltshire County Council won't be able to help very much at all. (NB) also wants to top up the salt bins before this Winter sets in.
- Email from Jamie Mundy at Wiltshire County Council. Re: Parking and Waiting Restriction Overviews. The Parish Council noted the email that the Council are now prioritising a few areas and that the process has changed. This doesn't as yet concern Luckington or Alderton.
- Email from (NB) that from 6th September 2016, should we experience a main power failure, by telephoning '105' a direct connection nationally will be made to the area's Electricity Supplier to advise them of the problem (if they are not already aware). The Parish Council duly noted this.

874. Finance

Luckington and Alderton Parish Council Financial Data as at 14th September 2016

	£
<u>Bank account balances at the report date:</u>	
Barclays Current Account	13,145.19
Barclays Deposit Account	2,839.02
	<hr/> 15,984.21
<u>Payments for Approval</u>	
Auditing Solutions (<i>cheque not signed at last mtg</i>)	-192.00
Mr A Stopforth - Weebly Website Renewal	-41.84
Luckington Village Hall Hire	-20.00
Mrs V Avery - Stamps and Printer paper	-13.68
<u>Clerk's Salary paid by Standing Order</u>	
Mrs Victoria Avery	-157.50
<u>Payments Received:</u>	
No payments received	
Balance carried forward	<u>15,449.19</u>

(RM) shared the most recent budget update with the Parish Council. Councillors took a few moments to read through its contents and all were satisfied with the current status.

875 Closure of Luckington Post Office and Opening of The Ship Shop and Moor

The Parish Council would like to recognise and praise the whole of the Luckington and Alderton communities in their generosity and all the effort that went into the special day for John and Judith Sykes. Tim Guard especially for his organisation in collecting the vast number of donations and producing the cheque which was handed to the Sykes on their day.

The new temporary Ship Shop and Moor is now up and running and is going very well. The Parish Council agreed that there was an enormous amount of effort in getting the shop open on time from many members of the parish and would like to thank all those involved. The permanent site will be where the large containers are currently situated.

(PB) asked about the village noticeboard which is currently attached to the side of the Old Post Office wall. The Parish Council agreed that it should probably be moved to the new shop and (PB) proposed that he ask Helen and Nic Greening at the Ship Shop if it could be placed outside the new shop. (PB) will report back at the next Parish Council meeting. (VA) gave (PB) the keys for the noticeboard.

(NB) suggested that the Post Office Box which is also by the old Post Office be moved. There was a general discussion that the red box would probably stay there as it was very old and listed but should be closed and a new site located for a new post box in the village. (VA) was asked by the Parish Council to contact the Post Office Sorting Office in Chippenham to see what could be done.

876 Grass Cutting

The Parish Council reports that the grass cutting is now going well and AW Services are doing a good job. (JB) has spoken with Mr Fellowes who now feels that it would not be practical for him to take on the grass cutting as discussed at the previous PC meeting.

The renewal of the grass cutting contract is due in December 2016. (RM) suggests that the grass could be cut more often which would look much better and hopefully stop the complaints coming in during the growing season. (JB) commented that this would be a much more expensive solution to up the number of cuts. Very few Parish Councils in the area had cuts less than every 10-14 days. Most grass cutting contractors would not be able to offer a more frequent service as they do many other areas.

(PB) would like to formally thank (JB) for producing the invitation to tender which involves a lot of work in his own time. Everyone agreed.

(AS) therefore instructed that the Invitation to Tender should be formally agreed. (PB) proposed and (AS) seconded. This will be placed on the Agenda for the next PC meeting in October with a view to obtaining tenders by the end of November.

877 The Village Green Bench

(PB) would like this put on the Agenda for next month as he has made no progress as yet.

878 Luckington Cemetery

A 'Tidy Up' date was set for 8th October 2016. A poster will be produced and put on the website and sent to Community Matters for distribution.

879 Highways

(JB) reported that all is going very well with the recent local road improvements. He reiterates that if a member of the public sees a problem with any of the local roads then they should report it on the MyWiltshire App as these reports get picked up and dealt with quite quickly.

880 Paddock

(RM) reported that Mr McGrory would like a new invoice and contract drawn up for renting the paddock for another year. (VA) will invoice him and send a new contract.

881 Audit

As per the Internal Audit recommendations, (VA) to retrospectively Minute the amount of 2016/17 precept and Council Tax Support Grant receivable of £8,790.56 and £21.89 respectively.

Item 12 of the Agenda, the Clerk's Salary needed to be revised as per the recent Internal Audit recommendations. The NALC national salary award had changed since January 2015 and therefore the clerk's salary needs to be changed from September 2015, her start date. The amount would be backdated and paid to the Clerk. (JB) proposed and (AS) seconded.

The PC also discussed the amount of hours the Clerk was now doing as there was quite a lot of work involved with the transparency policy and the audit. (AS) proposed that the Clerk be paid for 20 hours a month as from 1st October 2016. (JB) seconded. The Parish Council fully adopted this. Therefore, (AS) would amend (VA)'s contract of employment and (RM) would change the Direct Debit with the bank.

The Clerk's Salary will be reviewed again in March 2016.

882 Re-adoption of Asset Register

The Parish Council re-adopted the Asset Register as from September 2016

883 Re-adoption of the Risk Assessment

(AS) proposed that this be re-adopted as the current state of risks (JB) seconded and Parish Council agreed as a whole.

884 Report from Outside Meetings

(NB) couldn't attend the most recent Village Hall Committee meeting and will advise the PC of what has transpired regarding the village hall roof at the next PC meeting.

(SG) will be organising another senior citizens dinner and suggested the date of 30th November 2016 which she will confirm in the October PC meeting. Alderton senior citizens will also be invited this year.

885 Any Other Business

(JB) discussed the new Donations Policy he has produced. The purpose of which is to streamline the policy to make it easier for the PC to donate smaller amounts. There was a general discussion around the various points in the policy and it was generally agreed upon. (PB) proposed and (SG) seconded. There were 7 councillors votes for adoption of the policy.

886. Items for next month's agenda

- Grass Cutting Contract
- Cemetery
- Highways
- Donations to Luckington School
- Bench on Luckington triangle.

887. Time and Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday 12th October 2016 at 7.30pm at Luckington Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm

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