



## Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Alderholt Parish Council held at 7pm on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026 in the Committee Room at Alderholt Village Hall.

**Present:** Cllr A Butler, Cllr S Butler, Cllr S Emberson, Cllr A Hibberd, Cllr G Logan, Cllr M Smethers and Cllr D Tooke

**In Attendance:** Nicky Ashton (Parish Clerk) and 2 members of the public

**80/26 To Elect a Chairman for 2026/2027**

Members **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr A Butler as Chairman and the Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed.

**81/26 To Elect a Vice Chairman for 2026/2027:**

Members **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr M Smethers as Vice Chairman.

**82/26 To receive and accept apologies for absence:**

There were no absences.

**83/26 To receive declarations of interest and/or consider the granting of dispensations:**

There were no declarations of interest or dispensation requests.

**84/26 To confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 are a correct record of that meeting:**

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

**85/26 To receive and note the minutes of the last Planning Committee meeting:**

The minutes were received and noted.

**86/26 Public Forum:**

There were no questions or statements from the members of the public.

**87/26 Representative Reports:**

Alderholt Village Hall – Cllr Logan reported on a recent hall committee meeting she attended. A new committee member has been appointed. Kitchen works are dependent on the outcome of grant applications submitted.

ARA Meeting – Cllr Smethers reported on a special meeting of the ARA which saw new attendees and the secretary and treasurer are currently working to increase management committee involvement in the running of the recreation ground.

Dorset Council Community Conversation Event – Cllr A Butler gave a report on a recent Dorset Council event attended with the Clerk. The event involved discussions regarding proposed grouping of Dorset areas for Community Conversation events and how and when the events should run locally.

Cllr Tooke issued his Dorset Councillor report to Cllrs prior to the meeting which is attached to these minutes.

**88/26 Clerks Report:**

- Caloo have confirmed they will be carrying out a site visit tomorrow to inspect the grips on the Shoulder Press as highlighted in the play inspection report.
- Last CIL payment has been received as listed in the schedule of payments and receipts.
- Issue of in-planting along boundary with Pennyfarthings site raised with them and they in-planting will be carried out in the next planting season Oct/Nov 26.



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- Had a site meeting outside St James School with Dorset Council regarding the proposed build out on the road. Due to have a site meeting on Daggons Road.
- Inspectors report for the Hampshire and Minerals Waste Plan has now been publicised. Includes Main Modifications recommended for the Midgham Farm site.
- Internal Audit taking place next Monday.
- Fete Meeting taking place on Wednesday.
- Another Planning and Building Control Meeting due to take place on Tuesday 16th June will include updates on the Dorset Local Plan, the Dorset Design Code, planning decision-making, the Future Homes Standard and the Building Safety Levy.
- Parish Council copied into an email sent by a resident to the Dorset Council Planning Officer which raises issues regarding hedge removal and the drainage ditch at the Penny Farthings development site.

### **89/26 To Review and Make Appointments for the Standing Committees and Working Parties as follows:**

- To consider and review the Terms of Reference for the Committees and Working Parties: Members **RESOLVED** to readopt the Terms of Reference.
- To consider and approve nominations for membership of the Committees and Working Parties:
  - i. Planning Committee (Standing Committee):  
Members **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr A Butler, Cllr S Butler, Cllr Emberson, Cllr Hibberd and Cllr Logan.
  - ii. Finance Committee (Standing Committee):  
Members **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr S Butler, Cllr Hibberd, Cllr Logan, Cllr Smethers and Cllr Tooke.
  - iii. Staffing Committee (Standing Committee):  
Members **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr S Butler, Cllr Emberson, Cllr Hibberd and Cllr Logan.
  - iv. Green Spaces Working Party:  
Members **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr A Butler, Cllr S Butler, Cllr Emberson and Cllr Hibberd.
  - v. Fete Working Party:  
Members **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr A Butler, Cllr Emberson, Cllr Hibberd and Cllr Logan.
- To elect a Chairman for each Standing Committee.  
Members **RESOLVED** to appoint the following Chairman for each committee:
  - Finance – Cllr Smethers
  - Planning – Cllr Logan
  - Staffing – Cllr Emberson

**Cllr Tooke left the meeting.**

### **90/26 To review delegation arrangements:**

The current delegation arrangements were reviewed and approved.

