



ALDERLEY EDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Monday 14th December 2015

Present: Cllr G Hall (Chairman), Cllrs C Browne, M Garbett, R Grantham, I Higham
And C Munro, R Norbury and M Taylorson.
Clerk: A Ross
Hall Manager, PCSO
6 members of the public
1 member of the press

Meeting

Commenced: 8:04pm

1. Apologies for Absence.

Cllr M Dudley-Jones.

2. Declarations of interest and requests for dispensation to discuss, or discuss and vote on a matter in which a Member or co-opted Member has a Disclosable Pecuniary interest (DPI).

None

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 9th November 2015.

Approval proposed by Councillor I Higham, seconded by Councillor C Browne and carried.

4. To ratify the projects sub-committee terms of reference.

Cllr Hall felt that these needed further discussion and proposed this item be deferred until the January meeting.

Cllr Browne proposed, Cllr Garbett seconded and all were agreed that this item be deferred until the January meeting.

5. Update from the Festival Hall/Medical Centre sub-committee.

Cllr Hall reported that the Medical Centre is still on target for completion at the end of February. The Doctors have been in and looked at two rooms that were mocked up in terms of space utilisation, the idea being to help minimise any last minute changes. The building is now effectively water tight and discussions with the Pharmacy continue but there will be a delay in letting on the 2nd floor until some basic fitting out has been done.

There is a shortfall in funding to complete additional works to the Festival Hall. Previously budgeted at £540,000 the actual cost will be £840,000 leaving a shortfall of £300,000 to find. The Parish Council are actively seeking donors/sponsors or individuals who are willing to help bring this project to fruition. The extras are an additional meeting room alongside the entrance which would link to the bar, a meeting room on the top floor with a further meeting room at the back along with the Parish Council offices, toilets and a disabled access lift. Progress has been made on the fundraising, having pledges totalling £160,000 leaving £140,000 to be found.

Cllr Browne highlighted the need for the hall to have a robust business plan in place to show how it can be made into a viable community asset.

6. To agree an increase in expenditure on the Festival Hall up to £840,000, which will accommodate phase 2 of the refurbishment plans.

Cllr Hall proposed an amendment to the resolution to make clear that expenditure will only be made when the funds are in place and clearly identified.

Cllr Hall proposed, Cllr Garbett seconded and all were agreed to amend the resolution.

Approval of the amended resolution was proposed by Cllr Hall, seconded by Cllr Garbett and carried.

RESOLVED: To agree an increase in expenditure on the Festival Hall up to £840,000, which will accommodate phase 2 of the refurbishment plans once funds are in place and clearly identified.

7. To agree an increase in expenditure on the Medical Centre to £2.5 million to enable completion of the Pharmacy/2nd floor to lettable condition and the security arrangements to meet Secure by Design specifications.

Approval was proposed by Cllr Hall, seconded by Cllr Norbury and carried.

RESOLVED: To agree an increase in expenditure on the Medical Centre to £2.5 million to enable completion of the Pharmacy/2nd floor to lettable condition and the security arrangements to meet Secure by Design specifications.

8. Update on Youth Parish Council.

Nothing to report.

9. Update on Parking.

Cllr Taylorson reported that several surveys have been completed and all options have been discussed with CEC. The findings and proposals will be published in the Parish Council newsletter. All the proposals and suggestions will then be put forward to the village for comment.

10. To agree to spend up to £5000 on feasibility and pre-planning to enable evaluation of car parking options.

Approval was proposed by Cllr Browne, seconded by Cllr Taylorson and carried.

RESOLVED: To agree to spend up to £5000 on feasibility and pre-planning to enable evaluation of car parking options.

11. Update on Parks, Open Spaces and Allotments.

Cllr Browne reported that the next three ward member briefings for Alderley Park redevelopment are on 29th January, 11th March and 29th April, from 1pm for the ward councillors and 1.30pm for the parish councillors. Alderley Edge playing fields – one of the flower beds next to the pavilion has been adopted by Heather Weinholt and another one will be looked after by the Allotment Society. He hopes other businesses' will also get involved.

Drains – He has passed the results of the recent drains survey over to Highways and asked them to take appropriate action. He would like to do a similar audit on street lights and asked if an article could be put on ae.com asking people to report any faulty street lights.

Street cleaning issues – Chorley Hall Lane, Oakfield Road, Sutton Road and Chapel Road have had their gullies cleaned out.

LAP – He attended the Local Area Partnership meeting who are responsible for allocating funding to Highways projects and is happy to report they have agreed to allocate their £9000 unspent funds to Alderley Edge.

Traffic Regulation Orders on a number of roads will go out to public consultation this week and work will start on Talbot Road early in the New Year.

He is taking part in a new task finishing group dealing with S106 money. One of the objectives of this is to make the S106 process, including the allocation of funds at local level, more transparent. It is to include CEC and Parish councillors. We as a Parish Council will be asked to suggest appropriate ideas for S106 allocation on large planning applications.

He is planning his next community surgery for Friday 29th January, 10-12pm at Aldeli.

Cllr Munro reported that she was planning to apply for the Tesco community grant but needs ideas of a project that she can apply for.

12. Update on Police Liaison.

Cllr Garbett reported that the PCSO is still on sick leave. Cllr Munro reported that she is arranging to meet with Matt, the PCSO covering the area for a walk around the village. There was a discussion with PCSO Jim Newns regarding parking issues and he agreed to look into them. Cllr Norbury requested that the absent PCSO's emails are forwarded to someone who can deal with them.

13. Update on Communications.

Nothing to report.

14. Update on Village Signs.

Cllr Munro has emailed highways for advice on acceptable designs for any signs but as yet has not received any response. She has asked the designer for some quotes and will bring these to council for consideration.

15. Update on Neighbourhood plan.

Cllr Munro has met with the Neighbourhood planning officer to find out what was involved. Following on from that, she has received a suggestion for a project plan for the neighbourhood plan.

Cllr Hall asked about the potential benefits considering it is a lengthy and costly exercise. Cllr Munro believes the Parish Council can apply for a grant from both the government and CEC and the benefits are an increased say in what happens in the way of housing in the Alderley Edge area.

After discussion, approval was proposed by G Hall, seconded by Cllr Taylorson and carried

RESOLVED: The Parish Council will explore the next steps to create a Neighbourhood Plan, including discussions with neighbouring parishes.

16. To discuss the arrangements for next year's Christmas tree at the Parade.

Waitrose have taken the power for the Christmas tree connection, used it for their parking meter and concreted over the connection pillar. Therefore, the electrician has had to take a feed from a light pillar nearby to power the tree and alternative arrangements will have to be made for next year. Cllr Grantham agreed to contact Waitrose and follow this up.

17. Reports from Councillors.

Cllr Munro reported she had attended the annual Town & Parish Council conference and found it very useful.

Meeting Closed: 8.17pm

ACTION SUMMARY

Undertaken By	Detail	When For
Cllr Grantham	Contact Waitrose about the Christmas tree connection	As soon as practical

**Councillor G Hall
CHAIRMAN**