



Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Alderholt Parish Council held at 7pm on Monday 12th February 2024 in Alderholt Village Hall.

Present: Cllr A Hibberd (Chairman), Cllr A Butler, Cllr G Logan and Cllr D Tooke

In Attendance: 4 members of the public and Nicky Ashton, Parish Clerk.

21/24 Welcome from the Chairman:

Cllr Hibberd welcomed everyone to the meeting and pointed out emergency exits.

22/24 To receive and accept apologies for absence:

Apologies were received from Cllr S Butler and Cllr Emberson and Members **RESOLVED** to accept their reasons for absence.

23/24 To receive declarations of interest and/or consider the granting of dispensations:

There were no declarations of interest or granting of dispensation.

24/24 To confirm that the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 15th January 2023 are a correct record of that meeting:

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes as a correct record.

25/24 Chairman's Announcements:

Cllr Hibberd reminded everyone of the road closures due to take place and provided an update on the emergency road closure taking place on Ringwood Road.

26/24 To receive a written report from Dorset Councillor Dave Tooke:

Cllr Tooke's report is attached to these minutes.

27/24 Public Forum

A member of the public spoke to inform Members the new bus service went well on Tuesday and Wednesday and it was a shame it couldn't operate tomorrow due to road closure.

28/24 Committees and External Bodies Reports:

Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Logan

Cllr Logan thanked those who had completed the consultation. Any issues raised will be discussed at the next Neighbourhood Plan Committee meeting with a view to ratifying the consultation final version of the plan by the next Full Council meeting in March or April. There will then be another consultation (Regulation 16).

Community Transport – Cllr Logan

Cllr Logan confirmed the Tuesday and Wednesday service would not be taking place this week due to road closure but would be running again the following week. Dorset Community Transport (DCT) have confirmed all the details of the new services are now



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on their website including the timetable. They are intending to create a leaflet with all the details and will post out to registered users hopefully by end of the month.

29/24 Clerks Report:

Actions from previous meetings:

- Details of the new bus service has been added to the Council's website.
- The parts (caps and rotators) for the play equipment have been received and will now require fixing. Elite inspections have been asked to check the 4 shackles on the Activity Trail and to provide a quote to replace these. Elite have also been asked to look at the other minor maintenance issues raised in the annual play inspection.
- Dates for Alderholt Market have been released – it was confirmed the Council will attend.
- Our article was missed from the February edition of the Parish News which was an oversight and an apology has been received.

30/24 Finance – to discuss and agree the following:

- To approve the monthly payments as listed in the schedule (i):
Members **RESOLVED** to approve the payments.
- To delegate an authorised Cllr for online banking payments:
Members **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Hibberd as the authorised councillor for payments until the next meeting.
- To receive the Internal Auditor report for Qtr 3:
There were no issues identified in the report.
- To receive a quarterly budget review (Qtr 3) and bank reconciliation.
The Clerk updated Members on expenditure against budget and provided the bank reconciliation for Qtr 3. The Clerk advised Members that a designated Cllr should check and sign quarterly bank reconciliations as per Financial Regulation 2.2. Cllr Tooke volunteered to carry out the checks and Members **RESOLVED** to appoint him as the designated Cllr to carry out the checks.

31/24 To discuss Planning Appeal for P/OUT/2023/01166 and agree any actions – Cllr Logan:

Cllr Logan provided a report on the appeal process and the options available to the Council to make representation at the appeal. It is hoped the Neighbourhood Plan would be taken into consideration even though it has not yet been finalised. The two options available are either written representation or Rule 6 status which would involve having a barrister to represent the Council at the appeal along with expert witnesses. The potential costs for a barrister are £100k and £20k each for the witnesses. The Council would also need to check if Dudsbury win the appeal would the Council be liable for any of their costs. Due to the costs involved and the potential need for crowd funding to assist with these costs it was agreed the parishioners need to be informed and to seek their responses. Members **RESOLVED** to do Facebook post informing parishioners of the appeal and options available to the Council and to seek their responses prior to the 19th February when the Council will hold an extraordinary meeting to further discuss the



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options available to them and with input from parishioners will make a decision on which option to take. Members also **RESOLVED** to ask the planning consultant for the Neighbourhood Plan to assist with written representation as a Planning Witness and to approach her in seeking a suitable Transport Witness and to appoint Cllr Logan as the lead Cllr for the appeal process.

32/24 To agree a response to the Regulation 19 Consultation on the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan which includes the Midgham Farm site – Cllr Logan.

Consultation link:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations/hmwp-partial-update-regulation19>

Cllr Logan had prepared responses to the Consultation which were presented to Members. The Council does not agree with the policies being used to keep the site within the Minerals and Waste Plan. Members **RESOLVED** to approve the responses and the Clerk will forward them to Hampshire Council ensuring they acknowledge receipt.

33/24 To receive a report on the Hampshire Council's Future Services Consultation (part of the consultation is the future of Household Waste Recycling Centres including Somerley), and to agree any actions – Cllr Hibberd.

Consultation link: www.hants.gov.uk/future-services-consultation

Cllr Hibberd informed Members that Dorset Council pays £151,000 to Hampshire Council towards the running of the Somerley recycling centre. It is stated that no house should be more than 20 minutes from a recycling centre and more Dorset residents use the Somerley site than Hampshire residents. Members **RESOLVED** to approve Cllr Hibberd completing the survey on behalf of the Council and to approach both Verwood and Fordingbridge Council's to ascertain their views and ensure all Councils are responding in the same manner which is to disagree with a closure of the site.

34/24 To agree to purchase Cyber Security insurance at a cost of £300.16:

Members **RESOLVED** to purchase the insurance.

35/24 Recreation Ground - to discuss and agree any actions regarding the following:

- Insurance claim for a burst pipe:
Members **RESOLVED** to pay the invoices for the burst pipe at a total of £356.62 rather than pursuing an insurance claim.
- To provide financial assistance for window and door replacements:
Since the issuing of the agenda a further list of potential works has been passed to the Council and it was agreed to consider all the works at the next meeting to see what assistance could be provided which also allows time for more quotations to be obtained.
- To hold a meeting with ARA representatives:
Members **RESOLVED** to hold a meeting to discuss the annual running cost payments.

36/24 Play Equipment – to discuss and agree the following:

- To accept the quotation of £180.00 for quarterly inspections for 2024/2025:



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Members **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation.

- To accept the quotation from Caloo to carry out an inspection and maintenance check of the gym equipment at a cost of £445.00:

Members **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation.

37/24 To receive a report on further quotations received for the allotment path and recent site visits and to agree any actions:

The Clerk updated Members on the two recent site visits. One of the contractors attending the site stated the plastic grass matting would work but would require a 9inch base. The other contractor was asked to quote for a concrete path, he also stated a 9inch base would be required but did not believe this would be the best type of surfacing and instead suggested gravel and a drainage solution. Currently awaiting the quotations. Members **RESOLVED** to ask the Allotment Association to seek feedback from the allotment holders on a pathing solution and a meeting be held between the Association and the Council's allotment representatives to agree a way forward and present a proposal to the Council.

38/24 To receive an update regarding the purchase of wireless microphones for the village hall and agree any actions – Cllr A Butler and Cllr Emberson:

Cllr Butler gave an update, but further information is required before a decision can be made. The costs could be in the region of £7 - £8k. It was agreed to add an agenda item to the March meeting to discuss again when more information will be available.

39/24 To discuss arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting:

Members **RESOLVED** to hold the meeting on Monday 29th April and to contact local organisations to ask if they would like to do a presentation. The meeting to be advertised on the Council's Facebook page as well as the website.

40/24 To adopt the following:

- Amended Standing Orders:
Members **RESOLVED** to adopt the amended Standing Orders.
- Amended Complaints Policy:
Members **RESOLVED** to adopt the amended Complaints Policy.
- Vexatious Complaints Policy:
Members **RESOLVED** to adopt the Vexatious Complaints Policy.

41/24 To receive information regarding the Buckingham Palace Garden Party on 8th May 2024 and to discuss nominations.

Members **RESOLVED** not to submit any nominations.

With the meeting reaching its time limit of 2hrs Members RESOLVED to extend the time limit to address the final two agenda items.

42/24 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC- In accordance with Standing Order 3(d) to RESOLVE that in view of the confidential nature of the following business items the press and public be excluded from the meeting pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as amended by the local Government Act 1972 s.100):



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Members **RESOLVED** to exclude the members of the public present from the rest of the meeting.

43/24 To discuss a complaint received and to review a previous Council decision in accordance with Standing Order 7a:

Members **RESOLVED** that Cllrs A Butler and Cllr Tooke meet with the complainant to discuss the issues raised.

44/24 To receive a report on a letter addressed to the Council regarding legal proceedings:

The Clerk informed Members of a letter received which gave details of possible legal proceedings being taken (these proceedings do not involve the Council).

Date of next meeting – Monday 11th March 2024

With no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.22pm.

(i) Schedule of Monthly Payments for Approval

Payable To	Amount	VAT	Total	Details
Dorset Planning Consultant Ltd	1411.70	282.34	1694.04	Neighbourhood Plan Project Work Fee
Dorset Council	1861.32	0.00	1861.32	Staffing Costs
ICO	35.00	0.00	35.00	Annual Fee
Assist IT	139.21	27.84	167.05	IT Support
Assist IT	999.01	199.80	1198.81	Annual Premium
Assist IT	139.21	27.84	167.05	IT Support
Fair Account	280.00	0.00	280.00	Internal Audit Services