

**Minutes of the meeting of Alconbury Weston Parish Council
held on Tuesday 4 May 2021**

As a result of Covid-19 and following the instruction of the Prime Minister's address on 23rd March 2020 the meeting was held remotely.

Present:

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

Others: County and District Councillor I Gardener and C Copley (acting Clerk)

1.0 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was proposed and seconded that Cllr B Powley be elected as Chairman for the forthcoming civic year. With no further nominations it was

Resolved That Cllr B Powley be elected as Chairman of Alconbury Weston Parish Council for the 2021/22 Civic Year

2.0 DECLARATION OF OFFICE

Resolved That Cllr B Powley sign his Declaration of Office at a later date

3.0 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

It was proposed and seconded that Cllr J Baker be elected as Vice Chairman for the forthcoming civic year. With no further nomination it was

Resolved That Cllr J Baker be elected as Vice Chairman of Alconbury Weston Parish Council for the 2021/22 civic year.

4.0 DECLARATION OF OFFICE

Resolved That Cllr J Baker sign her Declaration of Office at a later date

5.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made

6.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were given by the Parish Clerk.

Miss Charlotte Copley attended the meeting as acting Clerk in Alison's absence.

7.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were in attendance.

8.0 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

With agreement from the Chairman, the report from District and County Councillor Gardener was brought forward, to allow Cllr Gardener to leave for another meeting. Cllr Gardiner provided an interesting and full verbal report to the meeting covering a number of matters of interest. A copy is attached. The meeting also referred back to his previous report on CCC's funding allocation for footway repair; the Chairman sought confirmation as to whether the following footways could be refurbished: those alongside North Road from Highfield Avenue to Buckworth Road and alongside Vinegar Hill, and the footway from Church Way through to Alconbury via The Maltings.

Cllr Gardener left the meeting at 19:23

9.0 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2021 were confirmed as a correct record and it was agreed that they be signed by the Chairman when meeting in public was allowed.

10.0 REVIEW OF COUNCIL POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REGULATIONS AND DELEGATED POWERS

9.1 To agree to review all policies and procedures by the August meeting of the council.

9.2 To confirm continued membership of CAPALC and to confirm support to the Clerk's membership of the SLCC.

9.3 To confirm the appointment of Parish Council Representatives to the following groups and organisations for the municipal year:

- Amey Waste Transfer Station – Cllr Bryan
- Alconbury Weald Parish Liaison – Cllr J Baker
- Grass cutting & village green – Cllr P Baker

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- Speed watch, SID and Highways Liaison – Cllr A Stone
- Communication with Parishioners – Cllr Bryan
- Flood Emergency Planning – Cllr Powley
- Flood Alleviation – Cllr Bryan
- Play Area – Maintenance – Cllr Bryan
- Play Area – Requirement for new equipment – Cllr Rochford
- Parish Paths & Trees – Cllr P Baker
- Wooley Hill Wind Farm – Cllr Stone

It was at this point that Cllr Gilham tendered her resignation as parish councillor and therefore sought representatives to take over the social media page for the Council. Mrs Gilham then left the meeting.

- Resolved**
- 9.1 Agreed to review all policies and procedures by the August 2021 meeting.
 - 9.2 To continue the membership with CAPALC and support the Clerk's membership to the SLCC
 - 9.3 To confirm appointments of Parish Council representatives to the groups as detailed above with the merging of Speed watch and SID with Highways Liaison.
- To acknowledge Cllr Gillham's resignation due to work commitments and thank her for all her efforts whilst undertaking the role of parish councillor. It was agreed Mrs Gillham liaise with Cllr Stone to take over the administration of the Facebook page, and with Cllr Bryan and Cllr Rochford for the latter to take over as deputy administrator of the Nextdoor app.

11.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

- Resolved** To agree to defer the annual risk assessment to a later meeting.

12.0 GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Cllr Powley reported the District Council Governance Committee agreed to proceed with a Review. Terms of Reference had been circulated to members. The aim was to complete the review in time for the local elections in May 2022.

