

Minutes of a meeting of Aldington and Bonnington Parish Council held on Monday 11th October 2021 in Aldington Village Hall, Roman Road, Aldington at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillors: L Harman (Chairman), A Baldwin, M Boulden, R Boulding, P Kemp, W Parkinson, and R Spicer.

In attendance: Peter Setterfield PSLCC, Parish Clerk.

Also present 2 members of the public.

947. Apologies for absence:

Councillors A Bowman and S Wagstaff

948. Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest

949. Neighbourhood Watch:

Report attached.

950. Public Participation Session:

Comment was passed about the fact that the football nets are left out in all weathers to deteriorate.

The matter will be taken up with the football club.

951. Minutes:

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th September 2021 were submitted, agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

952. Chairman's Report:

The Chairman reported that the Planning decision in respect of the land behind 2 – 16 Longsfield was issued in error by Ashford Borough Council. An investigation has taken place and the Borough Council has reported the matter requesting a judicial review of the application. The Borough Council has 6 weeks to submit its application when the matter enters the Court system.

Depending on the outcome of the judicial review the application should re-enter the planning system where it will be called in to go before the Borough Council Planning Committee for decision.

953. Finance:

The Parish Council is asked to consider adding two more councillors to the list of those authorised to sign bank transactions.

Schedule of payments:

Chq no	Payee	Purpose	Amount
1637	Aldington Village Hall	Room Hire	£20.00
1638	Harmer & Sons	Grounds maintenance	£1,164.00
1639	JRB Enterprise Ltd	Dog waste bags	£442.20

1640, 1641 & 1642	Staff costs		£2,044.53
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Resolved:

1. To receive and authorise the payments listed
2. To authorise the transfer of £4,000.00 from deposit account to current account
3. To add Councillors L Harman and R Spicer to the list of signatories on the bank account with no change to the signing arrangements.

954. Infrastructure Funding Statement:

Report ABPC/21/13 in accordance with The Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended), any authority that receives a contribution relating to Section 106 Legal Agreements (S106) and the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) must prepare an Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) to be published at least once in each calendar year, by no later than 31 December.

Resolved:

1. To receive and note **Report ABPC/21/13**
2. To receive and note the content of the **Infrastructure Funding Statement**
3. To publish the **Infrastructure Funding Statement** in the **Financial Reports** section of the **Parish Council website**.

955. Risk Management Strategy:

Report ABPC/21/15 brings to the Parish Council a risk management strategy which will act as evidence for Assertion 5 of the Annual Governance Statement.

Resolved:

1. To receive and note **Report ABPC/21/15**
2. To receive and adopt the **Risk Management Strategy**
3. To receive and note the **Strategic Risk Register**.

956. Code of Conduct:

Report ABPC/21/14 brings to the Parish Council a revised Code of Conduct for adoption.

Resolved:

1. To receive and note **Report ABPC/21/14**
2. To receive and adopt the **Code of Conduct**.

957. Quarry Field, Quarry Wood and Pond:

The second instalment of the pond clearance is due to take place at the end of the month, the area will be marked off for health and safety reasons.

It has become apparent that the new life rings that have been placed by the pond have not been set up in that the rope that is supposed to be connected to the ring is still in its packaging within the case. Councillor Parkinson will attend to the matter.

958. Community Garden:

The quotation for the hard landscaping requested last month has not been received and a further company has been approached to quote for the work.

It was suggested that a memorial bench be placed in the area as it had been noticed that Kent County Council were prepared to fund one. The Parish Clerk is to follow this up.

959. Play equipment:

Two companies have been approached and asked to give an overview on the existing equipment at Aldington Meadows as well as to restore the tennis court to become a MUGA.

One company has suggested the replacement of the existing equipment as well as introducing some new items that will appeal to older children the overall cost being £50,000. With regard to the tennis court they want to see the area cleared of undergrowth before a quotation can be prepared.

The second company advise that the existing equipment is still good for a number of years and have put forward two suggestions for equipment for older children which come in at £16,900 and £6,300 plus installation. They have also quoted for a MUGA on the existing tennis court base bringing the overall cost to £68,028 and £57,039 respectively.

At the current time the Parish Council does not have the funds or s106 funding available to fund the project therefore research is being undertaken to ascertain what grants are available prior to any applications being made.

960. Parking:

Over the last few weeks it has become apparent that there is a n issue with parked cars in the village's residential streets, which has caused an issue with the emptying of bins as the lorries have been unable to get through.

The Parish Council is asked to consider what actions can be taken to improve accessibility for the bin lorries and the emergency services.

961. Platinum Jubilee Events:

As well as lighting the beacon on Thursday 2nd June 2022 plans are under way for a village fete on Saturday 4th June 2022 from 2pm to 5pm.

