

**Minutes of the meeting of Alconbury Weston Parish Council
held on Monday 19th October 2015 at Alconbury Memorial Hall.**

Public Open Forum: Mr. & Mrs. Papworth advised that they had decided not to place the proposed War Memorial on the Parish Council's preferred location, adjacent to the footway, near to the village sign on the Village Green. Instead, they intend to install the memorial on a piece of unregistered grassed area on the opposite side of North Road. The Clerk advised Mr. & Mrs. Papworth that the memorial would therefore remain in their ownership and they agreed that they would maintain it and arrange suitable insurance. Mr. & Mrs. Papworth also asked if the village pump and the road bridge railings could be refurbished. Mr. & Mrs. Papworth then left the meeting.

Councillors present: Mrs. J. Baker, Mr. M. Bryan, Mr. R. Coulson, Mr. S. Lomas, Dr. C. McGregor & Mr. L. York.

Also present: County Cllr. P. Ashcroft, County Cllr. P. Brown, & Mrs. D. Benham (Parish Clerk).

1. Apologies for absence: District Cllr. K. Baker (attending another meeting) & Cllr. H. Mobius (work commitment).

2. Declaration of Interests: Cllr. Baker declared an interest in item 5b, being a close relative of the land owner.

3. To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 24th August 2015 : The minutes of the meeting held on 24th August 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising from the minutes:

a) Alconbury Weald – The Clerk had attended the last liaison meeting.

Local Plan - The Local Plan has been delayed due to more work being required on the transport assessment and modeling and Flood Assessment work by the Environment Agency. The plan will be finalised next year, around Easter time.

Enterprise Zone – There has been lots of interest from companies wishing to relocate and there will be an announcement on a big tenant shortly. There is lots of interest in the “Mid-Tech Area” which will provide buildings with office, production and storage space. There will be a planning application at the end of October for the first of these buildings and it will include parking spaces and the adjacent park which straddles the Boulevard in front of the listed building. There will be a larger building behind the Mid-Tech Area, which will be occupied by a flower company relocating from Chatteris.

Residential Area – The planning application for the first houses will be resubmitted shortly to reflect changes required by HDC. These will be ready for occupation next summer and will coincide with the completion of the first primary school. The next phase of 350 homes will follow and a planning application for the grey and green infrastructure will be submitted at the end of 2015/early 2016. The planning application for the houses will be submitted mid 2016, with construction starting at the end of 2016/early 2017.

The next meetings will take place on 24th November 2015 and 2nd February 2016.

b) Repairs to roads and footpaths – The potholes behind the green and on Buckworth Road have been reported to Highways. Cllr. York to check whether repairs had been carried out.

c) Reduction in the speed limit on North Road – The work has been ordered with Highways and installation is likely to take place Feb/March 2016.

d) To adopt a policy for use of the village Green – Councillors considered a draft policy prepared by Cllr. Lomas. Cllr. Coulson proposed that the policy be adopted unchanged. Seconded by Cllr. York and unanimously agreed. A copy will be displayed on the notice boards.

5. Parish paths.

- a) Report from Cllr. McGregor - Cllr. McGregor advised that he had received a complaint regarding a locked gate on footpath 14. Cllr. McGregor had been advised by the land owner that the gate was broken and had been locked to prevent the sheep escaping. Cllr. McGregor to check whether the gate has been repaired. The second footpath cut had been carried out in late september.
- b) Public footpath No. 2, Alconbury Weston (part) Public Footpath Diversion Order 2015 – Details had been circulated to councillors and a notice placed on the notice boards.

6. Play area.

Cllr. Lomas had purchased a litter picker to enable him to clear litter at the play area. The Clerk has contacted Wicksteed Leisure for a quote to repair some areas of safety surfacing that have starting to lift around several of the pieces of play equipment. Cllr. Lomas had been advised by HDC that their new mowers had roll cages which could not be lowered during operation and which may be too tall to cut underneath some of the trees. Cllr. Lomas and Cllr. McGregor to investigate whether any of the trees on Parish Council owned land, would need their crowns raising.

Since the last meeting, the Clerk had contacted GTS for a quote to remove a dead branch from the willow tree and had been advised that it needed to be re-pollarded to prevent the top from becoming too heavy and to avoid further broken branches. A quote of £300 had been received and accepted. Cllr. Coulson proposed retrospective approval of the action taken by the Clerk. Seconded by Cllr. Baker and unanimously agreed.

Cllr. Baker advised that several neighbouring residents had agreed to cut back their hedges from the perimeter fence.

7. Planning.

a) New applications.

15/01630/S73 Variation of condition 1 of planning permission 1000739S73 to enable continued use of the site until 2020. Alconbury Airfield, Ermine Street, Little Stukeley, PE28 4WX. Cllr. Baker proposed that Alconbury Weston Parish Council recommend approval. Seconded by Cllr. Bryan and unanimously agreed.

15/01847/REM Approval of appearance, layout, landscaping, scale and access in respect of the construction of 31,893 square metres of mixed B1(a), B1(b), B2 & ancilliary B8 floorspace and associated highways, drainage, landscaping and ancilliary works. Alconbury Weald. Councillors agreed that they had “no observations either in favour or against the proposal”.

15/01117/REM Approval of appearance, layout, landscaping and scale in respect of the construction of 128 dwellings, pocket park, associated highways, landscaping and ancilliary works. Alconbury Weald, Ermine Street, Little Stukeley. Amended information received. Councillors agreed they had no comments to be returned.

