

# MINUTES

## Alvington Parish Council

### Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025

#### 1. APPOINTMENT OF LOCUM NOTE TAKER

- a) Appointment of Eleanor Heys as Locum Note Taker. Proposed by Councillor Thompson and seconded by Councillor Powell

#### 2. ATTENDANCE

- a) **To receive** apologies for absence from those councillors unable to attend.

Apologies from Councillor Macharg received and accepted

#### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- a) **To receive Declarations of Interest** in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers and in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members.

No declarations of interest were received.

#### 4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- a) **To consider for approval** as a correct record the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 5th of December  
b) **To consider** any questions arising from those minutes

Minutes approved. Proposed by Councillor Thompson and seconded by Councillor Powell.

#### 5. REPORT FROM DISTRICT / COUNTY COUNCILLOR McFARLING

**To receive and note** report from Chris McFarling who may attend the meeting.

Chris Shill asked Chris McFarling about the electoral changes and their impact on Gloucestershire. Cllr McFarling said the proposal from HM Government is for District Councils to be absorbed by County Councils to form Unitary Authorities. Cllr McFarling noted the potential financial implications and potential implications for local planning applications. Councillor Heys noted the alternative propositions to either create a single Unitary Council covering Gloucestershire or two Unitaries covering West and East Gloucestershire.

Question from Councillor McFarling about the appointment of the vacant Parish Council position. Councillor Heys replied explaining that the position has been advertised following due processes.

Cllr McFarling outlined his written report.

#### 6. PUBLIC FORUM

Keith Haylock raised:

- the state of the roads, caused by tractors and general rubbish.
- the new yellow lines on Clanna Lane.
- water along dual carriage way. Keith has papers to change the roads.

Alec Davies informed the parish council about the passing of Verlie Eagles and proposed a letter of remorse. Councillor Heys agreed and asked Alec Davis to provide an email address.

Alec Davis raised:

- pavement cleaning on Clanna road.
- the lack of phone signal.
- the idea of locating a telephone aerial in the Sports Field to gain revenue.

Chris Shill raised:

- issues with traffic speed

- whether to hold a speed survey. Chis McFarling asked why they wanted another survey and asked whether the zebra crossing idea was being reconsidered. Cllr Heys proposed re-opening the conversation with GCC Highways.

Alex Turner raised:

- the damaged trim trail. Cllr Heys explained the insurance company had agreed to pay out against the claim, agreeing £7,337 (including the £150 excess) for installing new play equipment.
  - Cllr Heys proposed launching a survey of the village to explore what play equipment was preferred.
  - Cllr Heys outlined issues with the s106 application to the District Council. The request for payment to fund the electricity connection had been turned down as only final deliverables could be funded via this means. As such, Cllr Heys proposed the trim trail replacement would be submitted towards the s106 grant with the insurance money put towards the pavilion to allow us to secure the s106 funding.
  - Alex Turner suggested seeking a sponsor for new play equipment asks.
  - Alex Turner asked about the remains of the old play equipment. Cllr Heys confirmed that now the insurance rep had approved the claim, the Council could now proceed with clearing the play area.

## 7. PLANNING

- a) To consider – a) To note - P1277/24/LD2- Barn Lodge Church Lane Alvington Lydney Gloucestershire GL15 6BQ Application under Section 192 to establish whether the erection of a rear single storey flat roof extension requires planning permission Decided - LDC (Lawful Development Certificate) issued.

This item was noted.

## 8. VILLAGE

- a) To note defibrillator now registered online with The Circuit (previously Webnos). All checks and pad expiry dates entered up to date.

Defibrillator now fully functional and registered with The Circuit.

- b) To consider potential future help with maintenance for Clanna Country Park Defibrillator

Cllr Heys reported on a visit to Clanna Country Park to meet a community group who had been fund-raising to install a new defibrillator on site. He submitted a proposal for the Council to consider:

- Clanna residents will raise the funds to purchase and install the defibrillator, and donate the funds to APC.
- APC will purchase the defibrillator.
- APC will take on the running costs of the defibrillator, as per the defibrillator in the main village.
- Proposed by Cllr Heys, seconded by Cllr Thompson and Cllr Powell. No opposition.

- c) To note updates on village/parish improvement matters ([see meeting pack](#) No Change).

- d) **Action:** Cllr Heys to write to primary school asking about play equipment. Proposed by Cllr Powell. Seconded by Cllr Thompson.

## 9. SPORTS FIELD

- a) To note – Insurers have agreed claim for damage to trail equipment of £7337. Councillors to agree next steps for replacement.