Following the success of the Village Fete in August, which showed a surplus of £600, we will once again return to the Village Hall and Reynolds Playing Field to provide a fun and affordable afternoon for the residents of Aldington and Bonnington.

Activities already planned include: afternoon teas served in the Village Hall, live music from Ashford Youth Jazz Orchestra, a fun dog show, BBQ, craft stalls, Village exhibition, games for children, bouncy castle and slide, children's roundabout, classic cars, children's fancy dress competition and raffle.

As part of the fundraising activities towards the event, a special 1950's themed dinner will be held in January kindly hosted by Karen and her team at the Walnut Tree. Plans are also being made to hold a car boot fair on Reynolds Playing Field in May (subject to the weather).

Following discussion Councillor Baldwin requested that someone else took over arranging the event.

962. Neighbourhood Plan:

The exhibition on the 2nd October was attended by less than 30 people which was very disappointing, however the weather conditions on the day were not favourable. The display panels will be reused as a number of options for small presentations are being explored. Work is currently underway to make the display suitable for publication on the Neighbourhood Plan website.

The next part of the process for the neighbourhood plan is the Housing Needs Survey which it is planned to deliver and collect in order to reduce the overall cost of the survey as well as to drive up the response rate.

963. Football on Quarry Field:

Further to minute 944 of 13th September an application is being made to the Football Foundation for funding of the nets. Given the height of the nets when installed planning permission will be needed. In this respect pre-application advice is being sought from Ashford Borough Council to ascertain if such a scheme would be considered before a formal application is submitted.

It was noted that the pitch has yet to be rotated, the Clerk was asked to contact the football club in this respect.

964. Trees:

Following on from the tree survey quotations have been sought from three companies to undertake the areas highlighted in the survey as needing immediate actions. Only one quotation has been received.

Resolved: to request that Aspire Landscape Management undertake the works in accordance with the quotation provided.

965. Broadband:

Contact has been made with the Officer at Ashford Borough Council who is looking at Broadband Strategy and a number of points have been provided which are currently being investigated. Kent County Council have also been contacted as there are two possible alternatives, fibre and mobile technology. Progress will be reported at future Parish Council meetings.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20pm.

REPORT TO ALDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL OCT 11th 2021

By Peter New

Kent Police Volunteer & Neighbourhood Watch Team

I am pleased to make this report to the Council of the Neighbourhood Watch activities I manage in the Aldington area and also my work as a Kent Police Volunteer.

Listed in the annex are the schemes, many of which have 100% residents' membership.

I attended the excellent village fete and several other resident engagement meetings as we work to a return to normal following COVID. I was also invited by the Chairman to attend the Aldington Neighbourhood Plan event in the village which I was very pleased to do.

NHW recruitment is carried out and each new resident member enrolled is another piece in the very strong NHW membership jigsaw in the Aldington area.

At the Fete especially I engaged with most dog owners ensuring the best advice was available to combat the growing crime of dog thefts.

My preferred recruitment style is face to face allowing me to explain my methods of work but importantly listening to concerns of residents about crime and the fear of being a victim crime.

Aldington now has PCSO; Ann Martin transferred in replacing PCSO Luke Jones. I had an excellent working relationship with Luke Jones, and I will look to develop similar with Ann Martin.

I will be commencing a series of visits with Ann to bring her up to speed with the area.

I arranged for a series of Fire Safety Inspections to be carried out in areas of perceived risk/vulnerable persons. That work was also supported by my colleague PCSO Samantha (Sam) Sadler who carries out the "Vulnerable Persons" role at Ashford Police Station. Sam has the links to all other partner agencies if and when required.

I have a first-class working relationship with Chief Inspector Nick Sparkes the Police Commander for the Ashford District with regular update meetings.

The Crime Trends to be aware of and the focus of our crime prevention advice will be as follows:

1. **ALL PREMISES** secure at all times especially **Garages, Sheds, Outbuildings, Barns, Stables and any External Storage. Risk assess what is stored in sheds i.e. expensive fishing equipment and golf clubs.**
2. **VEHICLES** leave nothing whatsoever on show in a parked vehicle. **Vans and Commercial vehicles with tools, equipment and goods left inside at night are vulnerable**
3. **SCAMS by Mobile Phone, Land Line, Computers, Tablets and still occasionally by caller at the door.**
4. **ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR/ CRIMINAL DAMAGE** Report all incidents no matter how small.
5. **THEFTS OF DELIVERIES** from the doorstep. Try to make safe arrangements for accepting deliveries if you are likely to be out. Delivery vans are now followed by criminals, and this will increase in the run up to Christmas.
6. **DRUG ACTIVITY** The need to try and take action against all drug activity as this drives so much of the lower-level crime that plagues communities as drug users look to find monies to fund the purchase of drugs. The use of drugs can escalate and brings a different type of criminal into the community with links to County Lines.

