

## ALVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022, 7.30 p.m. at Alvington Memorial Hall**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Alan Haslam (Chairman)  
 Cllr Richard Heys (Vice-Chair)  
 Cllr Gail Thompson  
 Cllr Nick Powell  
 Cllr Nathan Burlton

**ATTENDING:** Meg Humphries (Clerk)  
 John Wood  
 Chris Shill  
 Laraine George  
 Alec Davis  
 K Guest  
 M Harris  
 Chris McFarling (representative, FoDDC and GCC)

No/Ref	Item/Notes	Action
1. 117 21/22	<b>To receive apologies for absence.</b> None.	
2. 118 21/22	<b>To note any declarations of interest relating to the agenda.</b> None.	
3. 119 21/22	<b>To approve the accuracy of the draft minutes of the Full Council Meeting on 03.02.22.</b> Approved; signed by Cllr Heys, who chaired that meeting.  <i>It was agreed to move Item 12a up to this position to allow Mark Baker to update the meeting in person.</i>	
4. 120 21/22	<b>Woolaston Primary School proposed federation, presented by the Chair of Governors.</b> In his capacity as Chair of the Governors, Richard Heys gave an update, key points of which were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The school is considering forming a federation with Tutshill Primary School.</li> <li>• Over the last two years, the schools have been sharing a headteacher and some back-office functions and federating would formalise this.</li> <li>• The federation would result in a single governing body for both schools, bringing together diverse talents.</li> <li>• The schools will continue to have separate budgets, uniforms and visions.</li> <li>• It is hoped that the federation will improve the standard of provision and leadership and achieve more consistent improvement.</li> </ul>	
5. 121 21/22	<b>Public forum.</b> <b>Laraine George</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clanna Road development – crew vehicles sometimes block pavements. Cllr Haslam noted this for discussion with the developer/crew.</li> </ul> <b>Alec Davis</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asked whether the new double yellow lines will extend to outside Malt House Close. Cllr McFarling advised that this was not the case on the current plan</li> </ul>	

	<p>but that he would feed back this comment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asked for an update on the council contacting Cornerstone. Clerk advised that she was still seeking a response and would persist.</li> <li>• Raised flooding concerns for various houses including his own and Tudor Cottages, due to the sediment from the Clanna Road development.</li> <li>• The overgrown pavements on Sandford Hill have not yet been cut back.</li> <li>• A resident in Garlands Road ‘inherited’ two tall trees which are a safety concern to numerous residents; Two Rivers have refused to manage them. Clerk to contact Two Rivers.</li> <li>• Concerns over large vehicles (related to construction) on Clanna Road.</li> <li>• Various concerns with roads in other areas of the county/Monmouthshire.</li> </ul> <p>Cllr McFarling responded regarding the Clanna Road development site. He has been asking the Planning Enforcement team to visit but he doesn't think they've managed to get out to the site so far. He has also been discussing the situation with flooding engineers and the lead flooding engineer at GCC as to why there wasn't a pre-construction management plan, which would avoid things such as leaving soil exposed, to be eroded and brought down into the drains.</p> <p><b>John Wood:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The surface of Swan Hill is very poor. Cllr McFarling advised that this is on his list.</li> </ul> <p><b>Chris Shill:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commended all involved for the improved Sports Field car park.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>6.</b> <b>122</b> <b>21/22</b></p>	<p><b>To receive/note any reports from county and district councillors for the parish.</b></p> <p>Cllr Chris McFarling, the representative for both district and county councils, gave the following updates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Globe Inn parking difficulties: Highways confirm that residents putting out cones onto the highways isn't permitted. Chris's Highways Local Fund for 22-23 could deal with footpaths, surfacing, drains – he welcomes suggestions.</li> <li>• From the 2021/2 HLF, there is a week's lengthsman scheme available. The meeting asked, if possible, for the footpaths going out of the village each way to be given attention, Woolaston direction being the priority due to school footfall. Cllr McFarling will put in the request for this work.</li> <li>• Cllr McFarling can award grants under the Build Back Better Fund, for projects that enable communities to move on after Covid. Cllr McFarling is particularly keen on projects that serve younger people and/or that help look after the natural environment/address climate change.</li> <li>• At the latest county council meeting, the budget for 22/23 was approved, with two budget amendments, both proposed by Green Party: a) £45K for a biodiversity officer; b) £90K for a 'tip shop'.</li> <li>• FoDDC is putting out an annual call for sites for development. Cllr Heys mentioned the Cross Stores.</li> <li>• Event: 'Local Leaders for Climate Change' at Lydney Town Hall on Saturday 12/3. The event is a showcase of what's already taking place.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>7.</b> <b>123</b> <b>21/22</b></p>	<p><b>Planning.</b></p> <p><b>a) To consider P0167/22/FUL: Nupend House, Clanna Lane, Alvington, GL15 6BD: Erection of a single-storey rear extension and associated works.</b></p> <p>No objections.</p> <p><b>b) To receive any other planning updates. None.</b></p>	

