



**FULL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Memorial Hall, Oxford Street,**  
**Aldbourne**  
**4 February 2026 – 7.30 pm**

**To the Members of Aldbourne Parish Council:**

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of Aldbourne Parish Council when it is proposed to transact the business on the agenda.

Apologies for absence should be advised to the Clerk prior to the meeting.

**A G E N D A**

In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the Council may decide to exclude the public on the grounds of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted on any item within this agenda.

Item	Detail	Enc
160/26. <b>Apologies</b>	To <b>note</b> apologies for absence.	
161/26. <b>Interests</b>	To <b>receive</b> pecuniary or non-pecuniary declarations of interest for agenda items and <b>consider</b> any dispensations requested.	
162/26. <b>Minutes</b>	To <b>consider</b> the Minutes of the last Full Council meeting.	
163/26. <b>Planning Committee</b>	To <b>adopt</b> the Minutes of the last Planning Committee meeting.	
164/26. <b>Outstanding Items</b>	To <b>report</b> on the progress of outstanding items which do not require further decision.	✓
165/26. <b>Clerks Report</b>	To <b>receive</b> verbal report from the Clerk	
166/26. <b>Accounts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To <b>consider</b> contractual &amp; delegated payments and payments to be made.</li> <li>• To <b>approve</b> two councillors to authorise payments.</li> </ul>	✓
167/26. <b>Public Session</b>	To <b>receive</b> questions and requests from members of the public (see Note <sup>1</sup> )	
168/26. <b>Scout &amp; Guides Hut Land Lease</b>	To <b>confirm</b> the agreement to update of the wording from 'Landlord's adjoining property' to 'Landlords neighbouring Property' at Schedule 2, 1.2 and remove reference to the coloured plan at 1.1 Landlord's Neighbouring Property' for the Scout & Guide hut land lease, and to <b>approve</b> that the amendments will be initialled by the two original signatories who signed on behalf of the Council on 6 March 2024, Mr W Brown & Mrs S Muirhead.	
169/26. <b>Grounds Maintenance</b>	To <b>consider</b> expenditure for cutting the Palmer's Field football pitch at the same frequency as the main football field.	✓
170/26. <b>Equipment</b>	To <b>consider</b> use and/or storage of Council owned push mower and brush cutter.	

171/26.	<b>Ramsbury Fire Station</b>	To <b>consider</b> to response to consultation on the proposed closure of Ramsbury Fire station and attendance at briefing on 28 February 2026.		✓
172/26.	<b>SID Purchase</b>	To <b>consider</b> the purchase of 1 x Elan City SID at a cost of £2,399.99, to replace the existing obsolete and malfunctioning unit currently deployed on Castle St.	Cllr Warren	✓
173/26.	<b>Assets</b>	To <b>review</b> 2025/2026 assets list and <b>consider</b> approval.		✓
174/26.	<b>Risk Management</b>	To <b>review</b> 2025/2026 risk management and <b>consider</b> approval.		✓
175/26.	<b>Link Scheme</b>	To <b>discuss</b> the implications of the possible effect on the Aldbourne Link service if the funding for Community Transport Groups is withdrawn on 31 March 2026, and if appropriate, to <b>consider</b> any action that should be taken at this time.	Cllr Oswald	✓
176/26.	<b>Playing/Sports Areas</b>	a) To <b>receive</b> update on the Orchard Mammoth unit and <b>consider</b> any action required. b) To <b>receive</b> verbal report on play area and football field inspections.	Cllr Paterson & Cllr Traves	
177/26.	<b>Councillor Reports</b>	To <b>note</b> issues raised in relation to Parish Council business or village issues.		
178/26.	<b>Wiltshire Council</b>	To <b>receive</b> verbal report from Aldbourne & Ramsbury ward councillor.		
179/26.	<b>Public Session</b>	To <b>receive</b> questions and requests from members of the public (see Note <sup>1</sup> ).		
180/26.	<b>Clerks Salary &amp; Pension</b>	To <b>consider</b> Clerks 2026/2027 hourly rate and pension.		
181/26.	<b>Next Meeting</b>	To <b>confirm</b> date of the next meeting.		✓

Signed: *K. Clay*

Proper Officer & Responsible Financial Officer of the Council  
29 January 2026

**Note<sup>1</sup>** – Members of the public are very welcome to attend and up to a total of 10 (ten) minutes will be allowed at this meeting for questions to the Chairman. It should be noted however, that this is a meeting in public, not a public meeting and thus public participation is limited to within the two agenda items allocated. If detailed background information is required, prior notice to the Clerk is advised. No decisions can be made on questions or issues raised during the public items. If the Council so wishes, these can be added to a future agenda for consideration.