THE TREND CRIMES

To be able to react to information and intelligence and tailor crime prevention advice to the community. This amplifies the requirement to report all crimes no matter how small. It builds up a picture and pattern which operational intervention, patrols and proactive campaigns and advice can be given to communities:

- Dog Thefts
- Catalytic Converters
- Metal thefts Fire Hydrant, Water Meter and Drain covers.
- Thefts of Heating Oil from tanks
- Thefts of petrol syphoned from parked cars
- Thefts of building supplies even from the front of houses following deliveries
- Animal thefts including exotic pets
- Livestock worrying
- E Scooters
- Nuisance Motorbikes

- Rural Crimes
- Fly Tipping

The list above is examples of trends but of course many more exist, intelligence and reports from the community are essential.

I am especially proactive with my “**Clouds on the Horizon** “alerts. It doesn’t have to occur in Aldington before we post crime prevention and alerts.

I hope this report is a scene setter for you and an introduction to both myself and how I work. and I look forward to working with you and attending future council meetings.

I have provided an annex with

- A. LIST OF ALDINGTON NHW SCHEMES
- B. EXAMPLES OF RECENT PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT IN ALDINGTON
- C. POSTERS TO COMBAT RURAL CRIME
- D. METHODS TO CALL THE POLICE
- E. POSTERS TO COMBAT FLY TIPPING

Thank you for your support

Peter

Peter New (91725 Kent Police Volunteer & Neighbourhood Watch Team

ALDINGTON (21 OPERATIONAL SCHEMES)

BADGERS CLOSE

BILL DEEDES WAY

BOAT. LANE

CALLYWELL LANE

CELAK DRIVE

CHURCH VIEW

**EARLSFIELD
GOLDWELL CLOSE
JOSEPH CONRAD DRIVE
KILN ROAD
LONGSFIELD
MOUNT PLEASANT
NOEL COWARD GARDENS
PATTISON FARM CLOSE
QUARRY HOUSE
QUARRYWOOD
RAGSTONE HOLLOW + (New Builds)
SAXON HEIGHTS
WALNUT RIDGE
WHEATFIELDS**

and

ALDINGTON GENERAL (Isolated Farms and properties)

I also have THE PARISH COUNCIL and CLERK set up as a communication group. I have also direct access to your Chairman at all times.

I contribute articles to the ALDINGTON& BONNINGTON VILLAGE COMMUNITY GROUP on Facebook which has over 3000 potential readers and contribute to over 80 other groups especially neighbouring districts.



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT IN ALDINGTON warning of the dangers of SCAMS to residents in QUARRY HOUSE. Also engaging and warning DOG OWNERS of the recent spike in dog thefts in Kent.



Speak up to stop rural crime.

Criminal gangs exploit our local wildlife, environment and communities. Your voice can make a difference.

Have information on rural crime? You can speak up and remain 100% anonymous. Always.
crimestoppers-uk.org

CrimeStoppers.
0800 555111
100% anonymous. Always.



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Speak up to our charity. 100% anonymous. Always.

crimestoppers-uk.org



CrimeStoppers.

0800 555 111

100% anonymous. Always.

DEALING WITH RESIDENTS CONCERNS ON RURAL CRIME



Need to report a crime?
Do it online

-  A quicker way for you to report crime and incidents
-  Receive your confirmation email and reference number immediately

Go to www.kent.police.uk/report

Contacting Kent Police



Find your answer online. Browse our A to Z question finder www.kent.police.uk/askthepolice



Email your local policing team. Visit www.kent.police.uk/yourarea



For non-urgent issues, call **101**



In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger, call **999**



If deaf or speech impaired, text '**police**' and your message to **60066**



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Kent Police

www.kent.police.uk

ENSURING ALL INCIDENTS ARE REPORTED.

**KEEP KENT
CLEAN**

**ROGUE TRADERS ARE
FLY-TIPPING ACROSS KENT.**

**IF YOUR WASTE IS FLY-TIPPED
BY A FAKE WASTE DISPOSAL
SERVICE YOU'LL FACE AN
UNLIMITED FINE.**

Before you hire a waste disposal service ask for the:

- **Waste Carrier Licence**
- **Where they dispose of their waste**
- **A receipt or invoice**

   #KeepKentClean  www.kent.gov.uk

 

DEALING WITH THE ISSUES OF FLY TIPPING AND DUMPING OF RUBBISH IN
RURAL AREAS