



Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Alderholt Parish Council held at 7pm on Monday 8th April 2024 in Alderholt Village Hall.

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

In Attendance: 7 members of the public and Kerry Brooker, Assistant Parish Clerk.

78.24 Welcome from the Chairman:

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and pointed out emergency exits.

79.24 To receive and accept apologies for absence:

Apologies were accepted from Cllr S Emberson

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

There were no declarations of interest or granting of dispensation.

81.24 To confirm that the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 11th March 2023, are a correct record of that meeting:

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

82.24 Chairman's Announcements.

The Chairman thanked all Councillors past and present for their work during this administration.

83.24 To receive a written report from Dorset Councillor Dave Tooke:

Cllr Tooke's report is attached to these minutes.

84.24 Public Forum

A member of the public spoke to query Cllr Tooke's report about the Local Plan being delayed and asked how that will impact on the Alderholt Meadows Appeal. Cllr Logan advised that it's not an ideal situation but that we will need to ensure our defence is robustly linked to current policies.

85.24 To receive and update from the Scouts regarding the development of the site

Representatives of the 1st Alderholt Scout Group gave a short presentation outlining their plans for the site.

- A project team consisting of 7 volunteers has been set up.
- A plan of the site was handed out to Councillors for information.
- Work has already started on the upper level of the site and work will commence on the lower levels as the weather improves. Plans include a temporary portaloos, a fire pit area, raised planters and seating/picnic areas. Screening of the road at the old gate was discussed and the Scouts were advised that planning permission may need to be sought for this.
- Dates for use of the site already being built into the programme for use by the village Scouts, Cubs and Guides groups.
- Naming Competition underway



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- Funding has been secured from the Scouting Association at the recent Executive Meeting and the Scouts will be applying the Alderholt Community Fund later in the summer.
- Risk assessments have been/will be carried out for use of the industrial strimmer and for the fire pit area
- Scouts rely on goodwill and volunteers and welcome any new volunteers
- Representatives thanked the Parish Council for allowing the use of the land for Scouting activities.

86.24 Committees and External Bodies Reports:

Neighbourhood Plan Committee - Cllr Logan

Reported on at agenda item 89.24

87.24 Clerks Report:

- The Chapel kindly cleared the area around the Reading Room and the footpaths unable to clean play equipment as not enough volunteers. An email has been sent to thank them.
- There will not be a Parish Council election as it is uncontested. 9 candidates for 9 seats. Details available on Dorset for You website and on the PC website/noticeboard.

Actions from last meeting:

- as you are aware the crowdfunding donation amount was not amended but the date was extended.
- The statement to confirm the Council's position with regards to having legal representation at the Inquiry was posted on both the website and FB page.
- The Council has now been signed up to the Civility and Respect Pledge.
- Asset Register – it does appear that both items mentioned at the last meeting have been disposed of and the register has been amended accordingly.
- An order for the replacement windows and doors for the pavilion at the recreation ground has been submitted.
- Assist IT has been contacted about the router to ascertain what testing can be carried out to identify if the router is the actual cause of the issues.

88.24 Finance – to discuss and agree the following:

- To approve the monthly payments as listed in the schedule (i):
- To receive the monthly bank reconciliations

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the payments/bank reconciliation and to appoint Cllr G Logan as the authorised councillor for payments until the next meeting.

89.24 Neighbourhood Plan – to discuss and agree the following:

- Members **RESOLVED** to agree the submission of the revised Neighbourhood Plan and supporting documents, including any amendments that may be required in relation to the finalisation of the SEA and HRA (delegated to the Chairman to agree).
- Members **RESOLVED** to delegate the agreement of Examiner and response to Examination questions to the Neighbourhood Plan Committee.



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- Cllr Logan advised that the End of year report had been submitted and accepted for the Locality Grant.
- Members and members of the public forum thanked Cllr Logan for her sterling work on the Neighbourhood Plan thus far.

90.24 To receive an update on actions taken regarding the Planning Appeal for P/OUT/2023/01166 including an update on donations received and to agree if any further actions are required:

The Crowdfunding page reached its target of £ 30,000 on 21st March and thanks were given to residents for their support.

Currently the Parish Council are liaising with Action 4 Alderholt and the Barrister to ensure we maximise an efficient inquiry for the benefit of the village, and with neighbouring parishes to ensure support.

Members thanked Cllr Logan and the Parish Clerk, Nicky Ashton for all their hard work and efforts to coordinate the various representatives and ensuring that the Council is following due process.

91.24 Play Equipment – to discuss and agree the following:

- Members **RESOLVED** to agree to approve a quotation from Elite Playgrounds to carry out repair works to the activity trail and MUGA.
- Members **RESOLVED** to agree Caloo's Operational Inspection Report and to ensure any actions are carried out
- Members **RESOLVED** to agree that Cllrs Hibberd and Emberson will carry out the installation of the missing bolt caps and replacement rotators.

92.24 To agree attendance at the next Councillor Surgery on Saturday 20th April

Members **RESOLVED** to agree that Cllr Tooke would attend the April Councillor Surgery

93.24 To receive an update on the allotment path and agree any actions.

Members **RESOLVED** to defer this item to the May meeting to allow for feedback to be received from allotment tenants

94.24 To receive an update on the requested payment to the ARA for the indexation payment of the annual running costs and to agree any actions.

Members **RESOLVED** to defer this item to the May meeting to allow the Clerk time to check the new figures received.

With no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.55pm.

Date of next meeting – Monday 13th May 2024 Annual Parish Council Meeting



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(i) Schedule of Monthly Payments for Approval

Payable To	Amount	VAT	Total	Details
Dorset Planning Consultant Ltd	1387.40	277.48	1664.88	Neighbourhood Plan Project Work Fee
Assist IT	139.21	27.84	167.05	IT Support
Ealing Community Transport	2000.00	0.00	2000.00	Community Bus Service Contribution
Ealing Community Transport	875.00	0.00	875.00	Contribution to PlusBus Shuttle for February and March
Alderholt Recreation Association	656.67	0.00	656.67	Reimbursement of Insurance Premium
Alderholt Parish News	14.00	0.00	14.00	News article
Alderholt Village Hall	2619.00	0.00	2619.00	Office Rental 1 st March to 31 st August
Caloo	445.00	89.00	534.00	Operational Inspection and Maintenance
European Administration Limited T/A The Barrister Group	18,133.33	3,626.67	21,760.00	Barrister Fee (initial payment)
European Administration Limited T/A The Barrister Group	18,133.33	3,626.67	21,760.00	Barrister Fee (2nd payment)
Receipts				
Alderholt Meadows Appeal	£29490.38	0.00	£29490.38	Donations

240408 Dorset Councillor Report for Alderholt Parish Council

Local Plan

Dorset Council began work on a Local Plan in June 2019.

Nearly 5 years later, at Cabinet on 12 March 2024 we were told that: "Given the stage that the Dorset Council Local Plan had reached, and the work required to resolve the identified issues, it was unlikely that the Council would be in the position to submit a completed local plan by 30 June 2025", which is the government deadline for "old style" plans to be completed. The meeting was told "that it would be necessary to move across to the new planning-making system and to start preparing a new-style local plan in November 2024".

This new plan-making system involves a new 30 Month process, so it seems Dorset will not have a Local Plan in place until mid-2027

The current development plans are the 2002 East Dorset Local Plan, and the 2014 Christchurch and East Dorset Core Strategy. In 2017 the Government published a requirement that Local Plans be reviewed every 5 years, making those current Local Plans out of date.

The inability to produce a Local Plan is what gives rise to speculative applications, under Paragraph 11(d) of the National Planning Policy Framework December 2023 which says: "where there are no relevant development plan policies, or the policies which are most important for determining the application are out-of-date, **granting permission** unless:

- i. the application of policies in this Framework that protect areas or assets of particular importance provides a clear reason for refusing the development proposed; or



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ii. any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole.

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