

**Minutes of the meeting of Alconbury Weston Parish Council  
held on Monday 13 January 2020 in Alconbury Memorial Hall**

**Present:**

**Councillors:** J Baker, P Baker, S Brine, M Bryan, A Gillham, B Powley (Chairman) & A Stone

**Clerk:** A Benfield

**Others:** Cllr I Gardner (HDC & CCC Councillor) plus 1 member of the public

**123.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllrs J & P Baker declared pecuniary interest in item 139.0 as both are related to the applicant of the planning application.

**124.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

All members were present at the meeting.

**125.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The applicant for the Thorns Farm development to be discussed at item 139.0 provided additional information regarding the site development.

**126.0 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 December 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

**127.0 MEETING DATES FOR 2020**

**Resolved** That the Parish Council meet on the following dates for Council meetings up to and including Annual Meetings 2021:

24/02/20, 06/04/20, 18/05/20 (Annual Meetings), 22/06/20, 10/08/20, 21/09/20, 09/11/20, 14/12/20, 25/01/21, 08/03/21, 19/04/21, 24/05/21 (Annual Meetings).

**128.0 INSTALLATION OF NOTICE BOARD**

Consideration was given to the appointment of a contractor to install the new noticeboard. Cllr Bryan commented that a local contractor had quoted between £50 & £100

**Resolved** That Cllr Bryan make arrangements for the notice board to be installed by a local contractor at a cost of no more than £100

**129.0 PARISH PATHS AND TREES**

Paths – Cllr P Baker reported that there were no updates on any matters; he was still awaiting CCC response regarding North Road

Tree work – Cllr P Baker agreed to chase the invoice for recent tree work completed

Wildflower growth – Cllr Stone reported that, following some investigation, she felt that the area around the memorial stone would be an ideal location to trial a reduction in grass cutting to encourage natural wildflower growth. It was noted that the verge in question was owned by CCC, although maintained by the Parish Council. It was agreed that CCC should be approached and informed of the intention to reduce the number of cuts to allow more natural growth

**Resolved** 129.1 That the reports be received and noted

129.2 That the Clerk inform the village Highway Officer of the intention to reduce the number of cuts to encourage wildflower growth on the verge around the memorial stone.

**130.0 PLAY AREA**

Cllr Bryan reported that he had inspected the play area on 12 December 2019 and 13 January 2020 with no matters to report

A discussion took place on the way forward for the planned additional play equipment for the play area. It was noted that due to the costs involved there would be a need to go out to tender. It was agreed that Cllr Gillham would contact some play equipment providers informing them of the project and requesting that they provide illustrated quotations that could be used for consultation purposes.

**Resolved** That the reports be received and noted

**131.0 CLIMATE CHANGE AGENDA**

The communication from CCC on its Climate Change and Environment Strategy and Action Plan was received with consideration given responding to the consultation.

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Discussion took place on how the village could actually be involved. It was mentioned that investigation may be feasible into ground source heat pumps and electric charging points for community use, along with more tree planting. It was noted that County Council and Government funding was available for carbon reduction schemes.

It was suggested that the planting of more trees should be linked to the Environment Agency flood alleviation works.

Members agreed that they would consider options outside of the meeting and submit their comments to Cllr Gardner. A formal response could not be agreed in advance of the deadline as the timeframe for submitting comments was too short.

- Resolved** 131.1 That the communication be received and noted
- 131.2 That Councillors complete the consultation as individuals

**132.0 CAMBRIDGESHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE: INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN CONSULTATION**

Communication from Cambs Fire and Rescue Service on its IRMP was received and consideration given to responding to the consultation. It was noted that it was a risk report on behalf of the Fire Service.

Comment was made that the Fire Service support the village in flood instances but there was no reference to this role within the report and it was felt that this should be acknowledged.

- Resolved** 132.1 That the consultation be received and noted
- 132.2 That Cllr Bryan respond on behalf of the Parish Council recommending that consideration be given to including the flood support role within the report.