13.0 REPORT FROM REPRESENTATIVES

Grass cutting & village green – Cllr P Baker reported that the schedule of 10 cuts for the coming year has commenced.

Speedwatch – Cllrs Stone & Rochford

- Speedwatch sessions could now resume under Covid guidelines as of the 1st May and online training sessions would be completed beforehand.
- Cllr Stone confirmed that additional hi-viz jackets had been purchased and that four new volunteers had joined the group.

SID – Cllrs Stone & Rochford

- Cllr Stone confirmed that brackets had been installed at four locations – one on each entry road to the village, there were issues with the authorised Vinegar Hill site as it did not support the accurate monitoring of downhill traffic, an issue which was still under investigation.

Highway Liaison – Cllrs Stone and Rochford

- Cllr Stone would respond to a social media post with a resume of the rationale for the 4-pole SID siting and of recorded top speeds.

Communication with Parishioners – Cllr Bryan

- Cllr Bryan confirmed that he had submitted a Parish Pump article about the new defibrillator installation. Thanks were expressed to Cllr Rochford for coordinating the installation of the defibrillator. Cllr Rochford agreed to contact the area First Responder, Mr O'Brian, to seek clarification as to whether the defibrillator serial number and postcode should be clearly displayed on the front of the unit, following an issue raised by a parishioner.

Flood Emergency Plan – Cllr Powley confirmed the Flood Mobile exhibition caravan would be in Alconbury Village on the 27th May, located at the ford, with a further visit scheduled for 10th July. Flyers advertising the events would be circulated to people who had been affected by the flooding.

Flood Alleviation

- Cllr Bryan reported that a meeting of the Environment Agency-led Alconburys Flood Partnership Group was being scheduled for next month.
- At the local level, The Alconburys Flood Group had been formed and was actively investigating options to address flooding issues.

Play Area report – Cllrs Gillham & Rochford

- It was agreed that:
 - Cllr Rochford would now lead the initiative to define recommended new play equipment needs.
 - Cllr Stone would then take the case forward for a grant bid.
- A picnic bench had now been installed in the play area.

- As it was unclear as to the ownership of the field in which the play area was sited, the Clerk undertook to pass details of the County Council's Asset Information Definitive Map Officer to Cllr Bryan, who would then investigate further.

Parish Paths & Trees – Cllr P Baker

- Cllr Stone continues to investigate what species of tree would be appropriate to plant beside the memorial and establish the cost of doing so. Cllr Rochford had had the provisional offer of a donation of a tree and would report back with further details when received.

Alconbury Weald Parish Liaison – Cllr J Baker - no meeting held so no report

Wooley Hill Wind Farm Grant Body – Cllr Stone reported that the next meeting of the group was scheduled for 6th May.

Amey Waste Transfer Station – Cllr Bryan - nothing to report

Resolved That all reports be received and noted

133.0 REQUEST FOR INSTALLATION OF A MEMORIAL BENCH

Following a discussion, agreement was reached in principle for the installation of a memorial bench in respect of the late Mr David Wilson Sandever, a long-term resident of the village. Formal agreement would first need to be obtained from the next of kin or executor and the applicant would need to be responsible for the purchase and installation costs. Cllr J Baker undertook to take the matter forward in consultation with the applicant.

Resolved That permission be granted to install a memorial bench, with the costs being covered by the applicant, provided that the next of kin or executor agreement is received.

135.0 ORDERS FOR PAYMENT

To ratify those payments made between meetings

Payroll and HMRC March

To Note and agree the following payments are made;

BEAM – grass cutting April	£285.00
Payroll & HMRC – April salary	£281.19
CAPALC – Annual membership	£377.23
Haven Power – Street Light Energy (direct debit)	£9.74
Earth Anchors – picnic bench	£540.00

Resolved That the above payments be authorised retrospectively. .

136.0 BUDGET REPORT

Resolved That the budget report be received and noted, with a copy being appended to these minutes.