### **91/26 To Consider and Approve Nominations for Parish Council Representatives:**

- Village Hall Management Committee (1):  
Members **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Logan.
- Recreation Association Committee (3):  
Members **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr S Butler, Cllr Emberson and Cllr Smethers.
- Scouts Liaison (1):



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Members **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Emberson.

- Plumley Wood Liaison (2):  
Members **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr A Butler and Cllr Logan.
- DAPTC (Eastern Area Committee) (2):  
Members **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Hibberd and Cllr Logan.

### **92/26 To agree Councillor Responsibilities for 2026/2027:**

Members **RESOLVED** to appoint the responsibilities as follows:

- Playground/Gym Equipment and Tree Inspections (2) – Clerk and Cllr A Butler
- Allotments (2) – Cllr A Hibberd and Cllr G Logan
- Monitoring of Public Rights of Way (2) (responsibility of Dorset Council and Landowners) – Cllr A Butler and Cllr S Emberson
- Grit Bins/Winter Maintenance (1) – Cllr A Hibberd
- Community Transport (1) – Cllr G Logan
- Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) (2) – Cllr A Hibberd and Cllr S Butler
- War Memorial (1) – Cllr A Hibberd
- Land at Sandleheath Road (1) – Cllr A Hibberd

### **93/26 To review and approve Standing Orders and Financial Regulations:**

Members **RESOLVED** to readopt both documents.

### **94/26 To review the Council's complaint procedures:**

Members **RESOLVED** to readopt both complaint procedures.

### **95/26 To approve meeting dates and venues for 2026/2027:**

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the proposed dates and venues apart from the June Finance meeting which is to be amended.

### **96/26 To review and agree the Council's annual membership of DAPTC And NALC and to approve the Clerk's annual membership of SLCC:**

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the annual memberships for the current financial year and to ensure they are reviewed when budget discussions take place for 2027/2028.

### **97/26 To resolve to appoint a Councillor to conduct a quarterly review of the financial records in conjunction with the Parish Clerk/RFO in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations:**

Members **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr A Butler.

### **98/26 To review and approve the payment of telephone, broadband, waste collection, Information Commissioner and allotment water payments by direct debit in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations:**

Members **RESOLVED** to approve payments by direct debit.

### **99/26 To review and approve the use of BACS to make payments in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations:**

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the use of BACS.

### **100/26 Finance – to discuss and agree the following:**

- To approve the monthly payments as listed in the schedule (i) and agree to delegate an authorised Cllr for online banking payments:



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Members **RESOLVED** to approve the payments and Cllr S Butler was appointed as the authorised councillor for payments until the next meeting.

- To receive the monthly bank reconciliation for April:  
Members received and approved the bank reconciliation.

### **101/26 To approve the response to the consultation launched on review of local election boundaries in Dorset:**

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the proposed response with minor adjustments to wording relating to the distance to Cranborne and Wimborne.

### **102/26 To consider a request received regarding the installation of astro turf surfacing at the MUGA:**

It was agreed that installing Astro Turf surfacing was not viable due to the cost, practicality, and ongoing maintenance requirements.

### **103/26 To receive a report on the recent Atlas Towers and Dorset Council meeting regarding the building of a shareable telecoms mast in the area to assist with mobile phone coverage (at no cost to the Parish Council) and to agree any actions:**

A report and slides from the meeting were noted. Concerns were raised that the proposed site for the mast would not cover the entire village meaning many residents would not benefit from its installation. It was agreed to raise this concern and to enquire if other sites have been considered such as the Rifle Range.

