

Following the Council’s decision to proceed with legal representation, a number of questions have been raised regarding the Council’s finances and communication. We hope the information shared below will answer the majority of those, but should you have any further questions please do reach out to the Parish Clerk (clerk@alderholtparishcouncil.gov.uk) and we’ll endeavour to answer them in due course.

The Council holds funds which are allocated to a number of projects around the village, and including the money earmarked to cover legal representation at the upcoming Planning Inquiry, the estimated allocation of funds currently stands at:

Project	Estimated Funds Allocated	Notes
Community Transport (Shuttle Bus)	£17,500	Funded for >2 years
Recreation Ground Pavilion	£15,000	Window & floor replacement
Allotment Path	£5,000	
Play Equipment	£26,500	
Big Alderholt Fete	£3,000	8 th June
Neighbourhood Plan	£4,000	Consultancy fees
Wireless Microphones	£3,000	Increase accessibility of APC meetings
Election Fund	£3,000	Should an election be required in 2024
Funds towards 2024/2025 Budget	£5,000	Precept < Budget
Planning Inquiry	£65,000	Legal & expert witness representation, including small contingency should the inquiry overrun.
Total Earmarked Reserves	£147,000	
General Reserves	£49,000	Held to cover any unforeseen expenses
Total	£196,000	

The decision to seek legal and expert witness representation was not taken lightly but the Council firmly believes it is a worthwhile investment in the village, strengthening Dorset Council’s defence of their initial rejection and ensuring the adverse impact to our Parish is represented.

All Council decisions are made at advertised meetings which the public are invited to attend – each of these meetings has time allocated to a public forum, where parishioners can ask questions of and raise issues to the Council. We would encourage you to attend these meetings if at all possible.