

**ALCONBURY WESTON PARISH COUNCIL**

[www.alconburywestonparish-pc.gov.uk](http://www.alconburywestonparish-pc.gov.uk)

**Parish Clerk: Louise Clowery**

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**Minutes of Alconbury Weston Parish Council meeting held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at Alconbury Sports & Social Club, Alconbury PE28 4EX at 7.00 pm.**

**Councillors present:** Councillor A. Stone, Councillor N. Morton, Councillor M. Mobius, Councillor J. Baker, Councillor P. Baker, Councillor M. Waring.

**Also present:** Mrs. L. Clowery (Clerk) **Members of the public:** 0

**103.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Councillor D. Wheatley, Councillor I. Gardener

**104.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests, as set out in Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011 and the nature of those interests relating to any Agenda item. – None received

**105.0 PLANNING**

**105.1** To resolve to submit comments on applications where appropriate:

- **REF:** CCC/23/108/VAR

**Proposal:** Waste Transfer Station and Recycling Facility with existing skip hire depot, outside storage, skip lorry parking, offices, maintenance building, aggregate storage and distribution

**Address:** VAR Waste Transfer Station, Stangate Park, Alconbury Weston

Comments – It was noted that the new opening times should only see a few extra movements from the larger vehicles in the area due to the opening times of most of the surrounding businesses.

Decision – It was agreed that if there were no comments received from the residents of the area which will be most affected by this application should it be approved, then the parish would neither support, nor object to the application.

**Proposer** – Councillor M. Waring, **Seconder** – Councillor M. Mobius

**105.2** To receive an update on previous applications:

- 22/02361/TRCA - Land North Of 13 North Road Alconbury Weston – TPO granted.
- 23/0111LH/CLED – Vinegar Hill – Wrong application number noted, this should be 23/0174/FUL, there is no decision on this application to date.
- 23/01138/CLED - SJH-All Plant Limited – To also discuss the size of the traffic using the site approach and the impact on the village. It was noted that the license had been refused in October due to no evidence of continual use for the plant business for 10 years. This should be a note for future applications should they be received. Councillor P Baker agreed to draft a letter to planning so that there is a record of the parishes findings.

**105.3** To track applications raised with the enforcement team.

- 48 North Road (land at the junction of North Road and Buckworth Road – This can now be removed.
- Buckworth Lodge, Buckworth Road – No update since April, will raise with Councillor I. Gardener.
- Land at the top of Vinegar Hill – No further update
- Agricultural store at the top of Vinegar Hill – Councillor N. Morton will follow up with the enforcement team on this.
- 50 Hamerton Road – There has been no response. Councillor N. Morton will follow up on this.

**106.0 MINUTES**

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023

**107.0 REPORT FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR** – No representation at this meeting.

**108.0 THE ALCONBURY BROOK FLOOD GROUP (TABFG)**

**108.1** To note TABFG report from the 27<sup>th</sup> of October 2023, there was also a new report circulated today but not everyone has had chance to read it yet.

**108.2** Alconbury Weston Ford update – Highways confirmed that there is no money allocated in the budget for the Ford. It has been mentioned to consider closing the Ford and hand over responsibility and ownership to Highways. This remains an ongoing matter.

**108.3** To receive and resolve any other matters – No other matters were raised.

**109.0 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES AND RESOLVE ANY ACTIONS IDENTIFIED**

**109.1** Highways, Speedwatch and SID – Cllrs Stone, Morton

- SID Block graph data – Councillor A. Stone is working on individual graphs, so that all of the data does not need to be circulated.
- The Clerk is still to go through with the I.T. consultant to add the SID data to the website.
- The solar panel SID cannot be accessed for data currently. Morelock (supplier) working to remedy the glitch. The speedwatch SID is faulty and Cllr Stone will return for repair. Until the equipment is returned, we will borrow Alconbury's-the equipment from Alconbury.
- Councillor A. Stone has written to the police regarding the high speeds recorded from the SID data in North Road and awaits a response. noted in the first session but is yet to receive a response.
- LHI Bid progress report – It was asked what improvements to the village could be made in an attempt to slow down the traffic.

Suggestions made:

Removal of the speed bumps on Hamerton Road.

Zebra crossing, but it was noted that we don't have enough footfall for this to be a viable option.

Installation of Chicanes

The Clerk suggested that Councillor Stone meet with the Highways officer to discuss viable options before we submit our application.

**109.2 Play area** –

- Update on the works raised at the last meeting. No change. It was asked if the bushes have been cut back. Councillor J. Baker will check and report back at the next meeting.
- Approval of inspection – Cllr J. Baker – No inspection has been completed yet.

**109.3 Play Park land** – Cllr Morton provided an update so far:

There is an original conveyancing document that has been found which needs to be registered. The approximate cost so far is £300-400.

The other piece of land is still to be determined as to the owner. Councillor Morton will continue to look into this. Our next options are to complete an FR1 form which will incur legal expenses or to contact the previous owner to see if they could confirm who owns the land now.

**109.4** Parish Trees – Cllr Morton has contacted HDC Arboriculture Officer for an update on the TPO's in June, July and October and is yet to receive a response.

**109.5** Weeds – ePetition, individual signatures – This can now be removed as the deadline has gone and this was raised in the last meeting.

**109.6** Village Maintenance

- Water pump update – outside old butchers – The handyman and Councillor Stone met at both areas and the water pumps posts are all rotten. It was suggested to repair with composite wood, but this was not well received. If the new posts are treated, then they should last for a long time.

- Noticeboard repairs – There is one that just needs cleaning. The other one needs a hard backing to be added, with possibly two layers. The backing is being sourced.

The quotes were quite high, and it was asked if he could give a split quotation for his day rate and materials for consideration.

**Proposer -** Councillor M. Mobius **Seconder –** Councillor P. Baker

#### 109.7 Communication with parishioners – Cllr Stone, Wheatley

- Facebook page update – There has been a flurry of new members joining which is encouraging. Councillor Wheatley continues to add new posts to the page
- Parish pump update – Councillor Stone asked if anyone would like to volunteer to write the next article or to suggest any topics to write on.
- Website update – SID Data – As previously mentioned the Clerk is working with the I.T. consultant on adding all of the current and historical data to the website for all to view.

### 110.0 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTION LEVY (CIL) PAYMENT

To discuss options for the next CIL payment project

- Lectern – to include a “you are here” locator with points of interest, footpaths, bridges and other historical items.
- Social Prescriber – There is a delay on the update for this project.
- Flagpole – Need a quote and location – Questions were raised whether this was a good idea and where it would be placed.
- Astro turf - Area to be determined. This was given as a suggestion as the children say that the current grassed area is too long to play football. It was asked if the grass could be cut more frequently.
- Memorial bench – It was suggested that one be installed by the Brook facing the memorial.

### 111.0 20mph Zone application

To discuss the application ahead of the January deadline.

Action plan – There were mixed views on applying at this stage. There has not been any communication with the residents to get a view on whether this would be supported. Therefore, it was agreed to not submit an application now and to concentrate our efforts on the speed reduction improvements for now.

### 112.0 Budget and Precept

**112.1** To agree and approve the precept for 2024//25. With the inflation peeking to 5% this year and we are seeing the cost of living affect the Parish it was suggested that the precept be raised to a similar level so that we don’t experience the big hike that has happened over the last couple of years with the last year remaining flat. Councillor Waring proposed that we increase the precept by 4.5% and all councillors were in agreement.

**Proposer –** Councillor M. Waring, **Seconder –** Councillor P. Baker

**112.2** To agree and approve the budget for 2024/25 With the increase in meetings to monthly and an additional 3 hours added to the Clerk’s hours it was agreed that the figures need adjusting accordingly. With this in mind it was decided that the budget will be represented in January for final approval.

### 113.0 ALCONBURY WESTON PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

To receive update and resolve actions – Councillor Waring apologised for his absence, but he has been unwell, and this has had a delay on proceeding with the proposal.

### 114.0 ORDERS FOR PAYMENT

Resolve October/November 2023 payments:

L. Clowery	Clerk’s salary November 2023	£232.50
HMRC	Clerk’s Tax - November 2023	£58.20

L.Clowery	Clerk's expenses	£28.28
Drax	Unmetered street lighting	£9.56
A. Brown	Backpay for salary increase as agreed by NALC	TBC
CAPALC	Code of Conduct training from 12-05-21 for Councillor A.Stone. Invoice no: 2527	£40.00
CAPALC	Annual Conference	£50.00
Alconbury Flood Group Charity	Donation to the archaeological brief for the pond – Invoice no: 1005	500.00

## 115.0 FINANCE

**115.1** Monies received and bank reconciliation. No monies have been received. The bank reconciliation was presented.

## 116.0 Woolley Hill Fund Meeting

**116.1** To receive an update from the last Woolley Hill Fund meeting. There were several applications, namely additional sensors for the Alconbury Brook Flood Group, parking surface outside Easton Church, Alconbury Bowls club (new carpet), Buckworth Cricket Club - Connection to new sewage scheme. Alconbury Sports Field – new wheeled movable goalposts.

## 117.0 Magpas Helicopter

To discuss correspondence received regarding the Magpas Helicopter. There was a complaint received regarding the noise, location and timing of the helicopter. A meeting at the Magpas headquarters was arranged, which Councillors Stone & Gardener attended along with the resident who made the complaint. There were some improvements suggested and agreed to be implemented and then a follow up meeting will be held to discuss.

## 118.0 To accept notices and matters for the next agenda

Please note that no decisions can lawfully be made under this item. LGA 1972 s12 10(2) (b) states that the business must be specified.

- Magpas are turning their offices into a warm hub for anyone who would like to use.
- There are some speed limit signs in the village that are not visible due to the hedgerow. This has already been reported by Councillor Stone

Possible agenda items for next meeting

- Development @ Brampton Cross
- Christmas tree for 2024

As the meetings will now be held monthly Councillor Stone asked the councillors to email the Clerk with agenda items going forward, rather than await the prompt.

## 119.0 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 22<sup>ND</sup> January 2024, Alconbury Sports and Social Club

Meeting finished at 21.10pm.