

23/50

Clerk's Report

The Clerk informed the meeting that Landscape Services had visited Hardings Close and had given a quote of £350.00 plus VAT to remove weeds/cut back hedges and to spray weeds with herbicide, returning in 2 weeks' time to complete the work.

Cllr Andrew D'Angibau was concerned that this would set a precedent. A resident informed the meeting of another grounds maintenance person within Aldham (Kevin Britton) and asked whether a second quote could be obtained.

The Parish Council agreed to get a second quote from Kevin Britton. A resident offered to show him around the area requiring attention.

The clerk informed the meeting of a quote to clear the pathway on Ford Hill back to the edge of the tarmac. The quote was for £400.00 + VAT quote to clear pathway.

Cllr Andrew D'Angibau offered to cut back to the verge before Landscape Services started any work on this.

Cllr Andrew D'Angibau would liaise with John Glover (Landscape Services). The Parish Clerk was actioned to give Cllr Andrew D'Angibau the email address for Landscape Services.

23/51

Finance

To approve payments in accordance with the Budget

Payments for August 2023

PC Salary	£555.60
Mileage Expenses	£3.60
HMRC	£139.00
RCCE	£52.80
Street Lighting	<u>£21.60</u>
Total	<u>£772.60</u>

Payments for September 2023

PC Salary	£555.80
Mileage Expenses	£3.60
HMRC	£138.80
Landscape Services	£303.60
Landscape Services	£303.60
Landscape Services	£303.60
Landscape Services	£303.60
Landscape Services	£303.60
Landscape Services	<u>£120.00</u>
Total	<u>£2,336.20</u>

Proposed: Cllr Jackie Daines

Seconded: Cllr Andrew D'Angibau

23/52

Planning/Housing

52.1 Applications for discussion at meeting
None

52.2 Planning Applications – Observations conveyed under delegated authority since last meeting

231906 – The Cabin, Rectory Road, Aldham, CO6 3RR – Application for variation of a condition 1 & 2 following grant of planning permission of application 160786.

Comments: No Objections

231934 – Rye House, New Road, Aldham, CO6 3QT – Proposed side extension

Comments: Objection:

The Parish Council would object to this planning application for the following reason: It is an ugly flat roof featureless building out of proportion to the existing house and not in keeping with surroundings.

231961 – Rye House, New Road, Aldham, CO6 3QT – proposed new outhouse buildings in place of existing (Retrospective).

Comments: Objection:

The Parish Council would object to this planning application for the following reason: It is an ugly flat roof featureless building out of proportion to the existing house and not in keeping with surroundings.

52.3 Planning Applications – Decisions received since last meeting

23/53

Millennium Playing Field

A discussion was held on the land offered by Ben Hughes for free to the Parish Council for a new playground area.

Chairman Jackie Daines explained it was a majority decision for the Parish Council not to accept this offer.

Cllr Adam Scott explained that the Parish Council were waiting to see if a better offer for land is offered to the Parish Council. He further informed the meeting that options for the playground had been shown in the grapevine magazine.

A resident had sent in an email asking what was happening with regards to the playground and the land behind the village hall. It was explained by Cllr Adam Scott that the offer still stands.

Cllr Mike Lambert suggested that we should hold back and see whether any better options could be explored and further re-iterated that this offer may still be on the table. A resident at the meeting said that he would share the information with the first resident.

23/54

Aldham Against Pylons

Cllr Adam Scott informed the meeting that a village meeting had taken place on 16th August 2023. A response to the consultation went out on the 17th August 2023, this response is shown on the Parish Council website.

23/55

Footpath Diversion

Footpath 21 – this has been agreed previously for the diversion to take place.

23/56

Training/Events

56.1 Reports on attended events

56.2 Nominations for new events

23/57

Information Exchange/Items for next agenda

Cllr Brenda Brown suggested a footpath to Marks Tey. This would involve crossing 2 farmers' fields and would require their permission. Cllr Andrew D'Angibau will contact one of the farm owners to begin with.

Cllr Jackie Daines informed that meeting that we still have a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. Cllr Jackie Daines was actioned to email the vacancy to Tony Gearey who would put it on the grapevine facebook page.

Cllr Jackie Daines informed the meeting that Alan Knott (Village Hall Bar) had contacted the Parish Council with regards to staging a joint event at xmas time with the Parish Council. The Parish council agreed in principle but required more information on the event.

23/58

To confirm date and time of next meeting

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 7th November 2023 at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.23 p.m.

Signed.....

Chairman

Date.....

Infrastructure Audit by Colchester City Council 2023 Priorities for Aldham Parish Council

Given the village is not identified for new housing in the current Local Plan the Parish Council recognise that only small-scale infill is ever likely, and therefore the only s106 infrastructure eligible under the City Council' Supplementary Planning Guidance would be for Community Facilities and Sport & Recreation.

Community Facilities/Sport & Recreation:

The priority is for the replacement of the **playing fields and play equipment** when the current lease expires in June 2024. At present no suitable alternative site has been identified, but the options for the future are under review by

the Parish and funding would be required for purchase/lease of a new site and potentially replacement and/or additional play equipment.

No costings can be given at this stage but a budget in the order of £30,000 is suggested.

The **Village Hall** is managed by an independent Committee, but it is understood that a porch over the

rear door is needed. Estimated cost [£2500?] **Replacement of two Parish Notice Boards - £3,000**

Preparation of Ecological Management Plan for Gallows Green - £2500

Highways & Transport:

The village is affected by traffic using local roads for rat running, particularly to avoid holdups on eastbound A120 at Marks Tey. Volume and speed of traffic on Brook Road/North Lane has increased, especially following the completion of the new bridge, and Brook Road is too narrow for larger vehicles to pass safely north of the bridge. This makes the route dangerous for walkers and cyclists. The Parish Council would seek funding for a feasibility study to examine the potential for extending and improving the existing PRoW [FP?] from Aldham Hall to North Lane to create a **safe pedestrian/cycle route between the village and Marks Tey Station**, bus services and other facilities. A safer route could also assist in reducing the need for residents to travel by car to reach these facilities.

Repairs to footway on Ford St Bridge - £10,000

PRoW repairs to signs, bridges etc reported in January 2021 - £3000 Safety Equipment for Community Speed Watch team £650

ALDHAM PARISH COUNCIL 9th May 2023