

**Minutes of the Meeting of Alconbury Weston Parish Council  
held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2011 at Alconbury Memorial Hall.**

Councillors present: Mrs. J. Baker (Chairman), Mr. R. Coulson, Dr. C. McGregor & Ms. K. Sewell.  
Also present: District Cllr. K. Baker, County Cllr. L. Kadic, County Cllr. P. Brown, Mrs. D. Benham (Clerk) and 4 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr. S. Lomas, Cllr. H. Mobius & Cllr. M. Morgan.

2. Declaration of Interests: Cllr. J. Baker declared a prejudicial interest in item 9c. Request for a donation from the Alconbury Thursday Club, as a close relative attends the club.

3. Presentation by Alconbury Telecom: Six residents from Alconbury Weston have formed Alconbury Telecom with the aim of bringing high speed broadband and better mobile phone service to Alconbury and Alconbury Weston, by laying fibre optic cable from the existing cable on the AIM, to new green cabinets next to BT cabinets in the villages, or by wi-fi broadcast from masts. In order to pay for a feasibility study and business plan to be prepared by Rutland Telecom (now Gigaclear), Alconbury Telecom requested a donation from Alconbury Weston Parish Council of £198 and would be asking Alconbury Parish Council for the remaining £402 at their next meeting. If the venture is successful, Alconbury Telecom would expect to give back a percentage of any profits to the communities. Cllr. McGregor proposed that Alconbury Weston Parish Council agreed in principle to giving financial support for the feasibility study and business plan to be prepared. Seconded by Cllr. Coulson, unanimously agreed.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2011 :The minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2011 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters arising from the minutes:

a) Alconbury Airfield - Cllr. Baker and the Clerk had attended two more Liaison Meetings with Urban & Civic, along with representatives from Abbots Ripton, Woodwalton and The Stukeleys Parish Councils and Huntingdon Town Council. At the first meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> May, the project manager Tim Leathes talked about 5000 jobs being created alongside 5000 homes. A large parcel of land, Grange Farm, had been purchased at the southern end of the site giving access to Huntingdon. Urban & Civic were in talks with Network Rail with regard to building a new passenger railway station on the south-eastern side of the Grange Farm land. The District Council wished to put the site forward as an Enterprise Zone.

At the second meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> June representatives from Alconbury Parish Council joined the Liaison group. An Enterprise Zone application had been made stating that 8000 jobs would be created on the site. This had been published in the Hunts Post with no prior warning or explanation to the Liaison Group, who expressed their concerns most strongly, to Tim Leathes. If the application is successful, the District Council would lead with a Local Development Order to progress the planning process. EZ status would bring great benefits in reduced business rates and therefore *attract businesses* to the site. Urban & Civic are now proposing to develop 15% of the Grange Farm land, should plans for a new railway station be incorporated into the Masterplan. The next Liaison meeting will be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> August.

Urban & Civic will be holding an Open Day on the Airfield on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September, followed by a Public Feedback Meeting on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September. Meetings are being arranged for parishioners from the surrounding parishes to have advance viewing of the Masterplan and an opportunity to meet and ask questions of Tim Leathes (Project Manager) and Rebecca Britton (Public Relations, U

& C). It has been suggested that Alconbury and Alconbury Weston may hold a joint meeting for all parishioners on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2011. In the meantime, Urban & Civic are developing a website and will be delivering a flyer to every household informing parishioners of their plans for the site.

b) Highways issues -

Water running down Vinegar Hill - Highways have carried out some work to alleviate the problem. Situation to be monitored after a prolonged period of rain.

Hedge encroaching onto footpath on Vinegar Hill - Clerk reported that the problem did not seem too bad at the moment.

Overgrown hedges on North Road between the villages - District Cllr. Baker to speak to landowner.

c). Parking in Church Way - County Cllr. Kadic and Cllr. Baker had been advised that one of the residents had paid to have a parking space constructed on land owned by Luminus. County Cllr. Kadic will contact Luminus to see if further spaces could be provided to help with the parking problems in Church Way. County Cllr. Kadic to discuss general maintenance with the owner of a very unkempt property in Church Way.

6. Parish Paths.

Cllr. McGregor advised that on footpath 2, the land owner had put in a culvert and cleared the ditch and plans were in place to install a new gate.

The new route of footpath 4 remained overgrown and unusable by walkers. Cllr. McGregor will contact John Cooper and Camilla Haggert for assistance.

Cllr. McGregor advised that the Horse Chestnut trees in the Parish were suffering from infestations by the Leaf Minor Moth which burrows into the leaves causing them to turn brown and drop early. Whilst it is not possible to eradicate the disease, collecting the fallen leaves in the autumn and disposing of them, would lessen the infestation the following year. Councillors agreed that a clear up day should be arranged later in the year.

Clerk to contact edf energy regarding an overgrown tree in the electricity sub-station.

7. Play Area.

Cllr. Baker advised that the Leylandii hedge at the back right of the play area had been cut back by the owners. Cllr. Baker will visit the owners of the hedge on the back left of the play area to ask them to carry out some maintenance.

Cllr. Lomas to inspect the rubber surface surrounding the roundabout.

8. Planning.

a) New applications:

Planning application ref. 1100899TREE, Crown thinning of one Ash Tree. Bridge House, Hamerton Road, Alconbury Weston. Circulated and returned recommending approval.

