

TIDDINGTON WITH ALBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Tiddington with Albury Parish Council at the Village Hall on **Tuesday 11th March 2025 at 7.30pm.**

Present – Mrs T Smith - Vice Chair (TS), Mrs R Stogden (RS), Mr W Meadows, Mrs L Martin - Clerk (LM)

PUBLIC FORUM

One parishioner attended, along with Judith Edwards, prospective District Councillor, if successful in the May local elections

Jon Russell was co-opted onto the Parish Council as Councillor to replace Ken Field who resigned in January 2025. The Parish Council would like to thank Ken very much for all his input and work over the last 36 years and wish him well for the future. Jon signed the Declaration of Office and attended the rest of the meeting as a Councillor.

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198. Apologies – Mrs V Baker - Chair (VB), Mr C Hill (CH)

199. Declarations of interest - none

200. Approve and sign minutes – Completed

201. Matters to Report - Tim Bearder (TB) - District and County Councillor

- **TB** is standing down as our District Councillor at TwAParish from May and we will now come under Thame West and Chalgrove District. Judith Edwards is standing in those elections as a District Councillor. TB will remain our County Councillor.

202. Flooding/Drains

- Update on meeting held on 17th October with SODC and OCC regarding investigation into floods on 23rd September. We are expected to hear more on the investigation in the Spring - **LM**
- Update from Carl Stallwood (OCC - Senior Engineer) included:
 - Main Road: Aco kerb channels cleaned out. Survey required of Culvert under main road. This has been reviewed by the Section 19 investigation team and they will apply for funding via the Flood Expression of Interest programme - **WP**
 - Railway Culvert: requires additional clearing and will be done when resources are available - **CS**
 - Ickford Road: root mass discovered along the drains at the back of houses, to be cleared 24th February. Ditch alongside the allotments needs digging out urgently
 - Draycot Corner: need a discussion with the house owner and OCC about the broken pipe. To be arranged - **LM/TS/CS**
 - Sandy Lane: Discussion needed between landowners, OCC and SODC on altering the side of the road the drainage ditch currently runs. To be arranged - **TS/CS**

203. Neighbourhood Plan / Tiddington Nature Recovery (TNR) CH

- Granted £1,000 for Thame River Conservation Trust proposal from SODC Community Councillor Grants. Need confirmation on how it will be spent - **CH/LM**
- TOE (Trust for Oxfordshires Environment) visited Sandy Lane Farm on 15/10/24 to discuss introducing some funding for ponds on the site. However, farm owners want to use the pond for irrigation purposes as well which TOE will not fund. Further discussion required - **CH**
- The TNR are receiving training on nitrate measurement by R Thame Conservation Trust to assess the health of Tiddington brook - **CH**

204. Councillors' Update of Matters in Hand

204.1 Ickford Bridges:

- Ickford Bridges have been assessed & agreed work is required. With OCC bridges team now - **LM**
- Ickford Parish Council have given up & taken it off their agenda until new Councillors start- **LM**
- Reported on Fix My Street, with new photos added (Jan 25). Under investigation now - **LM**

204.2 20mph Consultation

- Further email sent to Freddie van Mierlo on 06/02/25 regarding no response from Councillor Gant. TB has received a response however, requested a copy 06/03/25 - **TB/LM**
- There will be a review of the impact of 20mph restrictions in due course (probably 2026) and Tiddington may get more support after this is completed. Antony Kirkwood (previously Safety Officer) now heads up this area, including Vision Zero.
- The Parish could conduct our own Community Speed Watch programme, if sufficient volunteers were available.

204.3 Hexagonal Bench

- Base installed but joints are coming apart. Bench is out of its 12-month warranty (purchased in April 2023) but still needs to be pursued with supplier Stowe - **LM**

204.4 Fix My Street

- Drains appear to be blocked higher up Albury View, report on FMS - **TS/CH**
- Bottom of Albury Lane, drains still blocked, some work done but ineffectual, report again - **RS**
- Worn road surface in Sandy Lane, near Spring, put on FMS again - **TS/LM**
- Potholes and worn out road on A40 through Milton Common reported - **VB**
- Ickford Bridges reported on FMS - **LM**

204.5 Spelling of Draycot – change to one T

- No update from Royal Mail - **LM**

204.6 Defibrillators

- All three defibrillators need to be checked - **TS**
- Sourced some training for using Defibrillators & basic first aid from South Central Ambulance Service who require min 20 people & a donation. Put article in Newsletter to gauge interest - **TS**
- Need stickers with What3words to be applied (approach MP Printers and Parchments) - **TS**
 - newlywed.split.adjusting - Cricket Club
 - tickling.decency.rumble - F&G
 - intricate.panning.limelight - VH

204.7 Albury Lane repairs

- The road remains a restricted by-way, but there is a recognition that it shouldn't be. Will need further dialogue to sort out longer term so it gets on the Highways Asset register - **TB**
- Found a letter (from 1960's) stating Council were responsible for repairs, need to send a copy to **TB**. Need to see what the deeds stated when some of the land was sold - **RS**
- Once picture is clearer need to email Freddie van Mierlo to ask for help - **LM/RS**

204.8 Installation of Ultrafast Broadband – Gigaclear

- Gigaclear sent letters to all residents w/c 15/01/25, awaiting further update on plans etc but the build may start April. Meeting TBC in Tetworth early April. - **LM**

204.9 Road Sign cleaning kit - on loan

- We have been given a loan of a Road Sign cleaning kit for use by volunteers, but a part is missing, to be sorted! - **LM**

204.10 South Central Probation UPW Consultation 2024

- The PC had a survey from South Central Probation UPW (Unpaid Work) Community Service Team regarding utilising these resources in the Parish. LM completed the survey and requested more information, awaiting response - **LM**