137.0 BANK RECONCILIATION

A bank reconciliation had been circulated to councillors before the meeting and a copy is now attached to these minutes.

138.0 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

See item 8.0 above.

139.0 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

17.1 To note the following communications not previously circulated;

- None to date

17.2 To receive comments from Councillors regarding matters affecting the village.

- The Clerk was asked to write to UK Power networks to establish the cause of the fire and power failure experienced in the village last week.

17.3 To agree items to be brought forward to the next meeting for further consideration.

- Insurance cover relating to the moving and re-siting of the SID
- Consider the purchase and associated costs of an Excel package for the SID software within a budget of £50.

With no further business to conduct the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20:32

SIGNED: _____

Chairman - Alconbury Weston Parish Council

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County and District Councillors report April 2021.

Alconbury Weston Parish Council Meeting – May 2021

COVID 19

The County Council would like to remind people that if they need help during this pandemic, they should go onto either the County or District website's or phone the Countywide Hub on 034504552.

In the Alconbury, Stukeleys & Brampton Area in the last seven days there have been 0-2 people tested positive for Covid 19 therefore the rate per 100,000 population is not applicable

The latest information I have on the Coronavirus in Huntingdonshire for the period from 27th April to 3rd May, is that there were 29 new cases over the last seven days which is a decrease of 3%. This equates to 17.4 cases per 100,000 of population. There were 0 deaths in the last seven days, which was within 28 days of a positive test.

The Combined Authority is setting up a Demand Responsive Transport Scheme for West Huntingdonshire, as it is now the authority in charge of Buses.

DRT is a totally flexible service so it does not have to stick to a specific timetable or route. Using either an App or a phone call, to the travel hub customers will be able to book a journey from a location of their choice. The technology will tell passengers where to wait at their virtual bus stop for pick up and drop off points. This makes it the perfect solution in Rural Areas where a normal bus service would struggle to reach the necessary passenger numbers to remain viable

I will be attending a meeting of the Combined Authority in May, regarding this new service as I get more information I will let the Parish know. I will also be asking how this will affect the existing 46A Service

The A428 dualling between the Black Cat Roundabout and the Caxton Gibbet is to go ahead

East West Rail has moved to its next stage of consultation the info can be found at <https://eastwestrail.co.uk/consultation> Which will run from the 31 March to 9 June 2021. The two favoured options involve a station north of Cambourne and the A428, with the line entering Cambridge through a new station Cambridge South near Addenbrookes and Bio Campus.

From Bedford to a new St Neots South Station, which would be located to the south of Little Barford. The line will run from Bedford to the south of Clapham and the north of Ravensden, Wilden before crossing just north of the Black Cat Roundabout and onto the new St Neots South Station. Between the new St Neots South station and the new Cambourne Station the route would follow to the north of the new A428 between the Black Cat and Caxton Gibbet

Since our last meeting I have met with Urban & Civics Engineer regarding the flooding of School Lane before Christmas along with David Fares and Charles Dalleywater from the Alconbury Flood Group

I also met with Bob Johnson & Debbie Hose from the Flood Group re the siting of the Flood Mobile which is coming to the village in May. The County Council have now agreed for the Mobile to be positioned in front of the Ford Gates for the day, as a consequence this route will be closed for the day. The County Council has also agreed to waive the Highway Closure costs as this is a public event for the village

Maritime were granted permission for their new office/welfare building. Despite the agent for Maritime agreeing to a Traffic Plan for Construction traffic the District Council's Planners would not

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agree to it. As they said it was unenforceable. I still believe it would have been a goodwill gesture on part of Maritime.

Due to the forthcoming Local elections there has been virtually no meetings at both councils due to the councils being in purdah.

I hope to be back with you next month as your County Councillor. The result for the County Council elections will be known on Friday afternoon of the 7th May.

If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact me

Kind regards

Ian

Cllr Ian Gardener

County & District Councillor for Alconbury & Kimbolton

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