



Aldworth Parish Council

Members of Aldworth Parish Council – you are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of Aldworth Parish Council on **Monday 19th January 2026 at 7pm at Aldworth Village Hall**

Mel Taylor

Mel Taylor, Parish Clerk
13th January 2026

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence from Members of the Council.

2. Declarations of Interest

To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests or non-registerable interests by Members.

3. Pop-Up Library / Community Bookshelf

To receive a presentation from Elizabeth Beverley, West Berkshire Council's Libraries Manager and Councillor Nigel Foot on opportunities to host a Pop-Up Library or Community Bookshelf at Aldworth Village Hall, and **to consider** the proposal, costs and feedback from the Village Hall Committee.

4. Open Forum

- a. **To receive** questions or comments from members of the public.
- b. **To receive** an update from West Berkshire District Councillor Laura Coyle.
- c. **To receive** any suggestion cards from members of public.

5. Minutes of previous meeting

To approve the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 4th November 2025 as a true and accurate record.

6. Ongoing Matters

To receive and consider any updates regarding the following matters:

- i. Contribution towards aldworthvillage.org domain (Cllr Bennetts)
- ii. The Village Well ownership (Parish Clerk)
WBC Officers liaising internally to establish appropriate team. Cllr Coyle following up with Officers.
- iii. Recreation Ground bench repairs/replacements (Parish Clerk)
Condition report from Mike Buckle:
There are currently five benches at the Recreation Ground. One bench appears to be relatively new (dedicated in memory of Richard Wheeler). One bench is beyond repair, and a second is in very poor condition and considered unlikely to be viable for repair. The remaining two benches could potentially be retained, subject to sanding and re-coating; however, both are missing some back slats, which would need to be replaced separately. In summary, it is recommended that two benches be replaced and two be refurbished, subject to the availability of replacement slats.
A quotation for the works will be provided upon confirmation of how Council wishes to proceed.

- iv. Replacement Millenium Bench (Parish Clerk)
Delivered 9th December 2025.
- v. Aldworth footpath leaflet (Cllr Rutter)
- vi. Village Hall footpath enhancement (Parish Clerk)
Quote received [£22,633], funding proposal being written for submission to potential funders, including Greenham Trust / The Good Exchange and Chilterns National Landscape.
- vii. Ownership and responsibility for maintenance of gully between the church and highway
Cllr Coyle liaising with WBC Officers.
- viii. Introduction of 20mph zone
Online meeting with contractor, Cllr Coyle and Aldworth PC arranged for 2nd February 2026.
- ix. Co-ordination with neighbouring Parish Councils, Police and other agencies on rural crime issues
Parish Clerk has contacted Ashampstead, Yattendon, Hampstead Norreys and Compton Parish Councils to gauge interest in establishing a WhatsApp group. Ashampstead have added to the agenda for their meeting on 12th January 2026.

7. Finance

- i. **To confirm** the addition of Councillor Bill Bennetts as an account signatory with Unity Trust.
- ii. **To note** that Unity Trust's monthly bank charge will increase from £6.00 per month to £7.00 per month with effect from 1st February 2026.
- iii. **To note** a financial report for the period 1st April 2025 – 31st December 2025.
- iv. **To approve** the following payments since the last meeting:

Payee	Amount	Invoice Number & Date	Due Date	Paid	Description
Unity Trust	£6.00	074	31.10.2025	31.10.2025	Service charge October 2025
Unity Trust	£6.00	075	30.11.2025	30.11.2025	Service charge October 2025
Engraved Bench co uk	£433.00 (£360.83+VAT)	11167 11.11.2025	11.12.2025	02.12.2025	Millenium memorial bench
M Taylor	£616.56	n/a	30.11.2025	02.12.2025	Clerk's Salary for part-October and November 2025
G Rutter	£45.00	n/a	n/a	04.12.2025	Reimbursement for Craft activity for Christmas Party
F Bates	£134.40	n/a	31.12.2025	09.12.2025	[former] Clerk's Salary part-October 2025
TEEC	£223.20 (£186.00+VAT)	INV-5462 03.10.2025	02.11.2025	09.12.2025*	Email/website domain and hosting
Tactical Facilities Management	£10.96 (£9.13+VAT)	SI-4745 27.11.2025	27.12.2025	09.01.2026	Waste collection – November 2025
Tactical Facilities Management	£10.96 (£9.13+VAT)	SI-4868 21.12.2025	20.01.2026	09.01.2026	Waste collection – December 2025
M Taylor	£375.36	n/a	31.12.2025	09.01.2026	Clerk's Salary for December 2025

* query with invoice resolved early Dec, invoice reissued but dates not updated

8. The Well

Following a recently highlighted issue with notices being attached to The Well, **to consider** actions to prevent potential damage to this heritage asset.

9. WB081: Notice of claimed public footpath order: Westridge Green, Aldworth, West Berkshire RG8 9RJ

To receive notification from West Berkshire Council of a claimed public footpath order, following a request from Aldworth Parish Council in 2023. The Notice is currently open for public consultation until 2nd February 2026.

10. Tree Preservation Order 1089

To note that on 18th December 2025 West Berkshire Council confirmed a Tree Preservation Order on a Lime Tree at Glebe Cottage, Aldworth.

11. Community Litter Picking 2026

To confirm dates for community litter picking in 2026.

12. Planning

i. To consider the following planning application:

Application No.	Address	Details	Consultation deadline
25/02907/HOUSE	Whinwhistles	First-floor extension above garage, conversion of garage to habitable accommodation, additional windows and infill of open porch	27.01.2026

ii. To note the following planning updates since the last meeting (APC response and WBC determination correct at the time of publication of the agenda):

Application No.	Address	Details	APC response	WBC determination
25/02355/TPC	Aldworth Village Hall	Tree 5 – Beech – Crown reduction and crown lift to alleviate impact on playground and solar panels	Support	No Objection Raised
25/02332/TPC	Glebe Cottage	2 x Sycamore: Fell	No Objection	No Objection Raised
25/02657/HOUSE	Old Barn	Proposed outbuilding, to house swimming pool	Nil	Approved
25/02749/CERTP	Downland Cottage	Fitting solar panels to the roof	Not consulted	Awaited
25/02367/LBC	The Bell	Replacement of lower windows to the south elevation of the property with bespoke like for like windows	Nil	Awaited

13. Highways Matters

To note any forthcoming roadwork or highway notifications from West Berkshire Council.

14. Westridge Green

- i. To consider** a request for a salt bin at Westridge Green
- ii. To consider** repainting the gate to Westridge Green

15. IT Policy

To consider a draft IT Policy.

The Annual Return has been updated with Assertion 10, and the Parish Council is required to have an adopted IT Policy to provide a positive response on the AGAR.

16. Budget 2026/27

To review and adopt the 2026/27 budget, and **to confirm** the precept request for submission to West Berkshire Council.

17. Further questions from Members of public and items for the next agenda

To receive any further questions or comments from members of the public, and **to consider** items for the agenda for the next meeting.

18. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 16th March 2026, 7pm at Aldworth Village Hall.