Planning application ref. 1101041FUL, Change of use of land from agricultural to recreation to allow keeping of horses. Erection of stable block including hay barn and wintering area with post and rail fencing. Land west of Hill Top Cottage, Vinegar Hill, Alconbury Weston. Cllr. Baker proposed that Alconbury Weston Parish Council recommend approval of the application subject to clarification of the route of the footpath and access arrangements. Seconded by Cllr. Coulson, unanimously agreed.

b) Update on previous applications.

Planning application ref. 1100899TREE, as above. Pending decision by HDC.

c) Update on planning enforcement case.

Case no. 0300179ENBCOM - Commercial building on Hamerton Road. Enforcement officer promised an update but has failed to respond. Clerk to follow up.

## 9. Financial report.

### a. Payment of outstanding debts.

Cllr. Coulson proposed retrospective approval of payments (1) & (2) and approval of payment of items (3) & (4). Seconded by Cllr. Sewell, unanimously agreed.

(1) Alconbury Youth Club - £360.00, donation agreed at the last meeting. Cq. No. 100871

(2) Mrs. D. Benham - £234.56, wages and expenses of Parish Clerk for May. Cq. No. 100872

(3) Mrs. D. Benham - £202.59, wages and expenses of Parish Clerk for June. Cq. No. 100873

(4) Leeds Day solicitors, work requested by the Parish Council. Cq. No. 100874

### b. Current position.

A copy of the receipts and payments was handed to each councillor. Copy to be attached to the minutes.

### c. Request for a donation from the Alconbury Thursday Club.

Cllr. Baker left the room having declared a prejudicial interest. Cllr. Coulson proposed that Alconbury Weston Parish Council make a donation of £200 (section 137 payment) to Alconbury Thursday Club. Seconded by Cllr. Sewell, unanimously agreed.

## 10. Police matters.

May crime report shows 1 reported crime near to North Road.

## 11. Correspondence.

a. Buildings at Risk Register - none in Alconbury Weston.

b. Community Action magazine - to be circulated.

c. Local Council Review - to be circulated.

d. Letter of thanks from The Alconburys Youth Club - to be circulated.

e. Street lighting PFI project information - to be circulated.

f. Minutes from the Alconbury Airfield Liaison meetings - to be circulated.

## 12. Reports from councillors.

Cllr. McGregor advised that he had received a number of requests for a village web-site. A company called Jevstar offers a free website to Parish Councils and voluntary organisations which is funded by advertisements from local businesses. Cllr. McGregor proposed that the Parish Council should take advantage of the free website and volunteered to be responsible for uploading Parish Council minutes and contact details and to seek permission to include the Parish Pump magazine. Seconded by Cllr. Baker, unanimously agreed.

Cllr. Baker had attended the Neighbourhood Forum where parishioners could raise local issues with representatives of the Police, Fire Service, NHS etc. Councillors to agree a new representative to attend future meetings.

District Cllr. Baker advised that a new Community Infrastructure Levy was being proposed which would replace Section 106, with part of the new tax coming back to local communities.

## 13. Date of next meeting: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2011, 7.30pm at the Alconbury Memorial Hall.

**It was resolved in accordance with section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted at the next agenda item, the Chairman asked that in the public interest, the public and press were temporarily excluded from the meeting and were instructed to withdraw.**

14. Update on the work being carried out by Leeds Day on behalf of the Parish Council regarding the rectification of Title of land on the west side of High Street .

The Parish Council had employed Leeds Day to establish how a parishioner had been able to register himself as the owner of two very small pieces of Common Land when the Parish Council had evidence that the land was part of a larger area that had been gifted to the Parish Council by the Lord of the Manor. Leeds Day had established that the parishioner had made an application and provided a number of documents including a Statutory Declaration dated 2002 and various Deeds of Gift which were accepted by Land Registry. Whilst the Parish Council believe that they have a valid claim to ownership of the land, in order to bring the matter to court, further money would need to be spent. In view of the very small area of land involved and the fact that the Common Land status is unaffected by who the registered owner is, Cllr. Sewell proposed that no further action should be taken at this time. Seconded by Cllr. McGregor, unanimously agreed.

Signed.....

Date.....

Alconbury Weston Parish Council		Receipts & Payments 2011-2012													
Receipts		Payments													
Date	Description	Total	Date	Description	Cq.No.	Total	Wages	PAYE	Ins.	Admin.	CPALC	Street Lighting	Open Spaces	Sec.	137 VAT
01.04.11	Opening balance	20394.78	23.05.11	Mrs D Benham	100866	255.79	201.33			50.31					4.15
19.04.11	Precept	10000.00	23.05.11	CPALC-Affiliation fee	100867	228.28				45.00	228.28				9.00
03.06.11	Interest	1227.92	23.05.11	Brian Cox & Co-int.audit	100868	54.00							300.00		
06.06.11	Interest	0.06	23.05.11	A.C.Green	100869	300.00				15.50					
	Total	31622.76	23.05.11	NALC-LCR subs.	100870	15.50									
			23.05.11	Youth Club	100871	360.00								360.00	
			14.06.11	Mrs D Benham	100872	234.56	156.59			77.97					
			11.07.11	Mrs D Benham	100873	202.59	195.73			6.86					
			11.07.11	Leeds Day	100874	640.00				450.00				200.00	190.00
			11.07.11	Alconbury Thursday Club	100875	200.00									
			22.08.11	Moore Stephens	100876	162.00				135.00					27.00
			22.08.11	Mrs D Benham	100877	168.92	151.00			17.92					
	Balance	28601.12		Total		2621.64	704.65			798.56	228.28		300.00	560.00	230.15