**134.0 REPORT FROM REPRESENTATIVES**

Grass cutting & village green – Cllr P Baker stated that he would provide an update on verges at the next meeting

Speedwatch – Cllr Brine reported that 3 sessions in December were completed with 512 vehicles recorded in total. Due to the cold, wet and dark nights, sessions would resume in February. He further stated that he was in communication with the Speedwatch Co-ordinator about changing positions and was continuing to work on the introduction of speed indication devices.

Communication with Parishioners – Cllr Bryan reported that the article for the Parish Pump was due to be submitted the following day.

Flood Planning – Cllr Powley reported that there had been a flood over the Christmas period and that although cones and signs were put out individuals had moved them and continued to drive through the high water. It was suggested that gates should be installed and closed when village is in flood. Discussion took place on where a gate could be located if the proposal were to be implemented and it was agreed that both Highways and the EA should be involved in the matter. Cllr Brine stated that he was already in communication with the relevant organisations. Members agreed that they would support the suggestion in principle with Cllr Bryan nominated to investigate further

Alconbury Weald Parish Liaison – no meeting held

A14 Legacy Fund – no further information available

Amey Waste Transfer Station – no meeting held

- Resolved** That all reports be received and noted

**135.0 ORDERS FOR PAYMENT**

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

Payroll & HMRC – January	£547.18
CAPALC – Cllr Training	£75.00

- Resolved** 135.1 That £500 be transferred from CCLA to Unity Trust to allow payments to be made
- 135.2 That the above payments be agreed and actioned by the Chairman and Cllr Brine

**136.0 BANK RECONCILIATION**

The Clerk informed members that a payment issued to CAPALC in December had been returned as the organisations bank details had changed. Also that the payment to the Scouts was still outstanding as they had not presented the cheque. Cllr J Baker agreed to provide the bank details for the Scouts Group so that an online payment could be made.

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- Resolved** 136.1 That the report by the Clerk regarding the CAPALC returned payment be received and noted  
 136.2 That Cllr J Baker obtain the Scouts bank details to enable an online payment to be made  
 136.3 That the Bank Reconciliation up to 30 November 2019 be received and noted

### 137.0 BUDGET REPORT

- Resolved** That the Budget Report up to 31 December be received and noted

### 138.0 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

- Resolved** That the NALC 2019 Model Financial Regulations as amended by the Clerk be received, noted and adopted

### 139.0 PLANNING

**Cllrs J & P Baker left the meeting at this point.**

Consideration was given to planning application:

19/02429/FUL: Erection of three dwellings following the demolition of three barns and the conversion of one barn to residential (C3) Land Adjacent To Thorns Farm, Hamerton Road, Alconbury Weston

Members discussed the plans with no concerns raised. It was agreed that the Parish Council should support the application as the potential for more affordable housing in the village was welcomed. It was noted that Provision had been made within the development for more than 2 parking spaces to be allocated for each property along with garages and that there were also alternative parking areas on the development to avoid the need for visitors to park on the highway.

**Resolved** Alconbury Weston Parish Council recommend **approval** of the application for the following reasons:-

- The provision of more affordable housing in the village is required
- Sufficient parking relative to the size of the accommodation has been allocated on site
- There was a good mix of accommodation
- The design was in keeping with the village.

### 140.0 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Gardiner thanked Members for the invitation to attend the meeting as both the HDC and CCC elected Cllr. He commented that he had recently taken on the role of the Alconbury And Ellington drainage Board representative as well.

He provided a comprehensive report on matters he was involved in for both authorities and confirmed he would be in attendance at the next meeting to provide a further update.

### 141.0 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

The email communication from a resident regarding the state of the High Street was received. Members discussed the matters raised linked to the state of the road. It was agreed that Cllr J Baker would make contact with the resident to establish more detail and bring it back to the next meeting

Cllr J Baker stated that she had received no responses from the Tour of Cambridge organisers following her attempts to get responses to outstanding questions. It was agreed that the matter be included on the agenda for the next meeting for further discussion.

Cllr Gillam commented that she had been working on a Parish Council Facebook page and that it was ready to go live. It was agreed that she should circulate more information prior to making it public.

**Resolved** That the discussion be received and noted and relevant items be included on the next agenda for further discussion

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

**Chairman - Alconbury Weston Parish Council**

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