

ALCONBURY WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

www.alconburywestonparishcouncil.co.uk

Temporary Parish Clerk: Charlotte Copley

37 Station Road, Ramsey, PE26 1JB

parishclerk@alconburywestonparishcouncil.co.uk

Tel: 07849 107046

Meeting held Monday 1st November 2021 at Alconbury Sports and Social Club from 7.00pm.

MINUTES

53.0 PRESENT

Councillors B Powley (Chairman), J. Baker, P. Baker, M. Bryan, S. Rochford & A. Stone
Clerk C Copley

Also present County and District Councillor Gardener

54.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

All members present.

55.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

56.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None present.

57.0 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th September 2021 were confirmed as a correct record of proceedings and therefore signed by the Chairman.

58.0 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Gardener shared the following information:

A new on-demand bus service, called Ting, was being trialled whereby tailor-made trips in west Huntingdonshire could be ordered via an app or phone. More information can be found at ting-trips.co.uk or by calling 01223 433255. A roadshow was being organised to promote the service and Cllr Gardener would confirm when and where the roadshow bus will be visiting.

A new Highways Officer had been appointed, Sharon Middleton. Cllr Gardener and Sharon would be meeting regularly to discuss local highways issues. Residents are asked to continue to report highways issues via the online reporting tool. <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults>

The new Shire Hall at Alconbury Weald had opened.

Resurfacing of the pavements on Buckworth Road and Highfield Road has been requested.

Highways England were conducting a survey of opinions with regards to safety at turnings on the A14 between Ellington and Thrapston; more details were available on the website <https://highwaysengland.co.uk/our-work/our-route-strategies/>

The District Council were looking at civil parking enforcement across the District and employing traffic wardens.

Members asked that the following issues be looked into:

1. Repairs to the small bridge on the village green,
2. Maintenance of the Footpath on Vinegar Hill
3. Review of a large crack on Hamerton Road, near to N.50, a sign that the road might be in danger of sliding into the Brook

Resolved To receive and note the contents of District and County Councillor Gardener's report. Cllrs Powley and Stone undertook to attend a meeting in the village with Cllr Gardener and the new Highways Officer.

19:28 Cllr Gardener left the meeting due to having another meeting to attend elsewhere.

59.0 FLOOD ALIEVIATION

The Alconbury Flood Group had been renamed The Alconbury Brook Flood Group. Weed spraying and bank cutting along the brook had been carried out by the Environment Agency. There was a possibility of financial support for residents with a riparian responsibility for maintaining the Brook; more details were awaited from CCC via TABFG.. A business case for upstream works was being developed. Ongoing small projects were being carried out upstream, including leaky dams, tree planting etc. The Group had also sponsored the formation of an allied charity in order to receive and manage associated finances.

The Charity will be known as The Alconbury Brook Flood Catchment Charity and will work with agencies on flood alleviation projects.

Action

Resolved Cllr P Baker as member of the newly formed catchment charity would I take on the role of Flood Alleviation lead on the Parish Council, replacing Cllr Bryan.
The Clerk will amend future agendas to reflect the change.

Clerk

60.0 PARISH COUNCIL GROUPING

The final draft of the leaflet and its distribution was agreed along with the choice of printer, as follows;
Parrot Print

Quantity: 320 for Alconbury Weston

Total Price: £98.00 in total (£29.31 for Alconbury Weston)

St.Ives Quick Print

Total Price: £96.00

Resolved That the final draft of the leaflet was agreed with the closure date for responses by 20th December. This would allow for the collation of responses to either reconvene the Community Governance Review in time for the May 2022 elections, or should the overall majority be against a grouping, the project would be taken no further.

That Parrot Print be awarded the printing works on the basis they are local to the Clerk and therefore saving the clerk's time in collecting the leaflets.

That, once received, the Clerk would collate the leaflets and arrange for councillors to collect and distribute to the parish as soon as possible.

That the Clerk inform all members of the outcome of the result and advise on the next steps.

Clerk
Clerk
Clerk

61.0 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

61.1 Grass cutting and village green – Cllr P Baker reported that the last cut of the season had been carried out.

61.2 Highways, Speed watch and SID – Cllr Stone confirmed that an LHI bid had been submitted for the installation of a buffer zones to Buckworth Road and Vinegar Hill and a second solar powered MVAS, the application would be circulated to members. Steve Brine can no longer coordinate the Speedwatch sessions. Cllr Stone has temporarily taken on this role until a successor is found. More Speed watch coordinator volunteers were required.

61.3 Communication with parishioners – Cllr Bryan reported circulating information on the new Ting bus service.

61.4 Flood Emergency Planning – Cllr Powley reported there was a need to recruit another flood warden to cover High Street and North Road.

61.5 Play Area – Maintenance – Cllr Bryan had nothing to report.

61.6 Parish Paths and Trees – Cllr Powley reported that Footpath No.1 to Upton had been ploughed to the edge of the fields and was not passable on foot at the moment without 'treading the furrows'. Also, the steps on Vinegar Hill leading to Footpath No.3 were seriously overgrown and inaccessible and the hedge along Cades Hill has recently been cut resulting in damage to the signs. Cllr Stone requested a budget of up to £50 for the purchase of a tree to replace the one that died next to the memorial.

61.7 Alconbury Weald Parish Liaison – Cllr J Baker attended a recent meeting; the minutes are yet to be received from Urban and Civic.

61.8 Amey Waste Transfer Station – Cllr Bryan had nothing to report.

61.9 Woolley Hill Wind Farm Grant Body – Cllr Stone reported that minutes of the latest meeting had been received and would be circulated to members.

61.10 To consider any actions as required as a result of the above reports.

Resolved 61.2 That Cllr Stone circulate copies of the LHI bid to members.

61.4 That members seek to recruit a flood warden to cover High Street and North Road.

61.6 That Cllr P Baker investigate the reports of footpath damage to paths Nos.1 and 3, and that the Clerk seek to contact the landowner with regards to the damaged signs along the hedge at Cades Hill.

61.9 That Cllr Stone circulate minutes of the Wind Farm meeting to members.

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62.0 PLANNING

In reference to planning applications.

21/02027/OUT Land north of Butchers Close, Alconbury Weston and

21/01343 Land Northwest of Chequers Close

Cllr Bryan reported that the Local Lead Flood Agency (LLFA) had previously objected to both applications.

The Consultants for Chequers Close had responded with updated proposals and, as a result, the County Council LLFA had withdrawn their objection subject to certain demands being met. The Planning Officer would now make his recommendation report which would likely to take up to 8 weeks. The Consultants for Butchers Close had responded with new proposals last week and the County Councils LLFA had 21 days to respond.

Since the Parish Council raised concerns on both planning applications it is likely that they would both

go to the Development Management Committee (DMC). The Parish Council expected to be invited to make representation.

63.0 ORDERS FOR PAYMENT

To note and agree the following payments are made:

Beam – grass cutting inv 01312/01305	£570.00
Payroll and HMRC – October	£224.95
Alconbury Parish Council – Locum Clerk fee Sept + Oct	£789.85
Upton Village Hall – Room Hire	£ 20.00
CAPALC – Social Media Training	£ 45.00
Drax – prev Haven Power direct debit	£ 9.37

Resolved That the above orders be agreed for payment, which would be authorised online by Cllrs Bryan and Powley, **by Friday 5th November 2021.**
That Cllr Stone be set up as a bank signatory.

MB/BP
Clerk

64.0 BANK RECONCILIATION AND MONIES RECEIVED

Resolved That the bank reconciliation be confirmed as correct.

65.0 PRECEPT APPLICATION 2022-23

Resolved That the budget for the financial year 2022-23 be set at £16,500 and that the Clerk forward the application to the District Council before the deadline of the 17th December 2021.

Clerk

66.0 PAYROLL

Resolved That SR Howell and Co be instructed as the Council's payroll provider at a cost of £100 plus VAT per annum.

Clerk

67.0 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

Cllr Bryan had recently attended the County Councils flooding webinars and found them informative.

68.0 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 13th December 2021 – Alconbury Sports and Social Club from 7pm.

Clerk

With no further business to conduct the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:44.