**Item 164/26 Outstanding Items**

Items and any updates are for information only. Existing delegation allows for items be chased if required, but otherwise no decisions can be made on any items listed below.

NB: All items listed may not be discussed at each meeting.

**Long term issues which are waiting action by Wiltshire Council.**

<b>Date logged</b>	<b>Issue</b>
06/03/2020	Red crossing strip renewal by the Marlborough Road junction.
10/09/2020	Missing right of way sign on ALDB23 by White Pond Cottage.
02/11/2022	Poor road surface on Castle Street.
01/02/2023	Missing right of way sign on ALDB19 Sheep Walk.
10/01/2024	Resurfacing of Oxford Street. [On the forward plan list for 2026/2027]
03/04/2024	Damage to byway ALDB19 (Sheepwalk). [05/04/24 - On the list for repair by Wiltshire Council, when funds and materials are available]

**Ongoing issues, still to be actioned or updated and updates on issues from previous meetings.**

<b>Date logged</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Update/further information</b>
05/07/2023	20-mph Project on roads south of the B4192	LHFIG has been advised of the Council’s decision to continue with the project, and the request for further pedestrian safety signage to be added. The project will be discussed further at the next meeting on 5 February 2026.
05/02/2025	Jetting of culverts on Lottage Road	Cllr Sheppard asked to chase again on 18 December 2025, and he continues to try and get a date for when these works will be carried out.
04/06/2025	Affordable rural housing	The rural enablers will be invited to speak at the annual assembly in April 2026.
09/07/2025	Further clearing of the grips on the Four Barrows bridleway.	Reported to Wiltshire Council and the neighbouring resident has also agreed to help.
10/09/2025	New benches - Goddards play area	Investigations ongoing into type and costs.
01/10/2025	Overhanging foliage on Southward Lane	This has been chased with Wiltshire Council again, and Cllr Sheppard is also chasing it for the Council.
01/10/2025	Bench in Rectory Wood	Cllr Oswald is liaising with the owner about moving it to a better location.

Aldbourne Parish Council – Supporting papers

01/10/2025	Oaks at 80	Arrangements are in place to collect the tree within the next week/10 days and will be planted before the end of February 2026.
01/10/2025	Toilet/Community Room roof	Awaiting confirmation that the works have been completed.
05/11/2025	Toilet Signage	The new signage has been delivered and will be installed as soon as time/weather allows.
07/01/2026	Community Governance Review	A response to advise that APC felt the current number of councillors and parish area were correct and met the needs of residents has been sent.

**Item 166/26 Accounts**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

**Bank Account Balances as at 29/01/2026**

	£
Current account	939.83
Deposit account	<u>86,731.42</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>87,671.25</u></b>

<b>Receipts</b>	£
<b>Category</b>	<b>Amount</b>
No receipts	
	<b>0.00</b>

<b>Payments</b>	£	£
<b>Category</b>	<b>Net Total</b>	<b>VAT</b>
Bank services fee	4.25	0.00
Flood management/prevention	95.83	4.68
Play Areas	42.18	4.17
Pond	16.09	0.00
Staff/contract costs (inc payments to HMRC)	1,569.76	0.00
Toilets/community room	410.24	47.88
	<b>2,138.35</b>	<b>56.73</b>

Mrs K Clay – Responsible Financial Officer  
29.01.26

**169/26 Grounds Maintenance**

The additional cost to cut Palmer's Field at the same time as the football field is £80 a cut. £880 a year (11 cuts). This further expenditure has not been budgeted for in 2026/2027.

**171/26 Ramsbury Fire Station**

The letter below was sent to all Authority Members, Cllr Sheppard and Mr D Kurger MP on 19 January. It was sent to the councillors within each council authority, and the members were addressed by their individual names.

There has been a response of acknowledgement from Cllr Sheppard and some Authority Members. The following reply is from Vikki Shearing on behalf of the Chair:

“Thank you for your letter - I have noted your concerns in relation to Ramsbury fire station and am replying on behalf of Cllr Clare Weight, Chair of the Fire and Rescue Authority.

