

Minutes of the Aldington and Bonnington Parish Council Annual Meeting held on Wednesday 10th May 2023 in Aldington Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillors; L Harman (Chairman), R Boulding, L Guy, P Hannabus, H Stebbings, G Taylor and S Wagstaff

In attendance: Peter Setterfield PSLCC, Parish Clerk.

Also present: 1 resident.

1212. **Apologies for absence:**

Cllr R Spicer.

1213. **Election of Chairman of Aldington and Bonnington Parish Council for the municipal year 2023/2024:**

There being only one nomination

1214. **Resolved to elect Cllr L Harman as Chairman of Aldington and Bonnington Parish Council for the municipal year 2023/2024.**

1215. **Co-option to fill vacancies arising following the election:**

Following the election there were two vacancies on the Aldington ward, one being S Wagstaff who missed the deadline for submitting nomination papers.

Resolved: to co-opt S Wagstaff as a councillor for Aldington Ward, the remaining vacancy to be advertised

1216. **Election of Vice-Chairman of Aldington and Bonnington Parish Council for the municipal year 2023/2024:**

There being only one nomination

Resolved: to elect Cllr S Wagstaff as Vice-Chairman of Aldington and Bonnington Parish Council for the year 2023/2024.

1217. **Declarations of interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

1218. **Public Participation:**

A request was made for a white line to be placed on the road adjacent to the dropped kerb on Roman Road by the Reynolds Gate as parked cars blocked disabled access. This will be passed on to Kent Highways.

The Chairman commented that whilst carrying out her election campaign a number of comments were made to her about the goals being locked and inaccessible.

1219. **Neighbourhood Watch:**

Report attached.

1220. **Minutes:**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17th April 2023 were submitted, approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

1221. **Appointment of Members to the Planning Committee:**
Resolved: To appoint Councillors L Guy, P Hannabus, H Stebbings and S Wagstaff to the planning committee.
1222. **Appointment of Members to outside bodies:**
Resolved: to appoint Councillors L Harman and P Hannabus to attend the meetings of the Ashford Committee of the Kent Association of Local Councils.
1223. **Review of Standing Orders:**
The Standing Orders previously circulated to members conform to the current model Standing Orders supplied by the National Association of Local Councils.
1224. **Review of Financial Regulations:**
The Financial Regulations previously circulated to members conform to the current model Financial Regulations supplied by the National Association of Local Councils.
1225. **General Power of Competence:**
Report ABPC/2023/001 brings to the Parish Council details of the General Power of Competence and the requirements for it to be adopted.
The Parish Council resolves from 10th May 2023, until the next relevant Annual Meeting of the Council, that having met the conditions of eligibility as defined in the Localism Act 2011 and SI 965 The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012, to adopt the General Power of Competence.
1226. **Meeting dates:**
The Parish Council traditionally meets on the second Monday of the month. The following dates are proposed for the 2023/2024 municipal year.
- 12th June 2023
10th July 2023
11th September 2023
9th October 2023
13th November 2023
11th December 2023
8th January 2024
12th February 2024
11th March 2024
8th April 2024
- Resolved: to adopt the proposed dates.**
1227. **Banking arrangements:**
Report ABPC/2023/002 brings to the Parish Council an update on the current arrangements and a proposal for the future.
Resolved:

1. To receive and note Report ABPC/23/002
2. To authorise the Parish Clerk to make the necessary arrangements to open a bank account with Unity Bank with two councillors to authorise all transactions.
3. To nominate councillors R Boulding, L Harman, P Hannabus and S Wagstaff as signatories on the Unity Bank account.

1228. **Finance:**

Schedule of payments:

Chq No	Payee	Purpose	Amount
1815	Harmer & Sons	Grounds maintenance	£990.00
1816 & 1817	Staff costs		£2,460.55
1818	R J Gibbs & Son	War Memorial	£240.00
1819	East Kent Recycling	War Memorial	£504.00
1820	Aldington Village Hall	Room Hire	£112.50

Resolved:

1. To receive and authorise the payment of the items of expenditure in the schedule.
2. To authorise the transfer of £4,000.00 from deposit account to current account.

