

**Clerk to Council: Elizabeth Martin**

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## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the Full Meeting of Alton Parish Council  
held at the Coronation Hall on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023  
commencing at 7:00pm.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councillors Ewan MacKinnon [EMK], Michael Golden [MG], Polly Carson [PC], Mike Spencer [MS]

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Elizabeth Martin [EM], Clerk to Council

**CHAIR:** Polly Carson [PC]

**APOLOGIES:** Kate Thompson [KT], Hayley Kington [HK]

Meeting Opened: 19:16

FC22/23/131 **TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**  
Kate Thompson [KT], Hayley Kington [HK]

FC22/23/132 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & APPLICATION FOR DISPENSATION**  
None.

FC22/23/133 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**  
Proposed PC. Seconded MG. Passed

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023 be accepted as written.**

FC22/23/134 **CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
The Chair recently turned 70 and has been on the Parish Council for over 30 years. No other announcements.

FC22/23/135 **PLANNING**

FC22/23/136 **To receive the planning report dated 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023**  
Report received

FC22/23/137 **To Consider Planning Applications**  
**Application:** [PL/2022/01347](#)

**Location:** 1 The Granary, Alton Priors, Marlborough, SN8 4JX

**Proposal:** Notification of proposed tree works in a conservation area.

**Decision:** No Comment/Support

FC22/23/138 **To Receive An Update On The Honeystreet Development**  
No information available. EM has written regarding the issues and asking for an update on plans and what can be done to improve the health and safety.

The building next to the road is structurally unsound and depositing wood and other detritus onto the road in bad weather.

FC22/23/139 **To Discuss The Car Park Opposite Chandlings**  
This will be dealt with in FC22/23/140

FC22/23/140 **To Receive An Update On The Parking Opposite Honeystreet Development From The Planning Inspectorate**  
Report received. Clarification on findings have been received – car park is limited to circa 20 cars.

The Parish Council will support valid enforcement issues should there be any, otherwise the inspectorate report stands and the parking is valid.

FC22/23/141 **TO RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION, THE CLERK'S REPORT**  
Email from Julia's House regarding the 2023 Trek. They would like to position a portaloos in Pewsey Down parking area. Council are supportive of this.

The Council has been asked to support the cost of replacement pads for the Defibrillator at the Village Hall (£130 inc Vat).

Council will look at options for defibs in the village in a subsequent meeting.

EM also asked if the Council would like to consider a logo. MG will forward the three-villages logo as a potential option.

FC22/23/142 **FINANCE MATTERS**

FC22/23/143 **To Receive For Information, Actions Taken By The Clerk Since The Last Meeting In Accordance With Fr4.1.3**  
None

FC22/23/144 **To Receive For Information, Disbursements Made Since The Last Meeting**

Salary and Allowance for January and February

Payroll January and February (2 x £16)

Robert Carpenter Turner, £40 for the newsletter.

FC22/23/145 **To Consider And Approve The Schedule Of Forthcoming Payments**  
No non-planned payments planned.

**FC22/23/146 To Receive The Bank Reconciliations As Presented**

No reconciliations presented this month.

**FC22/23/147 Closure Of Accounts At Lloyds Bank**

The Clerk explained that the accounts are still open at Lloyds and require two signatures to close. PC is a signatory but unsure on whether MG is also (EM to check with Lloyds). If only PC is a signature, EM will ask Mr Carpenter-Turner as the prior Chair. Accounts will be closed and all balances deposited in Unity Bank.

**FC22/23/148 TO RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION, CORRESPONDENCE AND CIRCULARS RECEIVED**

No additional to those already presented at the meeting.

**FC22/23/149 TO CONSIDER ITEMS OF MAINTENANCE**

Noticeboards need varnishing to help maintain.

**FC22/23/150 KEY MESSAGES.**

The Council is looking at the local defibrillator provision.

**FC22/23/151 NEXT MEETING.**

The next meeting date will be on the 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 7:00pm at the Coronation Hall.

Meeting Closed 20:11

These minutes are accepted as a true and accurate record: -

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Opened at 19:00

## Summary Of Public Participation Section

I. To Receive a report from the Unitary Councillor Paul Oatway.

WC has applied to the government and been successful in securing a £2 million grant for a DRT (Direct Route Transport) Bus service for Vale of Pewsey. Cllr Oatway is leading on this project. This is a bus service that sits above all the of the existing bus services across the Vale. Wiltshire has taken delivery of the first vehicle. The vehicles will accommodate 12-18 seats per vehicle. Members of public may either use a computer, install the app that is going to be made available or phone. You will be able to track the buses from your app and make specific requests for transport destinations. The first bus will be ready by May/June time with a hope of five buses in total. The initiative sits with the Vale of Pewsey, but Wiltshire are looking into joining up with Devizes and Marlborough. Buses will link into the rail services at Pewsey.

Parish stewards have been taken off normal duties to deal with the large number of potholes.

Parish Councils will now be required to pay for their elections, even if the election is unopposed. This is expected to be around £390 for Alton. The Council will need to pay for the 2025 election but can defer payment for up to 2 years (2027).

Wiltshire Council is rolling out grants for electric charging points.

Wiltshire Council has now adopted the new Code of Conduct. Wiltshire is encouraging Parish Councils to adopt the Code of Conduct as a matter of good practice and allowing a continuity for Wiltshire Solicitors to aid in helping local Councils when a complaint arises and requires Wiltshire Legal Services to become involved. This will be circulated shortly by Wiltshire Council to local Councils.

Locally, the British Horse Association have made application to have footpaths upgraded and to create new footpaths. If there are any landowners that receive information on an application that has been submitted to make improvements or create a footpath across private land, Wiltshire Council is advising the landowners to not be concerned. This is a large-scale project and will likely take several years before completion.

Wiltshire Council Budget – The budget is due to be agreed at Full Council as £465 million for the 2023-2024 year 2.9% for the general precept, and 1.99% on the Social Care Levy. For 2024-2025 it will reduce to 3.99% and in 2025-2026 it will reduce to 1.99%. The drop is predicted due to the new housing numbers expected to rise throughout the County.

For every £100 spent, £38 goes to vulnerable adults, £19 supporting children and safeguarding young people, £10 managing Wiltshire's waste, £9 managing Wiltshire's Highways, and subsidising local bus services, £4 on Councils extensive property assets, £2 on libraries, £8 on investing in future schools, roads, and housing, £6 on running the Council and holding elections, £3 for online and digital services. The largest part of the budget is spent on supporting vulnerable adults and safeguarding children.

Cllr Oatway has raised the issue of Baker's Corner and the road outside of the Village Hall. There is significant erosion and debris on the road due to blocked drains and insufficient work on resolving the issue.

II. Report from Community Police Officer, PCSO

Not in attendance and no report circulated.

III. Comments from members of the public to be considered by the Council regarding items on the Agenda.

No queries received, no members of the public in attendance.