15/01366/PMBPA Conversion of barn to detached dwelling and creation of garden and parking area. Safefield Farm, Alconbury Hill, PE28 4JW. Amended plans and application received. Councillors agreed that they had no comments to be returned.

b) Update on previous applications.

15/00408/REP – Replacement of application TWA/99/APP/13 for proposed rail facilities and rail link to East Coast mainline to extend the timescale for commencement, as set in condition 2 (planning ref. 9701500OUT as replaced by 1000692REP). Approved by HDC.

Buckworth Lodge Stud, Buckworth Road, Alconbury Weston – The Clerk had been advised by HDC that enforcement action is being taken regarding the unauthorised building.

Buckworth Road – Clerk to ask the enforcement team to investigate the appearance of a letterbox at a field containing two horse boxes and a lorry.

8. Financial report.

a) Payment of outstanding debts.

Cllr. York proposed retrospective approval of payment of items (1) to (5) and approval of payment of item (6). Seconded by Cllr. Coulson and unanimously agreed.

- (1) Business Services at CAS - £397.96, Parish Council insurance. Cq. No. 101032
 - (2) Mrs. D. Benham - £169.05, wages and expenses for september. Cq. No. 101033
 - (3) HMRC - £39.20, PAYE/NL. Cq. No. 101034
 - (4) SR Howell & Co. - £60.00, payroll services to 30th Sept. Cq. No. 101035
 - (5) Global Tree Solutions - £300.00, tree work at play area. Cq. No. 101036
 - (6) Mr. S. Lomas - £19.99, reimbursement for purchase of litter picker. Cq. No. 101037
- b) Current position - A copy of the receipts and payments and bank reconciliation was handed to each councillor.
- c) Result of the external audit – Completed by PKF Littlejohn LLP on 10/9/15 with no issues raised. A Notice of Conclusion of Audit and a copy of the Annual Return were placed on the notice board on 18th September for two weeks.

9. Police matters.

The July crime report showed no recorded crime in Alconbury Weston. The August crime report showed 1 recorded crime of anti-social behaviour. However, there were 4 reported crimes on the B1090 near to the A1 in July and 9 in August. These were mainly thefts.

10. Correspondence.

Already circulated to councillors:

- a) Woolley Hill Wind Farm Trust - Confirmation that the date for applications had been extended to 10th October.
- b) Cambridgeshire Flood and Water Supplementary Planning Document available to view from 4/9 to 16/9
- c) Parish update meeting on A14 Improvement Scheme.
- d) Scarecrow Festival in Support of Project 21.

New:

- e) Community Gritting Scheme – This had been discussed in previous years and councillors still felt that it was overly complicated and nobody was able to commit to supervise it.
- f) Email request from East Anglian Air Ambulance asking whether the Parish Council would give a grant – Clerk has responded saying grants are generally made to local village groups only.
- g) Email complaining about the smell of burning coming from a muck heap. Clerk advised the parishioner to contact the Environmental Health Officer at HDC.
- h) Email requesting a bus stop at the top of Alconbury Hill. Clerk advised the parishioner to contact HDC.
- i) Invitation from HDC's Tree Warden to join a walk to Monks Wood to collect tree seeds and learn about the wood. Saturday 24th October 2pm – 4pm.
- j) Precept forms for 2016/17.
- k) Winter Health Information packs – Clerk to arrange for 25 packs to be delivered to Cllr. York for the Thursday Club.
- l) Tour of Cambridgeshire 2016 presentation on 29th October. Cllr. Baker to attend.
- m) Consultation on the future model for non-emergency Patient Transport – questionnaires handed to councillors.

11. Reports from Councillors.

County Cllr. Brown advised that The Cromwell Museums future was now secure and it will have the freehold and trust under the Town Council. Mrs. Gillian Beasley had been appointed the new Chief Executive of CCC. Mrs. Beasley is also CEO of Peterborough City Council. County Cllr. Brown is the CCC representative for the new Alconbury Weald Primary School, due to open next September. There is a consultation running which proposes that the Fire Service will collaborate more with the Police. Sainburys are not now moving out of the town centre. Infrastructure will shortly go ahead, with building work starting in the New Year, which may see the return of M & S and Next. Aldi will be building a new store on the west link road.

County Cllr. Ashcroft advised that there may be a greater merger of Councils, in order to make savings.

Cllr. Bryan had attended the Parish update meeting on the A14 Improvement Scheme. The 1.4 billion pound scheme is dependant on local councils donating 100 million pounds. Construction of the new "Expressway" will start in 2016 and end in 2020. The A1 upgrade from Brampton Hut to Alconbury, will take 20 months. There will be hearings taking place over the next few months and a draft plan will be submitted to the Secretary of State in Novemeber. There is a Community Fund for local communities of £500,000 p.a during the construction period.

Councillor Lomas advised that he and Kim Sewell had given a presentation to the pupils at Alconbury Primary School on the role of a Parish Councillor.

Cllr. Baker asked the Clerk to report to Highways that cars were being advertised for sale on the verge on North Road.

Councillors were concerned about the delapidated state of the former garage on the corner of Buckworth Road and North Road. Cllr. Baker will provide the Clerk with ownership details and Cllr. York will confirm the address so that the Clerk can ask HDC to investigate.

12. Clerk's annual appraisal.

Cllr. Lomas will carry out the appraisal before the next meeting.

13. Date of the next meeting.

Monday 30th November, starting at 7.30pm at the Alconbury Memorial Hall.

Signed.....

Date.....