

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 18th July 2024
commencing at 7:00pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Michael Golden [MG], Mike Spencer [MS], Polly Carson [PC], Hayley Kington [HK]

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

CHAIR: Michael Golden [MG]

APOLOGIES: None

ABSENT: Ewan MacKinnon [EMK]

Meeting Opened: 20:03

FC24/25/048 **TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
No apologies received.

FC24/25/049 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & APPLICATION FOR DISPENSATION**
No declarations of interest declared.

FC24/25/050 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING 16TH OF JUNE 2024**
Proposed HK. Seconded KT. Passed

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT The Minutes Of The Parish Council Meeting Held On 16th June 2024, be accepted as a true record.

FC24/25/051 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING 25TH OF JUNE 2024**
Proposed HK. Seconded KT. Passed

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT The Minutes Of The Parish Council Meeting Held On 25th June 2024, be accepted as a true record.

FC24/25/052 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman notified the Council that he had cleaned the war memorial plaque, and the grass had been cut surrounding the area.

FC24/25/053 PLANNING**FC24/25/054 To Consider Planning Applications**

No Planning Applications For Review

FC24/25/055 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE DRAINAGE WORKS IN ALTON

Cllr Paul Oatway provided an update on drainage work completed or planned. Reported that the focus is on ditch clearing and road/pipe repairs at several locations. Additional work still needed to be fully addressed for flooding issues. It was agreed to have a site walk to review

FC24/25/056 TO DISCUSS PUBLIC FOOTPATH MAINTENANCE

The Council discussed overgrown foot paths. HK identified one that is cleared by her family and will let the Council know when it is likely to be cleared.

FC24/25/057 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE THE COUNCIL WILL APPROACH WILTSHIRE HIGHWAYS FOR AGREEMENT TO INSTALL SIGNAGE TO NOTIFY DRIVERS OF HORSE TRAFFIC ON THE MAIN ROADS THROUGH ALTON

The Council agrees that looking for installation of signage to help protect horse riders be requested. On the advice of Cllr Oatway, the Area Board would be the best recommended way forward to complete this project. If this is approved the Council would need to meet %40 of the overall costs.

Action: EM to complete the Area Board request form for October 2024

FC24/25/058 TO RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION, THE CLERK'S REPORT

The Council will be sent the presentation on how to write a flood plan while working with residents and the environmental agency.

Budget setting is fast approaching the Council, and the first iteration would be good to have by September. The Council was asked to put forward any project ideas as soon as possible for consideration.

The Council was asked to identify the locations of the local salt bins for EM to notify Wiltshire in August so they will be refilled.

FC24/25/059 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE CLOCK HOUSE**FC24/25/060 To Receive And Agree To The Removal Of The Council's Notice Board At The Fee Of £200**

Proposed KT. Seconded MS. Passed

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT The Agrees To The Removal Of The Council's Notice Board At The Fee Of £200.

FC24/25/061 FINANCE MATTERS

FC24/25/062 To Receive For Information, Disbursements Made Since The Last Meeting

Date	Payee	Description	Amount
30-Jun-24	Service Charge Direct Debit (CHARLTON		-£ 18.00
24-Jun-24	BAKER LTD)	3W7WQGS	-£ 18.50
20-Jun-24	B/P to: Elizabeth Martin	MAY SALARY	
20-Jun-24	B/P to: Elizabeth Martin	JUNE SALARY	
20-Jun-24	B/P to: HMRC Cumbernauld	PAYE Q12024	
20-Jun-24	B/P to: Elizabeth Martin	APRIL ALLOWANCE	-£ 25.00
20-Jun-24	B/P to: Elizabeth Martin	MAY ALLOWANCE	-£ 25.00
20-Jun-24	B/P to: Elizabeth Martin	JUNE ALLOWANCE	-£ 25.00
20-Jun-24	B/P to: Elizabeth Martin	INV 96 SPRINGS 24	-£ 600.00
10-Jun-24	Direct Debit (GOCARDLESS) Direct Debit (CHARLTON	HUGOFOX LTD-VR2QXGJ	-£ 11.99
28-May-24	BAKER LTD)	3W7WQGS	-£ 18.50
10-May-24	Direct Debit (GOCARDLESS)	HUGOFOX LTD-VR2QXGJ	-£ 11.99

FC24/25/063 To Consider And Approve The Schedule Of Forthcoming Payments
Proposed PC. Seconded MG. Passed

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT The Approval Of The Schedule Of Forthcoming Payments Be Accepted.

