

**Minutes of the meeting of Alconbury Weston Parish Council
held on Monday 20 February 2017 in Alconbury Memorial Hall**

Present:

Councillors: J Baker, M Bryan, R Coulson, C McGregor, S Lomas (Chairman), R Powley & L York

Clerk: A Benfield

Others: CCC - Cllr P Ashcroft

1.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations made

2.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence given

3.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public wished to address the meeting

4.0 MINUTES

Following the hand amendment to those present to remove reference to R Polson the minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2017 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

5.0 THE WHITE HART

A detailed discussion took place on the situation regarding the closer of the White Hart. It was agreed that this closure had resulted in another loss to the amenity of the village. It was agreed that the Parish Council should apply for it to be listed as a building of community asset with HDC. If accepted it will restrict what the building owners can do with the site for a period of 5 years to give the village itself the opportunity to look into options.

It was also noted that the building is listed as therefore the landlord is responsible for its upkeep and should maintain it in a reasonable condition to alleviate further deterioration to the fabric of the building.

- Resolved**
- 5.1 That the Parish Council apply for the White Hart to be listed as a building of community asset
 - 5.2 That the Clerk contacts the Land Registry and purchases any site plans and other documentation as required up to a total cost of £50
 - 5.3 Huntingdonshire District Council is requested to contact the property landlords and inform them of their responsibility to keep the fabric of the property in reasonable condition due to its listed building status.

6.0 FUNDAY – 4 JUNE 2017

The suggestion of a Funday was warmly welcomed by Members with a detailed discussion taking place on events that could be included. It was agreed that a working party would be formed as the timeframe was short and Cllrs Baker, Bryan and Lomas agreeing to assist.

The Clerk confirmed that the Councils Public Liability Insurance would cover the event but that all necessary licences, risk assessments and management plans would need to be in place prior to the event happening. It was agreed that she should liaise with HDC for all licencing requirements and investigate the date of the next Safety Advisory Group meeting.

- Resolved**
- 6.1 That £500 should be allocated for the planning of a Funday for the village on Sunday 4 June 2017
 - 6.2 That the Clerk should be responsible for ensuring all licencing, risk assessments and management plans are in place prior to the event taking place
 - 6.3 That the planning of the event should be delegated to a working party consisting of Cllrs Baker, Bryan and Lomas along with members of the community.

7.0 PARISH PATHS AND TREES

It was agreed that the Clerk should progress the purchase of the new Oak tree for the village green in conjunction with the HDC Tree Officer.

It was noted that AW6 was closed by the CCC Enforcement Officer for a short period due to poor reinstatement work that had been carried out by the Farmer and EA.

8.0 ALCONBURY WESTON FLOOD MANAGEMENT GROUP

A detailed discussion took place on the flooding issues and group and organisations that are involved in emergency planning and flood alleviation work. It was noted that the work agreed to be carried out by the EA on the clearing of the brook was still to be completed although the gauge has been reset on the brook so that it now reads correctly and should offer some warning of high water levels.

It was noted that Cllr Bryan and the Clerk would be attending a meeting with the EA and other groups on 23 February and would report back to the next meeting

9.0 PLAY AREA

It was reported that inspections had taken place on 23 January, 9 February and 20 February with no issues or problems noticed.

The quotation from Wicksteed Playgrounds was considered and it was agreed that the order should be placed for replacement of the log run.

- Resolved**
- 9.1 That the verbal report is received and noted
 - 9.2 That approval is given to place an order with Wicksteed Playgrounds to replace the log run within the play area at a cost of £833.58 inclusive of labour

10.0 ORPHANED SITES

The Clerk stated that she had been in contact with HDC and had expected to receive an update in time for the meeting. However no information had been forthcoming. She indicated that she would be contacting Cllr Howe and Cllr White (who now has Portfolio responsibility for these sites) again expressing the need for some resolution on the situation as soon as possible.

It was agreed that HDC Cllr K Baker should be asked to assist with getting a response.

- Resolved**
- 9.1 That the verbal report is received and noted
 - 9.2 That Cllr K Baker is asked to assist with getting a response on what HDC intend to do with the sites in terms of ongoing management.

