

**Minutes of the meeting of Alconbury Weston Parish Council
held on Monday 18 February 2019 in Alconbury Memorial Hall**

Present:

Councillors: J Baker, P Baker, S Brine, M Bryan, J Evans (from item 122.0) and R Powley (Chairman)

Clerk: A Benfield

117.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs J Baker and P Baker declared a prejudicial interest in Planning Application 19/00176/PIP as they are related to the applicant.

Cllr J Evans declared a prejudicial interest in Planning Enforcement matter 18/00281/ENENG as he lives next door to the development

118.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr York (personal)

119.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present

120.0 MINUTES

The minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 14 January 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

121.0 PARISH PATHS AND TREES

Cllr P Baker commented that the mud on the path between Alconbury Weston and Alconbury had caused a problem for those using the footpath and that the person responsible for causing the issues had been asked to desist. He also reported that the diversion of footpath 2a had finally received approval and work will take place.

In relating to the discussion, he had previously with the CCC Rights of Way Officer regarding the status of the path between the 2 villages he still had not received any response so he intended to escalate the matter to CCC. Members agreed that this matter did need to be progressed and supported Cllr P Baker in pursuing this matter on behalf of the Parish Council. The Chairman agreed to forward alternative Highway Officer contact details to Cllr P Baker to assist him in moving forward. The Chairman also stated that as the footpath is in both parishes, he had been in email contact with the Chairman of Alconbury Parish Council regarding this. Finally, it was agreed that the Clerk should write formally to Alconbury Parish Council requesting that the villages work together to resolve the issue of the status of the footpath.

Cllr P Baker stated that he had so far approached 2 companies for quotes for the tree survey work and that he would provide further information at a later date. It was noted that the Oak on the village green had been missed off the management plan and that this should be added.

- Resolved**
- | | |
|-------|---|
| 121.1 | That the verbal report from Cllr P Baker be received and noted |
| 121.2 | That Cllr P Baker contact CCC, Cllr White and Highway Officers regarding the status of the footpath between the villages |
| 121.3 | That the Clerk write to Alconbury Parish Council and request consideration is given to working with Alconbury Weston Parish Council to resolve issues with the footpath both in terms of its condition and its status as a public right of way, in order to identify who is responsible for maintaining it. |

Cllr Evans arrived at this point in the meeting

122.0 PLAY AREA

Cllr Bryan reported that he had inspected the play area on 1 Feb and 15 Feb and had nothing to report.

- Resolved** 122.1 That the verbal report from Cllr Bryan on the state of the play area be received and noted

123.0 REPORT FROM REPRESENTATIVES

Grass cutting & village green – Cllr P Baker stated that all matters had been covered already

Speedwatch – Cllr Brine: gave the following report:

- Sessions in January did not happen due to ill health. New kit had arrived in Alconbury and a joint session was to be arranged.
- No agreement was currently in place for monitoring on Hamerton Road at the junction of the main ford.
- 3 training sessions had been arranged and the team had been advised. Training would take place in Cambourne and Peterborough

Chairman's Initials

- A discussion took place on the flashing signs on North Road. Cllr Brine agreed to look into the matter further.

Communication with Parishioners – Cllr Bryan stated that the parish pump article had been submitted. Clerk confirmed that website statistics could now be reported

Flood Planning – Cllr Powley reported that he had attended a recent meeting of the Alconbury Brook Flood Group, hosted by the Environment Agency.

A brief discussion took place on the production and distribution of some flood advice leaflets. It was agreed that they should be bi-fold and contain the same information as previously to act as a refresher for residents affected.

In relation to the Flood Plan, Cllr Powley commented that there once again appeared to be an issue with road closures. Even though it had been agreed by the authorities that the parish council close roads during flooding, the Highways Authority still need to come out and put complementary diversion signs in place, so bringing into question the rationale for local flood wardens being involved in the first place. Highways apparently do have a team ready to respond to emergencies, but they will only release the team's contact number to the Environment Agency's (EA) duty officer. Cllr Powley was investigating whether a more workable and reliable process could be agreed with CCC Highways and the EA to effect road closures during flooding and would not release an updated version of the Flood Plan until the outcome was agreed. Frustration was expressed that again there were renewed complications and difficulties militating against the village's moving forward on supporting itself in flood defence.

Alconbury Weald Parish Liaison – Cllr J Baker attended the latest meeting and the minutes would be circulated at a later date. Local plan now finished but the Weald have been approached to build more properties; however, they are not keen as it might alter the ambience of the overall development,

The doctors' surgery was discussed. The Alconbury Parish Council had noted that trying to see a doctor was now very difficult and that the planned provision on the Weald needed to be started. It was agreed that the Practice Manager should be asked to attend a meeting to discuss the matter or provide an update on any problems with oversubscription.

Cllr J Baker advised that there was still no update on any initiatives to reopen footpaths that were closed across what is now the Alconbury Weald site when the airfield was built and the land commandeered.

A14 Legacy Fund – Cllr York not in attendance so no report given.

Amey Waste Transfer Station – Cllr Bryan commented that he had nothing to report at the current time; the next meeting was due in April.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------|--|
| Resolved | 123.1 | That the verbal reports be received and noted |
| Resolved | 123.2 | That Cllrs Powley and Brine arrange for Flood Alert leaflets to be distributed |
| | 123.3 | That Cllr Powley progress the road closure issue |
| | 123.4 | That the Alconbury Doctors Surgery Practice Manager be asked to attend a future meeting or provide a report on the numbers registered. |

124.0 PLANNING

Cllrs P and J Baker left the meeting at this point.

Consideration was given to the following planning application: -
19/00176/PIP: Residential development (permission in principle) at Land Adjacent to Thorns Farm, Hamerton Road, Alconbury Weston

A discussion took place on 'in principle planning' and what it meant. It was noted that the application was for 8 houses on the site and it was agreed that there were no problems with the development in principle as long as it was done sensitively. It was agreed that no comments should be made at the current time and further consideration would be given when the full application was submitted.

Cllrs P and J Baker returned to the meeting and Cllr Evans left the meeting

To note that Planning Enforcement have been contacted in relation to Land North of Spires End - 18/00281/ENENG.

It was noted that the developer had removed the wall and implemented a new access that was now causing damage to the verge and that this was against planning permission granted and that access should be through a shared access with Chestnut Farm. The Clerk commented that Planning Enforcement were aware and looking into the matter.

Chairman's Initials

Concern was raised that previous activities involving this builder had also not been completed without infringements to the terms of the original permissions granted.

Cllr Evans returned to the meeting at this point.

- Resolved** 124.1 That no comments be submitted for 19/00176/PIP: Residential development (permission in principle) at Land Adjacent to Thorns Farm, Hamerton Road, Alconbury Weston
- 124.2 That it be noted that Planning Enforcement are aware of the issues in relation to Land North of Spires End - 18/00281/ENENG.

125.0 FLOODING BEHIND CHEQUERS CLOSE

Cllr P Baker reported that the neighbours to the east had cleared the hedgerow and that the ditch line along the brook was now visible. This revealed that that standing water is caused by the bank collapsing. It was noted that, under riparian ownership, the responsibility for clearing this blockage falls to the 2 land owners. Cllr Baker agreed to speak to the owners to discuss a way forward

126.0 ORDERS FOR PAYMENT

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

Payroll & HMRC – February Salary	£231.19
ICO – Annual Renewal	£35.00
CCC - Street Light energy	£162.87
CAPALC – Cllr training	£75.00

- Resolved** 126.1 That the above payments be made.
- 126.2 That the direct debit mandate be submitted for ICO annual renewal to take advantage of the £5 discount
- 126.3 That Cllrs J Baker and Brine authorise the online payments

127.0 BANK RECONCILIATION

Resolved That the bank reconciliation up to 31 January 2019 be received and noted

128.0 BUDGET REPORT

Resolved 112.1 That the Budget Report up to February be received and noted.

129.0 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

No reports were received from District or County Councillors.

Resolved That Cllr Jim White be requested to attend the next meeting to discuss the state and status of the footpath between Alconbury and Alconbury Weston.

130.0 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

- 130.1 Those matters circulated by the Clerk both in advance and at the meeting were received and noted.
- Highways England - Reclassification of A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon as motorway consultation
- 130.2 The following matters were raised by Members and the Clerk agreed to action them:-
- Confirm whether an archaeological dig was taking place in the fields off Vinegar Hill.
 - Report water leak in Hamerton Road opposite the Spinney.
 - Report that rubbish bin on the footpath near the bridge was in need of repair.
 - Clarify what work is to be undertaken on Hamerton Road following the recent issue of a road closure notice.
- 130.3 New Dog Poo bags and signs were now in position
- Cllr J Baker undertook to investigate the cutting of the hedge alongside the footpath near the bottom of Vinegar Hill adjacent to the parking layby.
- 130.4 There were no matters other than those listed in the minutes above requested for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting.

SIGNED: _____

Chairman - Alconbury Weston Parish Council

Chairman's
Initials