Date	Payee	Description	Amount
27-Jul-24	B/P to: Elizabeth Martin	JULY SALARY	
27-Aug-24	B/P to: Elizabeth Martin	AUGUST SALARY	
27-Jul-24	B/P to: Elizabeth Martin	JULY ALLOWANCE	-£ 25.00
27-Aug-24	B/P to: Elizabeth Martin	AUGUST ALLOWANCE	-£ 25.00
25-Jul-24	Direct Debit (CHARLTON BAKER LTD)	JULY PAYROLL	-£ 18.50
25-Aug-24	Direct Debit (CHARLTON BAKER LTD)	AUGUST PAYROLL	-£ 18.50
10-Jul-24	Direct Debit (GOCARDLESS)	JULY INTERNET - HUGO FOX	-£ 11.99
10-Aug-24	Direct Debit (GOCARDLESS)	AUGUST INTERNET - HUGO FOX	-£ 11.99
10-Sep-24	Direct Debit (GOCARDLESS)	SEPTEMBER INTERNET - HUGO FOX	-£ 10.99

FC24/25/064 To Receive The Bank Reconciliations As Presented

Bank Reconciliations to be presented in the September 2024 meeting

FC24/25/065 To Receive And Consider The Quotes For Council's Insurance Renewal 2024-2025

Proposed KT. Seconded MG. Passed

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT The Council Accept The Annual Quote For £517.10 To Extend The Council's Insurance With Zurich Until 2027.

FC24/25/066 To Receive An Update On The Audit For 2023-2024

Proposed MG. Seconded PC. Passed

FC24/25/067 TO REVIEW AND APPROVE THE COUNCIL'S PUBLICATION SCHEME

Proposed PC. Seconded HK. Passed

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT The Council Approves The Publication Scheme In Accordance To The 2023-24 Audit Recommendation.

FC24/25/068 TO RECEIVE UPDATES FOR THE FOLLOWING GROUPS

FC24/25/069 Traffic Initiative Working Group

No Update Provided

FC24/25/070 LHFIG (Local Highway And Footway Improvement Group)

No Updates, the next meeting is scheduled for 9th October 2024, 14:00, Online.

FC24/25/071 Pewsey Area Board.

Next Meeting 23rd September 2024, 19:00, Woodborough Club, Smithy Lane, Woodborough, SN9 5PL

FC24/25/072 TO RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION, CORRESPONDENCE AND CIRCULARS RECEIVED

Clerk to circulate Wiltshire's draft gypsy and traveler plan document.

FC24/25/073 TO CONSIDER ITEMS OF MAINTENANCE

Discussed required repairs to some street signs in the village. Also awaiting upcoming playground inspection report. No additional items of maintenance were provided.

Any additional information of maintenance for the village is requested to be put forward to the Parish Clerk at clerk@altonsandhoneystreet.org.uk or use the <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts-online-reporting> link to make a direct report to the County Council.

FC24/25/074 KEY MESSAGES

- Thanked the PCSOs for attending and providing an overview of police activity; encouraged continued reporting of any suspicious behavior.

- Thanked Paul Oatway for his persistent efforts related to local flooding and road issues.

FC24/25/075 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting date will be on the Thursday 26th September 2024 at 7:00pm at the Coronation Hall.

Meeting Closed 20:39

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

Signed _____ Date _____

Summary Of Public Participation Section (Part A)

Public Participation Opened 19:00

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

Cllr Paul Oatway provided an update on several road resurfacing and drainage projects in the area. Discussion focused on the £14 million revenue underspend by Wiltshire Council, of which £6 million has been allocated for additional road improvements.

Cllr Oatway discussed several road resurfacing and drainage improvement projects that have recently been completed or are underway in the local area. Specific examples were provided, including work on some C roads.

It was noted that Wiltshire Council has a £14 million underspend, of which £6 million has been allocated for additional road improvements. There is also an extra £5 million from community infrastructure levy contributions. In total over £10 million in additional funding for highways.

Cllr Oatway provided updates on extra highways funding secured that will allow long overdue upgrades and repairs to some local C roads, citing specific improvement projects in the area that are being moved forward as evidence that prioritization for C roads is finally happening after years of him making this case at the county level.

It was explained that the extra money allocated highlights Cllr Oatway's long-standing point about needing to prioritize improvements and maintenance to C roads is finally being recognised and acted upon at the county level.

II. Report from Community Police Officer, PCSO

PCSOs Jonathan Mills and Mark Braithwaite attended and gave an overview of police activity in the area over the past year.

There are no major issues to report in Alton, just routine incidents. The PCSO's discussed options for dealing with dispute situations, including community protection notices and possible legal action depending on the offenses committed.

It was noted there is a high theft risk for high-end/keyless cars and it was recommended that owners use signal-blocking pouches. The Council was also warned about a theft at a local beauty spot parking area. The Council was encouraged to continue reporting suspicious vehicles.

The PCSO's discussed the use of CCTV and how footage and photographs of suspicious activity, vehicles, and individuals can assist police investigations and arrests even if direct crimes are not witnessed.

There was a discussion that covered issues around traveller campsites and the recent proposal for Wiltshire Council and the recent consultation document for potential future sites across the County. Whilst some problematic ones raise objections, there are proper permanent sites as well, that are doing fine. It was recommended that planning decisions consider impact to locality when approving development applications in-line with current legislation.

In summary, the PCSOs provided reassurance that there are no major crime issues to report at this meeting in Alton, affirmed their persistent approach to try to deal with persistent offenders, and encouraged community reporting of any suspicious activities that can provide valuable intelligence. The area is very safe overall compared to rest of the county.

The Wiltshire Police report circulated as well and attached is as part of these minutes.

III. To receive reports from Village Groups & Organisations

No reports received.

IV. Comments from members of the public to be considered by the Council regarding items on the agenda.

Covered under flooding