



ALBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Serving Farley Green, Brook, Little London & Newlands Corner

PARISH OF ALBURY

NOTICE OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Local Government Act 1972

The minutes of Albury Parish Council meeting held on

Monday 7th April, 2025 at 19:30 in the memorial library

for the transaction of the under mentioned business.

There will be an informal question time of up to fifteen minutes during which members of the public, who live or work in the Parish, may ask questions relevant to the work of the Council. The Council meeting will start immediately following public question time or at 7.45pm, whichever is the earlier.

MINUTES

Due to the absence of both the Chair and Vice-Chair, a Chair needed to be elected. Cllr Gellatly proposed Cllr McCann. Seconded by Cllr Edwards. All in favour.

Present: The Clerk, Cj Bishop-Wright

In attendance: Cllrs A. McCann, G. Baker, N. Edwards, and P. Gellatly
Borough and County Cllr R. Hughes

Member of Public: Mr J. Brockwell, Mrs K. and Mr M. Hurman, Mrs D. and Mr B. Massey, and Mr W. Moorwood

Apologies for absence:

Cllrs G. Robinson, S. Bevan, and S. Dennis

Borough Cllr. Newson

Residents from Farley Green attended the meeting to discuss flooding and drainage issues at Farley Green. Mr. Moorwood spoke for the group of residents, explaining the problems affecting properties, particularly Heath Cottage and the multiple-event flooding of Newlands. The flooding issues were attributed to a blocked drainage pipe under a driveway on the east side of the Green. Mr Moorwood explained that due to the Land Registry plan he had, it shows the pipes being the ownership of the Parish Council and thus its responsibility. Mr Moorwood reminded the Parish Council of the history of the multiple times flooding occurred and the confirmation of action in 2016, which has not been executed. Mr Moorwood explained the impacts of the flooding on the property, its sewage and drainage, and the impact on the residents who cannot live or perform basic tasks including using the bathroom and washing. The residents understand the Parish Council's decision to undertake all due diligence before proceeding but asks that Council act on this and repair the pipe under the drive as soon as possible to remove the flooding risk. Whilst Mr Moorwood recognised the issue over funding, he asked the Parish Council to confirm its priorities and how it could be that the Council is spending money on other items, such as flower planters and grass cutting, when residents could not go to the toilet or have a shower.

Cllr Edwards videoed Mr Moorwood's session and all Cllrs are encouraged to watch the recording for completeness of understanding and the impact on residents.

- 054/25 **Open Forum**
- 055/25 **Declarations of interest:**
None received.
- 056/25 **Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 3rd March; Annex 1**
Approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting.
- 057/25 **Actions Update; Annex 2**
- a) *Update of the repair of New Road*
Action removed – works done have improved the position, although likely temporary. Securing further funds for this unlikely.
 - b) *Network Rail road repairs*
Cllrs McCann and Hughes are working with Network Rail regarding disruptions and damage, and the installation of the white fence at the level crossing not in keeping with rural aesthetics. Meeting scheduled this week. **AM
BH**
 - c) *Church Maintenance Funds*
Cllr McCann went through the report received from Tim Hearney after attending our meeting. He advised that the committee working on the magazine have asked for someone from the Council to be involved in the Council side of communications through the magazine. Cllr Baker and the Clerk to represent. Cllr McCann also advised that the report includes a request for more contribution from the Council to the maintenance of the graveyard. To be discussed at the next meeting. **GB
CJ**
- 058/25 **Brief Report from Borough Councillors**
- a) *Local Government Reorganisation*
Cllr Hughes discussed the minister's letter regarding the reorganisation of local government. Elections scheduled for local councillors for May 2026, to take office April 2027.
 - b) *Housing Revenue Account*
Cllr Hughes updated on the FOI request regarding the unaccounted monies in the housing revenue account.
- 059/25 **Brief report from County Councillors**
- a) *Bakery Mews*
Works confirmed for this financial year.
 - b) *Drainage in Church Lane*
Cllr Hughes advised that the works have been commissioned.
 - c) *Robinswood Right of Way*
SCC are consulting on a byway-to-bridleway change at Byways 507 and 508. Council to be consulted in due course.
- 060/25 **Clerks matters arising**
- a) *Response to the Draft Tenant and Leaseholder Engagement Strategy Survey; Annex 3*
No comments.
 - b) *Policies meeting*
Clerk advised of a number of policies Council are required to review and adopt this year. Clerk proposed an extraordinary meeting on 28th April after the planning meeting to review and make any amendments to the new policies ahead of the Annual Meeting. Clerk to circulate as soon in advance as possible. **CJ**
- Committee reports:
- 061/25 **Highways, Byways, and Traffic & Open Spaces and Maintenance: Cllr Edwards**
- a) *Update on Farley Green Flooding Works*
 - i) *Legal Opinion*
Cllr McCann asked if the final draft of the next communication to the solicitors was ready to go. Cllr Edwards to amend with the addition of the Land Drainage Act 1991. Clerk to send to the solicitor with all attachments. Albury Estate have been contacted for a copy of any easements or rights of way they have provided **NE
CJ**