1229. **Quarry Field, Quarry Wood and Pond:**

A request has been received for the installation of a memorial bench in the vicinity of the pond.

Resolved: to agree to the request subject to the bench being of the same design as existing benches.

1230. **Neighbourhood Plan:**

The final work is being undertaken on the plan with the intention that the Regulation 14 Consultation will be launched at the Annual Parish Meeting on 22nd May 2023.

1231. **Aldington Meadows Recreation Area:**

The Parish Clerk has been advised that the installation of the Zip wire is due to commence on the 12th June.

1232. **Events Committee:**

Confirmation has been received from the organisers of the dog show of their availability for the 15th July.

1233. **Review of the Parish Council Business Plan:**

Members are asked to consider what projects they would like to consider taking forward over the next three years in order to ascertain what finance is needed and to consider options available to raise sufficient funds.

It was agreed that the previous plan would be circulated to members as there were some outstanding proposals which could be carried forward. This will be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

1234. **Other Items for information:**

It was brought to the attention of the Parish Council that roof of the garage leased from Ashford Borough Council is leaking. The Parish Clerk will contact the Housing Department regarding this.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

REPORT TO ALDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MAY 2023 by P. New, Police Volunteer & NHW.

I am sorry I am not with you this evening.

I had previously sent my apologies to the clerk.

I am sure that following the election period and setting your plans going forward your time will be precious at the meeting.

NHW Recruitment remains steady, and we should be set fair going into the second part of 2023 with the community crystal clear on my NHW work and our joint working together. I get tremendous satisfaction signing up those isolated properties that fill into the bigger overall picture of Aldington NHW.

The new Kent Policing model should be with us in JUNE, I await to hear how they intend to police our growing District, and the expected growth in coming years.

All the normal risks I mention for the area remain the same and my job in coming days is to risk assess and anticipate where we may become vulnerable as the seasons change from this poor spring weather into the beginnings of summer and the types of crime trends that will emerge.

Criminals will be carrying out their planning and our work together must match that.

COVID workings and the FUEL / ENERGY PRICES plus the costs of living concerns have brought communities even closer together we need to build on that and sustain it.



Sadly the vehicle theft problem has started to occur again and the following crime prevention is being issued as we speak.

Kent Fraud Alert System



TO STOP FRAUD™

Vehicle Theft

Although not a fraud related matter, it is a crime affecting many of you that own motor vehicles.

Vehicle theft is an increasing crime trend across the UK and Kent. The following methods are being used -

- Specialist lock-pick to gain entry to vehicle so a programmer can be plugged into the onboard computer
- Relay attack – using a transmitter outside the house, picking the signal up off keys. Applies to keyless vehicles
- Using transponders to override immobilisation features, in combination with an onboard computer car programming device to start the engine



There are ways you can prevent becoming a victim of this crime:

- Use a faraday bag or place keys in a metal tin, to prevent the transmitter working in the case of keyless models
- Ensure the vehicle is locked and keep in garage if you have one
- Keep the car keys hidden in property in case of burglaries
- Consider using a steering wheel, gear lever or clutch pedal security device
- Ensure you carry out checks on a used vehicle before buying [Check a used vehicle you're buying - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

For further advice - [Preventing car and vehicle theft | Crime Prevention | Kent Police](#)



**Kent
Police**

Contacting Kent Police

Report a non-urgent crime online www.kent.police.uk/report

Talk to us on LiveChat – available 24/7 www.kent.police.uk/contact

In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger call **999**

If deaf or speech impaired, text 'police' and your message to **60066**

www.kent.police.uk   

I have also tried to alert the community to the awful attacks on sheep and lambs which has hit Kent recently.



