

MINUTES

Alvington Parish Council

Thursday, 2nd October 2025

Present: Councillors: Heys, Macharg, Powell, Turner.

Officers: Viktoriia Iemeljanova (Clerk).

Members of the public.

1. ATTENDANCE

- a) **To receive apologies for absence** from those councillors unable to attend from Councillor Thompson.
- b) **To consider for acceptance** those apologies received with reasons for absence from Councillor Thompson.

2. 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.
Interests may be declared at any time during the meeting should they become apparent.
None to declare.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- a) **To consider for approval** as a correct record the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 4th September 2025.
Proposed by Cllr Macharg, seconded by Cllr Powell.
- b) **To consider** any questions arising from those minutes.
Chris Shill noted that his last name was misspelled. The Clerk apologized.

4. PLANNING

- a) **To consider regularisation application P1011/25/APP Bloomery Court, Alvington, Gloucestershire .**
Members of the public mentioned above that during construction a significant amount of earth was moved from the development site now known as Bloomery Court onto the field above. The potential for this to change the flow of water and the quantity of water which the attenuation ponds are designed to address leads us to suggest that a new inspection by this body of the site may be required to ensure the ponds continue to meet the purpose in their current form. In particular, the drainage modifications have raised fears about increased surface water runoff.
Action: Clerk to write a letter to Forest of Dean District Council to request a new site inspection.
- b) **ANY OTHER PLANNING UPDATE.**
To consider regularisation application P1179/25/TCA 7 Duncastle Court Main Road Alvington Lydney Gloucestershire GL15 6FF
Reduce two Oak trees in back garden by approximately 1.5 metres and trim back to boundary. Reduce Maple in back garden by approximately 1 metre and cut back growth overhanging neighbour's boundary. Cut back Maple and Beech by approximately 1 metre and cut back growth overhanging neighbour's boundary.
There were no comments.

5. REPORT FROM DISTRICT / COUNTY COUNCILLOR McFARLING

There was no written report from Cllr McFarling.

6. PUBLIC FORUM

Cllr Heys- The Parish Council wishes to express its deepest condolences to the families, friends, and community affected by the tragic events in **Manchester**, following the recent attack at a local synagogue.

Viv Harris- Allotments: Concerns over the running/holding of them. After some discussion the council acknowledged that a review of arrangements would be wise. **Action:** It was agreed to invite an allotment-holder representative. Cllr Turner and Cllr Powell agreed to be in touch with them.

Alan King- noted that household waste has been left in the garden area used by the residents of these flats. The waste has been accumulating for several weeks and now presents a potential health concern, particularly given that young children reside within the development. He reported by email to Two Rivers Housing Association, however, no action has yet been taken to remove the waste.

Action: The Clerk to write formally to Two Rivers Housing Association and to Environmental Health, requesting immediate action to address the matter.

Viv Harris- noted concerns regarding the bus stop, highlighting that it lacks seating, and a window, which forces passengers to stand at the edge of the road to see approaching buses.

Cllrs Heys and Powell agreed to investigate the possibility of installing seating at the bus stop to improve safety and comfort for passengers.

Alec Davis-reported observing bats near his property. He noted that they may be flying towards the church or possibly roosting in an abandoned building in the vicinity.

Nothing appears to have done about the Japanese Knotweed.

Alec Davis, Chris Shill, and John Wood raised concerns regarding traffic levels in the village and highlighted the need to consider the installation of a speed camera to improve road safety.

Action: The Clerk to send an email to Chris McFarling regarding the installation of a speed camera.

Alec Davis and **Viv Harris** raised concerns regarding blocked drains and pipes on Garlands Road, as well as issues affecting the car park.

Action: The Clerk to write formally to Two Rivers Housing Association requesting attention to the condition of the car park and the blocked drains and pipes on Garlands Road.

7. VILLAGE

a) **To update** the name of the road on naming Clanna Straight.

Cllr McFarling was provided a contact to write about the issue. A letter was written, but there was no response. **Action:** Clerk to follow up with Chris to confirm the contact details.

b) **To consider** Paul Smooker no longer able to carry out monthly defibrillator checks – new volunteer required.