- b) To consider – District Council refusal to allow draw down of S106 monies of £32,571 for the installation of power at the sports field as per quotation from National Grid of £31,136.59 and assorted previous expenditure.

The bid for electrical works would appear to pretty much exhaust the monies and in the opinion of FoDDC officers would not qualify for funding as it in itself does not deliver an enhancement to the existing recreational facilities or physically lead to the construction of the replacement pavilion. To secure the s106

grant, officials seek re-assurance APC has secure funding for pavilion construction and the monies should be set towards that part of the project. FoDDC is concerned the funds could be exhausted in securing a new electrical supply and no actual recreational benefits happen. Councillors agreed to submit the play equipment invoice against the s106 and donate the equivalent insurance claim into the pavilion fund.

- c) **To receive** any other reports on the Sports Field.
  - a. Cllr Thompson brought up issues with dogs walking on tar. No further action required.
  - b. Cllr Heys reported on meeting with Patrick Wickson which resulted in a positive agreement on defining the boundary.
- d) **Cllr Powell mentioned the success** of the Alvington Star football team, and its potential to launch a women's team Nick brought up cutting of the hedges and request for memorial bench for Graham Thurston
- e) There were asks for date for team to clear play equipment. Cllr Powell to arrange.
- f) A confirmed date for fun day (29<sup>th</sup> June) was confirmed. Cllr Heys to convene a Fun Day committee meeting.
- g) Council discussed email from GAPTC to reconstitute and rename. Councillors voted for Cllr Heys to vote in agreement of both motions.

## 10. **CHURCHYARD**

- a) **To receive** updates on any churchyard matters.

Cllr Powell to arrange will Will Martyn date to lay gravel.

## 11. **HIGHWAYS**

- a) **To receive** updates on road safety matters.
- b) To consider email from Chris McFarling regarding reporting of issues and his no longer being able to intervene on general road issues.
- c) To consider email from Paul Smooker on tractors speeding through the village in early January – estimated 40mph
- d) **To note** any updates on highways matters ([see Meeting Pack](#) ).

All matters discussed. No further actions required.

## 12. **FINANCE**

- a) To ratify payments made in January 2025. C Hinton Clerk Pay December 2024 £300.50 Forest Equipment Services Dog Bins – November 24 £86.40 Forest Equipment Services Dog Bins – December 24 £57.60 Magnolia Square Poessessory Title Land Plan £210.00

Proposed by Councillor Thompson and seconded by Councillor Powell

- b) To approve payments for February 2025. C Hinton Clerk Pay January 2024 £440.30 HMRC Tax Q3 £225.40 PATA Payroll Service Payroll Q3 £31.05 Glos Playing Fields Assn Subs 2025 £50.00

Proposed by Councillor Thompson and seconded by Councillor Powell

- c) To note the receipt of income received December 2024. Lloyds Bank Bank Interest £22.89 Cricket Club Hall Hire £27.00 Cricket Club Fun Day Bar £93.65

Proposed by Councillor Thompson and seconded by Councillor Powell

- d) To note the receipt of income received January 2025. Lloyds Bank Bank Interest £26.62

Proposed by Councillor Thompson and seconded by Councillor Powell

- e) To note PATA payroll Service are increasing their rates from £10.35 to £12.45 per month for the basic fee. (Details attached.)

Proposed by Councillor Thompson and seconded by Councillor Powell

f) To note Build Back Better grant of £2000 has been received.

Proposed by Councillor Thompson and seconded by Councillor Powell

g) To note – progress of Internal controls checks for Q2 24/25.

Proposed by Councillor Thompson and seconded by Councillor Powell

**13. BUDGET 2025/2026**

a) To note precept amount of £10,736 has been requested from the FoDDC.

The precept proposal has been submitted with an increase of 3%

**14. CORRESPONDENCE**

To note [correspondence](#) for information.

Correspondence noted.

**15. Council**

a) To receive The Clerk's Report.

Clerk's report noted.

b) To note resignation of Clerk from 31st January 2025 –

Carol Hinton is continuing to provide some support to the Council. Whilst one expression of interest was received, this has not been followed up. The Council will re-advertise.

c) To note there have been no request for a by-election so the Council may co-opt to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Nathan Burlton.

Action: Cllr Heys to issue advert for expressions of interest.

d) To receive Councillors reports and items for future agendas.

No further reports.

a) **To note** the date of the next Full Council Meeting – **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 7.30pm**

Meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Signed Off:

Date: