



## ALDERLEY EDGE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2015

**Present:** Cllr MH Williamson (Chairman), MJ Connor, DG Herald, F Keegan, S Joseph, MD Lloyd  
MW Maczkowiak and N Schofield

**In attendance:** 2 members of the public  
1 member of the press  
Hall Manager  
Clerk: A. Ross

#### Meeting

**Commenced:** 7.50pm

#### 1. Apologies for Absence.

Cllrs JD Bergin

#### 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 9<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

Approval proposed by Councillor MJ Connor, seconded by Councillor DG Herald and carried.

#### 4. To confirm funding for 2 new planters in the village.

Cllr Connor asked the PC to agree funding for 2 new planters in the village at a cost of approximately £385 per planter. Incredible Edible will then be responsible for their upkeep. There was a discussion about location and the Clerk requested that their purchase was delayed until the new financial year.

A vote was taken and all were agreed.

#### 5. Update on keeping the village tidy and ideas for general improvements.

Cllr Connor highlighted the areas she thought needed attention and Cllr Williamson suggested that he put it on the agenda for the meeting he will be having with Diane Smith and AETAG.

Cllr Williamson suggested that the Hall Manager produces a report of the Lengthman's activities regarding litter picking and puts it on the website asking residents for suggestions of areas that need attention. It was also suggested that the Clerk asks the Edge Association if they have any suggestions for the Community Payback Scheme.

#### 6. To agree spend of up to £5000 on the Cemetery memorial garden and general update.

Cllr Connor asked for the money to be agreed to pay for a statue for the children's area of the memorial garden.

A vote was taken and all were agreed on setting the budget subject to design approval.

Cllr Herald gave an update on the work CEC had done in the cemetery.

**7. Discuss Music Festival and agree possible expenditure.**

Cllr Williamson reported that due to problems removing the telecoms masts the construction programme for the side entrance has been delayed and will not be ready in time for the music festival. He has met with members of the Music Festival Committee and explained the situation. He has asked them to produce an impact statement of additional expenses they will incur due to the change of venue and agreed that the Parish Council will reimburse some of those costs. Once received the figures will be presented to all councillors and considered with regard to any compensation.

**8. Discuss registering for the Quality Status scheme.**

Cllr Williamson explained that a new Quality Status Scheme has been launched and asked councillors to consider if it is something they would be interested in registering for. There was a discussion about the pros and cons of such a scheme and it was agreed that the Clerk would produce a list of the standards that we are not yet meeting and circulate to all councillors for consideration.

**9. Update from the ‘Projects sub-committee’.**

Cllr Williamson gave an update on the removal of the telecoms masts. Arqiva are having their power supply and data link moved out of the way so work can continue. There was a discussion about compensation and Cllr Williamson felt this was a debate for another time, once the masts had been removed. Although the Parish Council can have that debate with advice from lawyers they may not want to spend more money going down this route.

Work on the side extension will continue and the building contract and Doctor’s lease are more or less ready to be signed.

Cllr Williamson agreed to ask the building contractors to send letters to neighbours explaining the demolition plans and schedule.

Cllr Lloyd asked if councillors could have a site visit in the next few weeks and Cllr Williamson agreed that he would arrange for the project manager to come and talk councillors through the process.

There was a discussion about the details of the project and how it could be a business model that other councils could use.

**10. Reports from Councillors.**

Cllr Maczkowiak asked when the Christmas lights were being switched off. The Clerk responded that they were supposed to have been switched off at the end of February and she would chase it up with the contractor. She also asked what is happening with regard to moving the notice board outside Waitrose. The Clerk was asked to contact Diane Smith regarding this.

Cllr Maczkowiak reported that Cheshire Peaks & Plains have served notice to quit on the people that have garages on Beech Close and this displacement is causing serious parking problems on the estate. Cllr Williamson asked her to email him the details and he will forward the complaint to Peter Hooley.

Cllr Herald gave an update on improvements in the park. He has added the new CEC Park Strategy to the Parish Council website for anyone who would like to look at it.

Cllr Joseph reported on a meeting she had attended regarding the Alderley Park development. Michael Jones gave a presentation and the housing figure proposed was 200 and possibly up to 7000 workers on the site. She has not yet managed to meet with the PCSO but will be meeting with her this week and asked the other councillors to let her know if there were any issues they wanted her to raise.

Cllr Schofield reported on the planned closure of the by-pass for 4 days and feels it shows a lack of thinking on the part of CEC. He agreed to draft a letter highlighting the problems to CEC.

Cllr Keegan reported that there are 3 banners on the railings outside the girl’s school at the top of Brook Lane. He asked the Clerk to send the school a letter asking for the banners un-connected to the school to be removed as there are strict highways rules which apply.

Cllr Lloyd reported that the building on the corner of Clifton Street and Stevens Street is crumbling. Cllr Williamson agreed to look into it.

**Meeting Closed:** 9.00pm

**ACTION SUMMARY**

<b>Undertaken By</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>When For</b>
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Clerk	Contact Edge Assoc re community payback	As soon as practical
Clerk	Make list of standards in quality status scheme that PC currently do not meet	As soon as practical
Cllr Williamson	Ask Jones to send letters to neighbours re demolition	As soon as possible
Clerk	Contact D Smith re PC noticeboard	As soon as practical
Clerk	Write letter to school re banners	As soon as practical
Cllr Williamson	Look into building on corner of Clifton and Stevens St	As soon as practical

**Councillor MH Williamson**  
**CHAIRMAN**