

ALDFORD AND SAIGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on **THURSDAY 5 DECEMBER 2024**
AT 7.15PM at Aldford Village Hall.

Present: Cllr M Davies, Cllr A Cotton, Cllr H Gornall, Cllr D Walker.

In Attendance: Borough Cllr A Waddelove, C Taylor (Clerk), S Dawson (Grosvenor Estate).

1.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Cllr B Roscoe, Cllr D Weaver, Cllr L Humphries, Cllr P Cummins,
A Farbon, Grosvenor Estate. **Resolved:** Noted.

2.DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Members were invited to declare any personal, prejudicial, or pecuniary interests they may have in any item on the agenda, subject to the rules regarding disclosure contained in the current Members' Code of Conduct and as defined by regulations made under section30(3) of the Localism Act 2011.
Resolved: No declarations made.

3.PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. Nothing raised.

4.POLICE UPDATE.

Police report not received to circulate prior to the meeting. Clerk reported that the Estate had reported issues with hare coursing and that the police had advised that any activity should be reported as an emergency via 999.**Resolved:** Noted.

5. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT.

Cllr Waddelove reported.

i)Saughton bus shelter light: CWAC had installed a LED light on a pilot basis. It was reported that the light was a little intermittent. **Resolved:** To monitor and Cllr Waddelove would feed this back to CWAC.

ii)Abbey Gate/traffic calming measures: Cllr Waddelove had informed Highways that Members did not want double yellow lines and opposed their suggested action. No response had yet been received but it was acknowledged that the officer concerned had a particularly heavy workload. Given CWAC

budget restrictions it could reasonably be assumed that the suggested actions had in any case been taken off the works schedule.

iii) Defibrillator Saughton Village Hall: Strong concerns were raised about the current status and custodianship of the defibrillator. **Resolved:** Sarah Dawson, Grosvenor Estate, would deal with resolving concerns by establishing who the custodian of the defibrillator was and ensuring that it was rescue ready and registered on The Circuit. Following on from this to investigate current positioning of the defibrillator as complaints had been made that it should be more visible as people were not aware it was there in its current position.

iv) Lea Lane update. No update from the Highways contractor. Cllr Waddelove had written to the Estate to suggest a joint letter and awaited a response. With the current financial position of CWAC the work would however not be a priority.

v) No 5 bus / trial of extended service: Reported as having been very popular with a decision made for it to continue indefinitely.

vi) Councils' finances: Reported as running at a £8.5m deficit. New budget to be published in January.

vii) Planning: The department was saying that the caseload backlog had now been dealt with and they would therefore now be reducing the number of case officers in the team. The likely result would be that a further backlog would then build.

viii) Special Education. Needs and Disabilities (SEND): Demand on the service continued to increase. The organisation was top heavy however and additional funding therefore did not necessarily improve results as it needed to be more targeted.

6. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

The minutes of the Meeting of 5 September 2024 were approved as a correct record.

Proposed: Cllr H Gornall **Seconded:** Cllr D Walker

7. MATTERS ARISING.

i) Commemoration of the wedding of His Grace Duke of Westminster: Members had previously discussed possible ways of commemorating the wedding of His Grace Duke of Westminster. The Estate had since advised that no further commemoration was required. **Resolved:** Position acknowledged.

ii)Boundary sign (Aldford) at Chapel Lane. A replacement sign had been purchased and installed but had been removed by persons unknown almost immediately after installation. The theft had been reported to the police and a crime reference had been issued. **Resolved:** To reinstall.

8.ACCOUNTS. Resolved: That the payment of salaries and expenses, the payment of invoices for goods received and services rendered be approved and the receipts and balances (£3527.17 as at 1 October 2024) be noted.

Proposed: Cllr M Davies **Seconded:** Cllr A Cotton.

9.BUDGET AND PRECEPT SETTING 2025/2026.

Resolved: Precept request for 2025/2026 be set at £5000.

Proposed: Cllr Davies **Seconded:** Cllr Cotton **Agreed** by all present.

Proposed: Cllr M Davies **Seconded:** Cllr A Cotton.

10. PLANNING.

Noted that all planning applications were circulated to members between meetings.

Existing Applications:

24/00008/LBC Village Stocks Chester Road Aldford Replacement of the timber stocks which are placed within stone supports.

24/00657/FUL Porter Heath Holdings 2 Ridges Lane Saughton
Conversion of 2 no. traditional red brick barns into 3 no. residential dwellings, the demolition of other agricultural buildings and the construction of detached garaging and associated landscaping.

24/01661/FUL Lea Mosses Farm Lea Lane Aldford Construction of new silage clamp.

New Applications: None. **Decided:** None.

11. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED.

Nothing not already discussed elsewhere on the agenda or previously circulated to members on email.

12. STANDING CONSIDERATION OF HIGHWAY MATTERS.

i)Blocked gullies Saighton. **Noted:** The gullies had been reported, assessed and works scheduled but jetting not yet carried out.

ii)Street light opposite school obscured by trees Saighton. **Noted:** The Estate had reported to CWAC as it was their responsibility not the Estates.

iii)Wild flower bed disrupting motorists sight lines Saighton triangle.
Resolved: Noted as reported to CWAC but still not cut. Cllr Waddelove to escalate.

iv)Gully before Churton Heath Farm reported as needing clearing.
Resolved: Cllr Waddelove to report.

v)Green Lake Lane 20mph: Reports of vehicles exceeding the speed limit received. **Resolved:** Noted but difficult to police.

13.ANY OTHER BUSINESS. Nothing raised.

14. RESOLVED: DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL: THURSDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2025 AT SAIGHTON VILLAGE HALL.