<p>8. 124 21/22</p>	<p><b>Village.</b>  <b>a) To note updates on village/parish improvement matters.</b>  Contents of the meeting pack noted, with the following additional points:  <b>b) Housing needs.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Barbara Pond to be invited to a full council meeting; Clerk to organise.</li> </ul> <b>c) Platinum Jubilee event.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beacon-lighting event: Cllr Powell is looking into booking a musician and will enquire about booking the burger van that attended the fun day. Cllr Burlton suggested a raffle with items donated by craftspeople in the parish, which could include other things like a meal at the Globe etc – for a higher ticket price. Cllr Haslam to speak to John Rogers to ensure the tractor is free.</li> </ul> </p>	
<p>10. 125 21/22</p>	<p><b>Sports Field.</b>  <b>a) Pavilion: to receive any updates.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cllr Heys gave his sincere thanks to all volunteers who had worked on the sports field to date. The hedgerow is starting to go in, which will be thickened up by trees shortly too.</li> <li>The project is awaiting s106 payment from the Clanna Road developer – Cllr McFarling will ask FoDDC officers if this has been received from the developer.</li> <li>Discussions with the architect continue, with Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March being the next meeting.</li> <li>Cllr Heys is currently getting quotes for the laying of the pavilion's foundation.</li> </ul> <b>b) Events for 2022: any updates on the Jubilee celebrations and Summer Fun.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Fun Day organising committee will convene this month; anyone is welcome. The first meeting will be Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> March 7 pm at the Blacksmiths.</li> </ul> <b>c) Play equipment: to receive updates on repairs.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Garlands Road fence – this fell over in the storms; its repair is in progress</li> <li>Beacon – it was noted that a new pedestal will need to be considered when it is repositioned.</li> </ul> <b>d) To receive any other reports on the sports field.</b> None.  <b>a) To review the field hire charges.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The charges are £20 per team-sports session and £10 for 'light use' as determined by the council on a case-by-case basis. It was agreed to keep the charges the same for 2022/23.</li> </ul> </p>	
<p>11. 126 21/22</p>	<p><b>Churchyard.</b>  <b>a) To receive updates on any churchyard matters.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cllr Heys reported on the working party the previous weekend, which tidied up the churchyard. He gave thanks to the volunteers for clearing up dead trees and brambles. Two gravestones were uncovered. A local farmer has now trimmed the churchyard hedgerows as much as possible. There is still a large patch of brambles that is climbing up through a tree, plus various other tasks, so the work continues, but good progress is being made.</li> </ul> </p>	
<p>12. 127 21/22</p>	<p><b>Highways.</b>  <b>a) Pedestrian crossing: to receive any updates.</b>  <i>This item was taken early (in between items 3 and 4).</i>  Mark Baker (of MBC), a highways consultant, gave an update, of which a summary follows. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mark's current opinion (and that of the parish council) is that the best location for any new crossing is where the dropped kerbs are situated, and that the most beneficial type of crossing would be a zebra crossing, as this is</li> </ul> </p>	

	<p>likely to have a positive impact on speeds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposed crossing would require a variation of the Clanna development's Condition 10, or removal of the condition and then a replacement submission.</li> </ul> <p><b>b) To note any updates on Highways matters (see meeting pack).</b> Noted.</p>	
13. 128 21/22	<p><b>Finance.</b></p> <p><b>a) To approve the payment of invoices for March 2022.</b> Approved with the late addition of the payment for £972.00 to SWM for sports field car park gravel. The purchase of gravel was approved at the February meeting.</p> <p><b>b) To note the receipt of income received since the last meeting.</b> Noted.</p> <p><b>c) Online banking: to receive any updates.</b> Clerk to progress internet banking access for all.</p> <p><b>d) To note the 2021-22 Q3 Bank Reconciliation.</b> Noted.</p> <p><b>e) To note the 2021-22 Q3 Budget Report.</b> Noted.</p> <p><i>At this point, Cllr Haslam proposed that the meeting be extended by up to 9.30 pm to allow for all business on the agenda to be dealt with. Agreed unanimously.</i></p> <p><b>f) To approve arrangements for internal controls checks for quarters 3 and 4.</b> Cllr Thompson to carry out the checks for Q3. Cllr Heys to carry out the checks for Q4.</p> <p><b>g) Annual Return 2021–22: to receive any updates.</b> The Clerk has supplied all documents to the internal auditor; the next step is a Zoom call to provide sample documents, then the internal auditor will write up their report.</p>	
14. 129 21/22	<p><b>To note correspondence for information.</b> Noted.</p>	
15. 130 21/22	<p><b>Council</b></p> <p><b>a) To receive the Clerk's Report.</b> Noted.</p> <p><b>b) Parish assets: To assign play area and general checks (quarterly).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cllr Thompson to carry out the checks for Q4. Clerk to add the following to the inventory: 2 marquees, 2 gazebos, 2 camping toilets, 2 camping toilet tents, one gritter.</li> <li>Memorial Hall registration: The Land Registry have responded that they would prefer that the hall was registered to the parish council rather than individual trustees, and asked if this was acceptable. It was agreed unanimously that this was acceptable and that Cllr Haslam would provide the necessary statement of truth.</li> </ul> <p><b>c) To receive councillors' reports and items for future agendas.</b> Cllrs Heys and Powell discussed football teams in the area and the use of the sports field.</p> <p><b>d) To note the date of the next council meeting: Thursday 7th April 2022, 7.30 pm at Alvington Memorial Hall.</b> Noted.</p>	

Meeting closed: 9.55 p.m.

Signed:..... (Chairman)

Date:.....