Protecting livestock – know the law

'Worrying' livestock is a crime under the Dogs (Protection of Livestock) Act 1953.

If you are on agricultural land and a dog you own or are in charge of **attacks** or **chases** livestock in a way that may cause **injury**, **suffering** or **loss**, you could be **prosecuted**, **fined** and **ordered to pay compensation**.

Under the Animals Act 1971, a person acting to **protect livestock** may be able to **kill** or **injure a dog**, without incurring any criminal or civil liability, if he or she believes it is worrying livestock.



Please keep your dog on a lead.

If you see a dog worrying livestock, please call the police on **999**.



Protecting and serving
the people of Kent

I close my report by just drawing your attention to a recent crime report not featuring Aldington but close by in RUCKINGE. The trends are worth a glance to keep us all on our toes and vigilant.



Ruckinge Community Page

Peter New · 1 May · 🌐

Dear Readers

I am often told "you only ever write the same Pete" or "you sound like a broken record"

This is what it looks like below the moment you relax from warning, alerting and yes nagging even about leaving things in vehicles when parked.

Of course we all have lapses but we must take the 10 second rule and use it.

When parking, especially last park up for the night, stand for 10 seconds and look into your car if you can see anything on show so can a criminal and they are in business!!!

Please leave nothing whatsoever in vehicles when parked. Please see incidents in your area.

I am sorry the police have not indicated a better set of locations for the Ruckinge incidents.

Any further information, witnesses, CCTV, Camera doorbell footage or even by chance DASHCAM footage especially if the camera still films when the vehicle is locked and parked.

Then please contact the police and quote the crime numbers shown.

With the theft of the BMW a grey M5 Reg number BF08WJN which road did it leave Ruckinge on? Please check cameras on main exit roads from village. Any details maybe helpful.

Thank you for your help and assistance in these matters.
Peter

Peter New (peternew1@aol.com)
Kent Police Volunteer & Community Neighbourhood Watch.

Crime Reference	Ward	Location	Offence	Date from	Date to	Property Stolen	Misc.
46/75626/23	Furley	Henwood, Ashford	Theft from a motor vehicle	28/04/2023 00:00		Brand new motorbike and spare tyre	no details of motorbike
46/76046/23	Saxon Shore	Ruckinge, Ashford	Theft of a motor vehicle	25/04/2023 00:01	25/04/2023 07:30	BMW M5 grey	BF08 WJN
46/76500/23	Kingsnorth Village & Bridgefield	Crop Lane, Kingsnorth, Ashford	Burglary - Business And Community	28/04/2023 18:00	29/04/2023 07:30	Boiler	fron new build
46/76885/23	Victoria	Bank Street, Ashford	Theft of a motor vehicle	27/04/2023 01:20	27/04/2023 01:30	Suzuki black	FG19 XUY
46/76925/23	Weald South	Birchett Lane, Hamstreet, Ashford	Theft from a motor vehicle	26/04/2023 13:00	26/04/2023 13:00	Bank card & other items	card used
46/76943/23	Weald South	Hamstreet Road, Shadoxhurst, Ashford	Theft of a motor vehicle	26/04/2023 19:50	26/04/2023 20:00	Land rover silver	GL15 UOS
46/77149/23	Saxon Shore	Hamstreet Road, Ruckinge, Ashford	Theft from a motor vehicle	27/04/2023 14:18	27/04/2023 14:19	Items taken unknown	

May I add another very personal comment to the council. I find myself writing exactly the same as I wrote following your council colleague Martin's funeral. The community gave Paul O'Grady the send off his life and dedication to so many worthy causes richly deserved, thank you all. As an adopted son of Aldington you did him proud.

Thank you for your continued support with NHW. Onwards and forwards together as we push into the second part of a very fast moving year.
regards

Peter

Peter New

Kent Police Volunteer & Community Neighbourhood Watch

Thank you all for your support and I will see you on the 23rd for the meeting