to any of the properties in question. Further discussion on this to take place on 28th April, provided a response has been received by then.

ii) *General Summary Update*

Cllr Edwards advised that the cost of replacing the pipe will be no more than £3,500. Cllr Edwards update that laying a pipe in the ditch on the east side of the Green would not be effective as it would require the bushes to be removed and further ditch excavation would be required. It was re-stated by cllrs that the bushes are now over-grown and invading the ditch impeding the flow of water.

b) *Japanese Knot Weed*

c) *Update on Recreation Ground Play Equipment Installation issues*

NE

Cllr Edwards advised that the equipment has been installed in the wrong place, resulting in a smaller football pitch, but the contractors are unable to put this right without further costs. Council decided to leave as is.

d) *Update on Bark Replacement in Recreation Ground*

NE

Works due to be done soon.

e) *Proposal to approve costs for planting cosmos in the planter troughs*

Cllr Edwards proposed to approve costs of £100 for cosmos and £150 for the planting. Cllr McCann seconded. All in favour. Cllr Edwards to check with a resident for a discount on the cosmos. If not possible, Cllr Edwards to go ahead with current quote.

f) *Village Hall Signage quotes*

Cllr Edwards advised that the Albury Estate may be able to cover the costs of replacing the village hall sign. Cllr Hughes may be able to cover this in his budget if not. Quotes received for £131.

062/25 **Planning and environment: Cllr Gellatly**

a) *Sandpit planning application*

Cllr Gellatly advised of a planning application at the Sandpit under Waverley Borough Council, due to the precise location.

b) *Footpath at Winterfold closures*

Cllr McCann updated on a new process for closure and notification of this at the footpath. Council will have an opportunity to consult on this. Clerk to put this on the website once received, and local residents to be updated as closures confirmed.

CJ

063/25 **Environmental projects: Cllr McCann**

a) *SCC Climate Team Presentation*

Cllr McCann to organise presentation for the start of the Annual Meeting on 12th May.

064/25 **Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Dennis**

Nothing to report.

065/25 **Finance and Village Hall: Cllr Bevan**

The following to be approved and signed, where necessary:

a) *Bank reconciliation end of March; Annex 4*

Approved and signed against the March bank statement.

b) *Invoice list end of March; Annex 5*

Approved and signed against the March bank statement.

c) *Bank statement end of March; Annex 6*

d) *Village Hall lease approval; Annex 7*

Deferred due to the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair.

e) *Memorial Library lease approval; Annex 8*

Deferred due to the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair.

066/25 **Councillor's business: for noting or including on a future agenda**

067/25 **New Correspondence**

a) *Communications*

Mr Brockwell raised that some residents have given feedback about the lack of offline information regarding the Parish Council there is. Council agreed to post the approved minutes on the noticeboard and the planning meeting agenda.

b) *Emergency Planning*

Cllr Baker circulated draft of the plan and asked for comments ahead of discussion.

c) *Farley Green flooding issues*

Cllr McCann updated that the west-side ditch clearance has been mostly completed by the residents. Remaining works cost reduced to £1,000 on Parish Council land. SCC are addressing Ride Lane flood concerns and sump maintenance at Shophouse Farm. Drains covers replaced, monitoring schedule under review.

d) *Flooding at Shophouse Lane*

SCC have now cleared out the sumps at Shophouse Farm, replaced street furniture, and included this on a yearly maintenance schedule.

068/25 **Dates of meetings**

Full council: 30th April (Annual Parish Meeting), 12th May, 2nd June

Planning: 28th April, 19th May

069/25 **Open Forum**

Meeting closed:

Dated this: 8th April, 2025

*Signed: CJ Bishop-Wright
Parish Clerk*