11.0 PLANNING

Based on the comments received by the Parish Clerk following circulation of the details of the following response was sent to HDC:-

16/02711/FUL: BUCKWORTH LODGE STUD – Recommend refusal on the following grounds:-

- Over development of the site
- Out of keeping with the area
- There is already a residential building on the site that has been inhabited for 5 years that is subject to an enforcement notice. The manner this is referred to in the supporting documentation is disingenuous and misleading. On page 7 of the Design and Access Statement within the Justification Statements it says *'there is no dwelling on site'* is therefore untrue.
- No further permissions should be considered until the existing violations of development and enforcement issues linked to the site are resolved.
- The supporting Design and Access Statement includes inconsistency in the rationale for the building. It states that the property is for Mr & Mrs Rudd who are required to be on site 24/7 due to the nature of the business, however it is apparent from the documentation that it is Ms F Rudd who runs the business and has the expertise to do so. Also, given Mr Rudd's documented disability it is unclear how he will be able to continue to provide the on-site supervision the business requires with his health deteriorating.
- The Planning Report for the Equine Business is out of date. It was prepared in November 2015, using business financial records up to 2014, to support an application for the continued use of the existing unauthorised house. It does not address the business need for building a house designed for a disabled person to be living on this site.

- Resolved** 11.1 That the recommendation on the above grounds is ratified

The following planning application was considered:-

APPLICATION REF. 17/00079/REM - Application for approval of appearance, layout, landscaping, access and scale in respect of the construction of 101 dwellings (of which 6 affordable), 1183m² Of a1, a3, & d1 floorspace, 5059m² Of b1a/b1b/b1c floorspace, highways works (including creation of temporary construction access from ermine street) and all associated engineering & earth works, including ground remodelling formal landscaping and ancillary works." Alconbury Weald Ermine Street Little Stukeley

- Resolved** 11.2 That no observation is made.

12.0 HUNTINGDONSHIRE PARISH CONFERENCE – TOGETHER WE CAN

Resolved That the Cllr Powley and the Parish Clerk should attend this conference on behalf of the Parish Council

13.0 ORDERS FOR PAYMENT

The following payments were noted as having been made between meetings:-

Day Today – Repair to village pump	£620.00
A Benfield – Jan Salary	£546.62

Resolved 13.1 That the above payments are ratified

The following payments were noted as requiring to be made:-

A Benfield – Jan Expenses	£66.61
AskIT – Outlook 2016	£109.99
A Benfield – Feb Salary	£513.79
1 st Alconbury Scouts – replacement for lost grant chq	£400.00
ICO – Data Protection Registration	£35.00

Resolved 13.2 That the above payments are agreed and made

14.0 BANK RECONCILIATION

Resolved That the Bank Reconciliation up to 1 February 2017 is received and noted

15.0 BUDGET REPORT

Resolved That the Budget Report up to 14 February 2017 is received and noted

16.0 POLICE MATTERS

The Parish Clerk confirmed that no incidents relevant to Alconbury Weston had come to her attention since the last meeting via the e-cops system

Cllr Bryan commented that he has been in contact with HDC regarding his concerns over the number of break-ins at the recycling centre.

Resolved That the verbal report is received and noted

17.0 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

CCC Cllrs Ashton & Brown reported:-

- that the agreed 2% increase set by the County Council will be allocated to Adult Social Care.
- Street lighting is now on from sunset to sunrise across the county.
- Cllr Brown – in contact with Highways Dept regarding the proposed closure of Alconbury Truckstop.

Resolved That the verbal reports are received and noted

18.0 KEEP BRITAIN TIDY 'GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN'

Consideration was given to the information relating to the 'Great British Spring Clean' circulated to members on 1 February. It was noted that a resident was interested to hear what actions that Parish Council were planning with a view to participating.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the timescale to organise anything in time to participate was too short and therefore the Parish Council would not be participating this year.

Resolved That due to the short timescale no event was organised this year.

19.0 ALCONBURY WASTE TRANSFER STATION LOCAL LIAISON

The draft minutes from the meeting were considered and Cllr Bryan as the Council nominated representative gave a short verbal update on the actions of the group so far. He indicated that good progress is being made via the liaison group with CCC and the site. There is an issue with odour on Alconbury Hill and it is felt that this is coming from the transfer site. There are management plans in place on the site that should be mitigate the transfer of smells from the green waste. Cllr Bryan, as Chairman of the liaison group is to visit all businesses on the hill to find out if the smell is coming from them

Resolved That the verbal reports are received and noted

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