

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting of Aldington and Bonnington Parish Council held on Monday 9th May 2022 in Aldington Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillors; L Harman, M Boulden, R Boulding, R Lloyd and R Spicer

In attendance: Peter Setterfield PSLCC, Parish Clerk

Also present: P New (Neighbourhood Watch) and 5 members of the public

1058. Election of Chairman:

Cllr L Harman Proposed by Cllr M Boulden Seconded by Cllr R Boulding there being no other nominations

Resolved: Cllr Mrs L Harman elected as Chairman for the Municipal year 2022/23 Declaration of Acceptance of Office completed.

1059. Election of Vice Chairman:

Cllr R Boulding Proposed by Cllr L Harman Seconded by Cllr M Boulden there being no other nominations

Resolved: Cllr R Boulding elected as Vice-Chairman for the Municipal Year 2022/23 Declaration of Acceptance of Office completed.

1060. Apologies for Absence:

Cllrs A Bowman, W Parkinson & S Wagstaff

1061. Declarations of interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

1062. Neighbourhood Watch:

P New gave an overview of preventative measures as there had been no reported crimes.

1063. Public participation session:

A member from SaveAldington gave an update on their activities

1064. Minutes:

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th April 2022 were submitted, approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

1065. Chairman's Report:

The Easter egg hunt held in conjunction with the Fire Station and the WI was very successful with £304 being raised towards the refurbishment of the play area at Aldington Meadows. The Firefighters Charity also benefited by £642.

The events committee also assisted Poulton Woods with their Bluebell Cream Teas.

Plans are at an advanced stage for the Jubilee Big Lunch on Sunday June 5th which will be a picnic on the recreation ground and various activities.

1066. General Risk Assessment:

Report ABPC/22/01 brings to the Parish Council the outcome of the completion of the Annual Risk Assessment on the Parish Council undertaken as part of the Annual Governance review.

Resolved:

- 1. To receive and note Report ABPC/22/01**
- 2. To receive and acknowledge the General Risk Assessment.**

1067. Asset Register:

Report ABPC/22/02 brings to the Parish Council a copy of the asset register compiled from the Parish Council records.

Resolved:

- 1. To receive and note Report ABPC/22/02**
- 2. To receive and acknowledge the Asset Register.**

1068. Report of the Independent Internal Auditor:

Report ABPC/22/03 encloses the report of the Independent Internal Auditor who has been asked to complete Section 4 of the Annual Return to the Council's External Auditor PKF Littlejohn LLP.

Resolved:

- 1. To receive and note Report ABPC/22/03**
- 2. To receive and endorse the report of the Independent Internal Auditor.**

1069. Statement on Internal Control for the year ended 31st March 2022 – Annual Governance Statement:

Report ABPC/2022/04 details the Statement on Internal Control to support the Annual Governance Statement required as part of the Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2022.

Resolved:

- 1. To receive and note Report ABPC/22/04**
- 2. To approve and endorse the Statement on Internal Control for the year ended 31st March 2022.**
- 3. To authorise the Chairman of the Parish Council to sign the Statement of Internal Control for the year ended 31st March 2022.**
- 4. To respond 'Yes' in boxes 1 to 9 of the Annual Governance Statement at Section 1 of the Annual Return subject to the adoption of Report ABPC/22/04 which relates specifically to Box 6**
- 5. To authorise the Chairman of the Parish Council to sign the Annual Governance Statement.**

- 1070. Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2022:**
Report ABPC/22/05 attaches the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2022.

Resolved:

1. To receive and note Report ABPC/22/05
2. To approve and endorse the Accounting Statement at Section 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31st March 2022.
3. To authorise the Chairman of the Parish Council to sign the Accounts contained within the Annual Return for 2021/22.

- 1071. Annual Review of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations:**
Report ABPC/22/06 brings to the Parish Council an updated set of Standing Orders and a revised Procurement Policy.

Resolved:

1. To receive and note Report ABPC/22/06
2. To receive and note the revised Standing Orders.
3. To receive and note the revised Procurement Policy.

1072. Finance

Schedule of payments:

Chq No	Payee	Purpose	Amount
1711	KALC	Subscription	£629.23
1712	Harmer & Sons	Grounds Maintenance	£1,620.00
1713	Aldington Village Hall	Room Hire	£28.00
1714, 1715 & 1716	Staff costs		£1,815.95
1717	KALC	Training	£42.00
1718	Mr H J Hoad	Internal Audit	£190.00
1719	R Spicer	Domain renewal	£28.78

Resolved:

1. To receive and authorise the payment of the items in the schedule of payments.
2. To authorise the transfer of £4,000.00 from deposit account to current account.

1073. Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies:

Kent Association of Local Councils Ashford area committee – Cllr L Harman

Aldington Village Hall – Cllrs R Boulding and R Spicer

Planning Committee: Cllrs R Lloyd, R Boulding, A Bowman, S Wagstaff and resident L Guy

Events Committee: Cllrs L Harman, R Boulding and R Spicer.

1074. Schedule of meeting dates and venue for meetings:

The following meeting dates were agreed:

13th June 2022

11th July 2022

12th September 2022

3rd October 2022

14th November 2022

12th December 2022

9th January 2023

13th February 2023

13th March 2023

17th April 2023

After discussion and consideration it was agreed that Parish Council meetings would continue to be held in Aldington Village Hall as there was more space and fewer constraints on numbers attending meetings.

1075. Quarry Field, Quarry Wood and Pond:

No works undertaken as nesting season for birds.

1076. Community Garden:

The grass seed has been sown and the beds planted as well as an oak tree in the hedgerow. The wildflower seed will be sown in the autumn. Residents from the bungalows have been planting up the raised beds.

1077. Neighbourhood Plan:

The first draft of the Neighbourhood Plan has been produced and work is progressing on the policies to be included. A workshop on Housing will be taking place on Tuesday 17th May in the Village Hall.

1078. Events Committee:

Covered in the Chairman's Report.

1079. Allotments:

A request for the release of S106 monies to take forward the proposal for the supply of sheds at the Aldington Meadows site has been prepared and submitted to the Borough Council.

1080. Football on Quarry Field:

Rush Sports are currently liaising with Aldington Football Club on the subject of pitch layouts.

1081. Community Governance Review:

Ashford Borough Council is conducting a borough wide Community Governance Review (CGR) to consider if any changes are needed to current parish, town council or community council arrangements.

The primary purpose of the review is to deal with known issues but they would encourage all interested parties to let them know what they think about existing parish, town and community council arrangements and what changes, if any, they would like to see.

The consultation period will run from Monday 25 April to Monday 27 June 2022 and will be undertaken as set out in the Terms of Reference.

The Terms of Reference, Notice of Review and all review documentation can be viewed and downloaded using the link: www.ashford.gov.uk/community-governance-review-2022

1082. Any items of information.

Councillor Boulding has been approached by Kaleidescope to seek approval to place an advertising banner on the railings of the Reynolds Play area.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.