John Wood agreed. **Action:** Ask Paul Smooker how to check and maintain a defibrillator.

c) **To note** Paul Smooker has given to Council spare replacement defibrillator pads.

These pads are currently held by the Clerk. **Action:** write to Christine Parsons and clarify details regarding the second defibrillator.

d) **To note** updates on village/parish improvement matters (see meeting pack)

8. SPORTS FIELD

a) **To agree** to spend £450.00. on pitch maintenance.

Due to the exceptionally hot summer weather, the grass on the football pitch has died, rendering the surface unsuitable for play. As a result, no matches can be held until the pitch has been restored, leading to a temporary reduction in council revenue from sporting activities.

The estimated cost of the restoration works is £450.00 . To mitigate expenses, it has been proposed that the cost be shared equally between the Council and **FC Alvington Star** on a 50:50 basis.

b) **To note** **S106** application update

Cllr Heys reported that the Section 106 (S106) application is currently under review.

The District Council had previously declined the proposal to release S106 funds amounting to £32,571 for the installation of electricity supply at the sports field.

Councillors subsequently agreed to submit the play equipment invoice under the S106 funding and to allocate the equivalent amount received from the insurance claim into the pavilion fund.

If the current application is approved and funds are allocated, the Parish Council (PC) will then be able to consider proceeding with the electrical installation works.

c) **To consider** play equipment quotes.

Two companies have quoted, therefore, the decision was deferred until the November meeting.

Action: Clerk to add to the agenda.

d) **To agree** to find costs of signs for Sports Field to confirm grounds are maintained by the Sports Field Committee. **Agreed.**

e) **Quiz and Pudding Night 2025: Update on event planning**

Date of Event: Saturday, 8th November 2025.

Updates and Actions:

Residents of Bloomery Court have been invited to attend.

Cllr Macharg has kindly offered to prepare a cookie for the event.

Leaflets and flyers will be displayed two weeks prior to the event.

Action: Clerk to write a to Terry Jones to confirm the booking of the hall.

- f) **Resolved to receive** any other reports on the Sports Field.

9. FINANCE

a) **To ratify payments made in September 2025**

Richard Morgan	grass cutting August 2025 Churchyard	£120.00
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Ellwood Youth FC	Portaloo rental – quarter	£336.00

Proposed Cllr Powell, seconded Cllr Macharg.

b) **To approve payments for October 2025.**

V Iemelianova	Clerk Pay September 2025	£368.12
PATA	Payroll services Q2 of 25/26	£37.35
HMRC	PAYE Q2 of 25/26	£12.80
Richard Morgan	Grass cutting October 2025 Churchyard	£120.00
Richard Morgan	Grass cutting October 2025 Gl.Road	£30.00

Proposed Cllr Macharg, seconded Cllr Turner.

c) **To note the receipts of income received September 2025.**

Lloyds Bank September	Bank Interest	£21.33
Donation from Cricket Club		£92.00

- d) **To agree** cost of transition of website to parish Online. Initial cost of £215 ex VAT for first year. The transition will take place in November; we need to choose a website name.

- e) **Insurance renewal: To ratify** the renewal of insurance with Clear Councils for £641.67 (first year of a three-year arrangement.)

Proposed Cllr Powell, seconded Cllr Macharg.

10. CHURCHYARD

a) **Resolved to receive** updates on any churchyard matters.

The churchyard wall was inspected as part of the scheduled quarterly assessments conducted in 2025. The wall displays areas of loose stonework and cement, as well as excess ivy growth. However, the wall remains upright and stable, with no signs of leaning or structural instability that would present a risk of damage to property or third parties.

11. HIGHWAYS

a) **To receive** updates on road safety matters.

Council discussed the possibility of a zebra crossing. **Action:** check with Cllr McFarling if there any updates on this issue.

Resolved to note any updates on highways matters (see Meeting Pack).

12. CORRESPONDENCE

Resolved to note correspondence for information.

13. COUNCIL

a) **Resolved to receive** The Clerk's Report.

b) **Resolved to receive** Councillors reports and items for future agendas.

b) **Resolved to receive** the date of the next Full Council Meeting – **Thursday, 6th of November at 7.30 p.m.**

The meeting ended at 20.28 p.m.

Signed: (Chairman)

Date: