



Aldworth Parish Council Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

Monday 7th January 2025, 7.30pm at Aldworth Village Hall
Minute ref: 005/070125/PCM

Members Present: Cllr. Kate Walters, Cllr. Ilona Herbent, Cllr. Bill Bennetts.
Members Absent: Cllr. Graham Rutter and Cllr. Coyle (WBC)
Officers Present: Mrs Faye Bates (Clerk & RFO)
MOP In Attendance: 0
Meeting Start Time: 19.30pm

	Action
Cllr. Walters welcomed all to the meeting and quorum was achieved.	
10 Minute Open session: No members of public in attendance	
Declaration of Interests: None. Apologies: Cllr. Rutter and Cllr. Coyle Minutes: The minutes of the November meeting were agreed. Clerk to pass printed copy to Cllr. Walters for signing.	Resolved
Councillor Coyle Update (emailed to the clerk before the meeting)	
Report of the West Berkshire Councillor January 2025 Bradfield College Road Closure As many of you are aware, the school have applied to close Ashampstead Road for 9 months in 2025 in a move which would cause considerable inconvenience to residents and financial distress to businesses. Cllr Ross Mackinnon (Cllr for Bradfield Ward) and I met with officers in December to discuss ways in which the disruption could be minimised and it is now thought possible to put in multi-way lights rather than have a full closure for the whole duration – we await more detailed plans from officers who are continuing to liaise with the college’s contractors. I have also asked for clarity as to whether HGVs could continue to use the route under multi-way lights. Dog Lane Defect This was the report of the officer in relation to this defect reported by Jean – it has hopefully now been rectified but if not please let me know! “Following your email and photos, I re-inspected the site on November 28th and found although there is no immediate hazard to road users, works to rectify the trench are required. Therefore I have raised a 28 day instruction to carry out localised permanent repairs over the full width of carriageway. Please be advised the repairs will require a road closure with a diversion and I would ask you to bear with us whilst this gets programmed. It would be advised the works should be completed within 1 working day. Once this has been programmed details can be found on one.network”.	
To approve the final budget for 2024/2025 and to approve the Precept Request for 2025/2026	
The up to date budget for this financial year was presented to the council and approved. The precept request for the financial year 2025-2026 was approved to be set at £13,500. There has been no increase on this from the previous year. Clerk to send the request form to WBC.	FB
Approve the standing order to the Village Hall Committee for the defib electric	
The standing order of £20.00 was approved, payment due on the 3 rd April 2025.	FB

Aldworth Parish Council Clerk – Faye Bates

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Matters Arising	
<p>Community Noticeboard: The clerk presented a quote and style of noticeboard to the council, which was approved. Clerk to liaise with the Village Hall Committee for their approval. Once the VHC have approved, clerk to order the new community noticeboard.</p>	FB
<p>Tree Survey: Clerk informed the council of a proposal from WBC regarding tree surveys, the quote for this was deemed as too high (up to £2000). Clerk to obtain one more quote from a private contractor for a tree survey. Once the quote has been received, clerk to book in the survey. One quote already received between £500 and £1000.</p>	FB
<p>Signage for Bell Lane: No further action required.</p>	
<p>WBC Local Plan Review: Main updates are housing sites proposed for Thatcham, Calcot and Pangbourne. The public consultation ends on the 31st January.</p>	
Ongoing projects update:	
<p>Access ramp to the village hall: Clerk has applied for a funding via South Western Railways Customer and Community Improvement fund, if successful we will be notified in April. Clerk to continue to seek funding.</p>	FB
<p>Land ownership map: Ongoing</p>	IH
<p>Parish plan: The plan was reviewed, most of the recommendations have been fulfilled. Any suggestions for a future plan refresh from members of the community are welcome, please email the clerk with any suggestions.</p>	
Planning:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 24/02630/HOUSE- Replacement garage at Downland Cottage. APC Responded on 28/12/24 NO OBJECTIONS ➤ 24/02233/HOUSE Erection of 3 bay timber frame oak garage with office at Old Barn, Haw Lane, Aldworth. APC NO OBJECTIONS. ➤ 24/01713/FUL The construction of a building to cover the existing cattle yard. Bower Farm, Bower Road, Aldworth, Reading, RG8 9TR. WBC GRANTED PERMISSION. 	
Matters for future consideration or suggestion cards from members of public:	
<p>Next agenda item: Information regarding the public works loan for the village hall and the community litter pick with refreshments being held on the 13th April at 9:30am.</p>	FB
<p>Two suggestions cards from the public both regarding the Kings Portrait. As in the November minutes the response is: Unfortunately the free scheme to provide portraits of His Majesty The King is now closed. We have been notified that portraits of The King and Queen and joint portraits of Their Majesties will be available commercially from Royal Images soon.</p>	

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