204.11 Trees

- The tree on the corner by the entrance to Village Hall car park needs assessing **asap** - **TS**
- OCC are coming w/c 6th May to take down trees along the embankment marked with red dots - **TS**

204.12 Parking Restrictions for School Bus

- Submitted parking measure request, three times & emailed **TB**, still awaiting feedback - **LM**
- Need to chase up with Jon Beale, cc **TB** - **LM**

204.13 Spring Litter Pick

- Agreed date of **Saturday 29th March, 10am** as part of Great British Spring Clean. Need to put on Facebook and arrange bags etc (ordered 12/03/25) - **LM/TS**

204.14 Dog fouling bins

- Asked if we can replace open bin in Albury View with closed double bin, sent 27/02/25 - **LM**

205. Planning

205.1 Planning Applications received:

- **P25/SO325/LDP - Ambleside, Oxford Road** - Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of a single storey extension. No comments as under permitted development. **Decision date: 16th April 2025**
- **P25/SO543/A - Belfry Hotel** - replacement signage (seems to have already happened). **Consultation ends: 19th March 2025**

205.2 Planning Decisions to be noted:

- **P23/S2584/FUL – Oakfield, Oxford Road.** Creation of the drive and impact on public footpath appear not to match submitted and approved plans. Request and photos sent to Planning Officer who have passed it to the Enforcement Team
- Parishioner, attending the meeting, clarified the issue and stated, “as a Public Footpath it is subject to restrictions and conditions relating to a Field Path which is how that path is officially designated.” Parishioner also requested the following statement be included: “Councillor Ken Field said that he had been and measured the footpath and that the width of the footpath is at least a metre wide along its length across the garden.” **NB.** measurement was subsequent to report having been submitted to the Enforcement Team.
- Still waiting for a response from the SODC Enforcement Team. Requested update: 05/03/25

205.3 Planning Decisions Pending (awaiting decision from SODC planning department):

- **P24/S3204/O - 46, Ickford Road:** Replacement of one dwelling with four. **Decision date: 27th February 2025 but no decision yet, awaiting ecology comments**

205.4 Planning Appeals in progress:

- **P23/S2384/O - Jn 8a, M40 Waterstock, Appeal ref: APP/Q3115/W/24/3343775.**
- The Inquiry started on 15/10/24 in Cholsey and was attended by CH and RS to make representations on behalf of the PC and in support of Waterstock Parish. The final report due end of March - **CH**

205.5 Planning Consultations

- None

206. Finance

206.1 Applications for routine subscriptions and donations

- a. OALC

£240.00

206.2 Accounts for payment this month

- a. Administration to the Parish Council (Luci Martin) £372.13

206.3 Invoices approved and signed at the previous meeting under AOB:

- a. None

206.4 Receipts:

- a. Interest (deposit account) @ 10/02/25 £14.14
- b. Advertising income - newsletter 24/25 (total to date) £644.40

206.5 Balances at bank on 6th February:

- a. Current Account (Lloyds Bank) £762.00
- b. Deposit Account (Lloyds Bank) Precept April 2025, Grant money £28,022.54
- c. Current Account (Nat West Bank) £50.40

207. 2024/25 accounts

- VAT reclaim submitted 16/01/25, awaiting payment- **TS**
- Newsletter invoices chased 06/03/25, 9 out of 16 payments to date - **TS/JR**
- Need to change names on Bank account, remove Russell Chaplin and Ken Field. Rebecca Stodden and Jon Russell have agreed to be a signatory's - **TS**

208. Budgets 2025/26

- Final draft approved at March meeting - **ALL**
- Precept agreed at £14,500 for 25/26
- Article for April/ May newsletter explaining increase to be written - **JR/TS**

209. Standing Orders

- Meeting to investigate requirements to be confirmed asap - **VB**

210. Newsletter

- Invoices and new rates sent to all current advertisers w/c 03/02/25, chased 06/03/25 - **TS/JR**
- For inclusion next edition (submission due 15/03/25): Using FMS, Defib training, Chairs report, Precept rise, Playground changes

211. Additional Play Equipment in Playground

- Installation of new equipment w/c 28/04/25, pre site visit 01/04/25 - **LM/RS**
- Bark from under swings to be removed and soil level restored, prior to installation date - **ALL**

212. Playground Maintenance

- Checked weekly - all forms up to February received - **RS**
- Balls to be put in a bag on a hook under table, bats to be stored in VH - **TS/KF**
- Green bench to be renovated - **TS**
- New basketball net purchased and to be installed - **LM**
- Fort repairs to be carried out in March (date tbc). Signage and FB notices needed and barrier opened? - **LM/RS**

213. Community Emergency Plan

- Need to update existing plan urgently given recent floods - **VB/TS**
- Received a toolkit and templates from OCC, and offer to help check drafts

214. Sewage dispersal into River by Thames Water

- Presentation from Thames Water received by CH shows plans to mitigate sewage dispersals, looks positive on paper, await actions

215. Correspondence Received:

- Rural Bulletin, Rural Services Network, Public Sector Network Newsletter, Thames Valley Alerts, Citizen Advice, Neighbourhood Watch newsletter, CommunityFirst, Wheatley Parish Council Newsletter, Haseleys Newsletter plus other general correspondence - circulated
- SODC general communications - circulated
- OCC general communication - circulated
- OALC general communications - circulated

AOB: Request from parishioner for Volunteering work for her daughter doing Silver Duke of Edinburgh.
Possible jobs,: - litter picking, painting the Fort, supporting TNR project with the cameras

Next Meeting: Tuesday 8th April 2025, Village Hall at 7.30pm