### **104/26 To receive an update regarding the request for speeding tubes to be placed on Ringwood Road and to agree any actions and to also consider other concerns raised by residents regarding speeding issues on other roads in the village:**

Dorset Council has confirmed the speeding tube was installed for a two week period and the data now needs to be processed and validated before being issued. Concerns were raised regarding what speed check device was actually installed and the location. It was agreed that if the device was not installed in the agreed location to request it be installed again where originally requested. With regard to the other concerns raised, it was agreed to place a link on both the Council's website and Facebook page to the Dorset Council website, where near misses can be reported and to encourage residents to report any incidents. It was also agreed to obtain statistics from the SIDs to assess speeding levels and to enquire if residents would be happy to establish a Community Speedwatch group.

### **105/26 To receive an update regarding tree works required as identified in the tree inspection reports and to agree any actions:**

Clerk reported on the current situation regarding the tree works. Due to lack of evidence confirming ownership of the trees on the AHRG boundary adjoining the neighbouring agricultural field, members **RESOLVED** that the Council would pay for the works on this occasion.

It was agreed that further research should be undertaken to establish ownership and that the neighbouring landowner be advised that this payment does not set a precedent for any future works.

### **106/26 To review the latest play inspection report and to agree any actions:**

It was agreed to obtain quotes for tasks identified in the report which includes the rubbing down and repainting of play equipment and works to the MUGA backboards.



**Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Alderholt Parish Council held at 7pm on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026 in the Committee Room at Alderholt Village Hall.**

**(i) Schedule of Monthly Payments for Approval**

| <b>Payable To</b>            | <b>Amount</b> | <b>VAT</b> | <b>Total</b> | <b>Details</b>  |
|------------------------------|---------------|------------|--------------|---|
| Caloo Ltd                    | 8693.00       | 1738.60    | 10,431.60    | Replacement Gym Equipment   |
| DAPTC Ltd                    | 1331.72       | 0.00       | 1,331.72     | DAPTC and NALC Annual Membership Fee                              |
| Elite Playground Inspections | 77.50         | 15.50      | 93.00        | Quarterly Play Inspection   |
| G Logan                      | 92.70         | 0.00       | 92.70        | Reimbursement for Payment of Goods to Maintain the Allotment Path |
| Staffing Costs               | 5232.81       | 0.00       | 5,232.81     | April Staffing Costs  |
| <b>Receipts</b>              |               |            |              |   |
| HMRC                         |               |            | 1,043.52     | VAT Refund  |
| Dorset Council               |               |            | 11,176.89    | CIL Monies  |
| Dorset Council               |               |            | 53,692.61    | 1st Precept Instalment  |

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### 260511 Dorset Councillor's Report Alderholt PC

Over the past month Dorset Council has continued its normal governance and service delivery activity, with Full Council meeting in April and Cabinet meetings held and scheduled to progress agreed budget and policy priorities. The Annual Meeting will be held this coming Thursday, where the Leader is expected to be re-elected along with the Chair and Vice Chair. Cabinet will be appointed by the Leader.

A key announcement has been the availability of community grant funding, aimed at supporting local facilities such as village halls and community buildings. Parish councils and local groups are encouraged to consider potential bids where there is local need or opportunity.

#### [Could funding help your community project reach the next level? - Dorset Council](#)

Dorset Council has also confirmed the continuation of crisis and resilience support for residents, following the introduction of a new national funding framework. This is intended to ensure there is no gap in assistance for households facing financial hardship.

On highways and transport, the council is progressing a number of safety trials and maintenance programmes across the county, alongside its ongoing programme of road, footway and infrastructure works.

Working with partner organisations, Dorset Council and the Environment Agency have held public drop-in events for residents affected by winter flooding, focusing on resilience, recovery support and future preparedness.

Environmental and climate priorities remain active, including promotion of electric vehicle awareness events and continued work on community resilience initiatives.

Dorset Council continues to determine planning applications under existing local plan policies, with decisions taken either by officers or planning committees as appropriate. Engagement with parish councils is ongoing through the Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils and established liaison arrangements.

Councillors may be aware that all members of Cranborne Council bar one (Jonny Stirling) have resigned along with the Clerk. Notice of Casual Vacancies has been given and will result in either an election if called or Co-Option with the aid of Temporary Councillors appointed by Dorset Council to ensure a quorum is available.

Overall, Dorset Council activity over the past month has focused on community support, infrastructure, environmental resilience and maintaining effective local governance.