A Members Working Group has been scrutinising proposals for station closures and will be recommending the potential closure of eight fire stations at the Fire Authority meeting on 10 February. If approved, public consultation will take place from 13 February until 15 May 2026.

During this time, there will be a consultation briefing session for local Councillors and MPs. This will take place at 2pm on 26 February at Service headquarters, Five Rivers, Salisbury. It will be an opportunity to hear about the proposals and the data behind them as well as the chance to ask questions and provide feedback which will form part of the formal consultation process.

Invitations will be sent out shortly, but in the meantime please do make a note of the date.”

It has now been confirmed that Ramsbury Fire Station is one of the stations being considered for closure. It is recommended that the Council should respond to the public consultation as a body. Individual councillors can also respond in their capacity as residents. A decision is also required on whether anyone can/wants to attend the meeting in Salisbury on the 26 February.

## Aldbourne Parish Council – Supporting papers

### **Copy of the letter sent to D&WFRS**

Dear Members of the Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority,

Aldbourne Parish Council is writing to express its serious concern regarding the potential closure of Ramsbury Fire Station (SN8 2QP) and the implications this would have for Aldbourne and the surrounding area.

Ramsbury Fire Station plays a vital role in providing timely emergency response to our village and neighbouring communities. Any increase in response times would be a significant cause for concern, particularly in rural areas such as ours where distances are greater and alternative coverage is limited. Slower responses inevitably increase the risk to life, property, and the environment, and would leave residents feeling less safe and more vulnerable.

Aldbourne presents several specific risks where rapid fire service attendance is critical. The village contains a significant number of older and thatched properties, often located close together, where even a short delay in response can allow a small incident to escalate rapidly into a major fire affecting multiple homes. There have been incidents involving chimneys, electrical faults, outbuildings and agricultural equipment and land. Early intervention during all these fires has prevented fire spread - outcomes that could have been far more serious had an appliance needed to attend from further afield.

In addition, Aldbourne's narrow roads, limited access points, and rural setting mean that local knowledge and proximity are particularly important. Incidents involving vulnerable or elderly residents, agricultural machinery, or fires in outlying areas require swift and decisive action. A delayed response in such circumstances could significantly worsen outcomes before crews are able to arrive on scene.

A further concern is the likely loss of retained (on-call) firefighters associated with the closure of Ramsbury Fire Station. Retained firefighters provide a highly skilled, cost-effective, and locally embedded resource, many of whom live and work in the communities they serve. If the station were to close, it is highly unlikely that these firefighters would be able to continue their role from more distant stations due to increased travel times and availability constraints. The loss of these experienced personnel would represent a significant reduction in operational capacity and local resilience, and rebuilding such a team in the future would be both difficult and time-consuming.

The proximity of Ramsbury Fire Station also offers clear benefits beyond Aldbourne itself. It enables rapid intervention for road traffic collisions and other major incidents on key transport routes, particularly the M4 corridor. This is a high-risk, high-volume strategic road where minutes can make a critical difference. Removing a nearby appliance would increase reliance on already stretched neighbouring stations and could delay response times to serious incidents affecting a wide geographic area.

Local fire stations such as Ramsbury are not simply about covering population numbers on a map; they are about resilience, preparedness, and local knowledge. Crews familiar with the area, its road network, and its specific risks are an invaluable asset during emergencies. Removing this capability risks undermining the effectiveness of the wider fire and rescue service across the region.

On behalf of all Aldbourne residents, the Parish Council urges you and your fellow Authority Members to give careful consideration to the real and practical consequences of closing Ramsbury Fire Station, particularly in terms of response times, rural risk, loss of retained firefighters, and the safety of both local communities and major transport infrastructure.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs K Clay  
Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer  
Aldbourne Parish Council

CC:  
Councillor J Sheppard (Aldbourne & Ramsbury Ward)  
Mr D Kruger MP (East Wiltshire)

**172/26 SID Purchase**

<b>NAME:</b>	Cllr. Rob Warren	<b>DATE:</b>	Jan 16 2026
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**AGENDA ITEM**

To consider the purchase of 1 x Elan City Speed Indicator Device (SID) to replace the existing obsolete and malfunctioning item currently deployed on Castle St.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

This older SID currently deployed on Castle St unit is producing basic but somewhat workable data although 827 days out of synch. The visual display appears to be functioning correctly, but the unit does not respond to attempts to change settings. The lowest speed it will display is 28 mph, with just a smiley face shown at speeds below that. Considering that Castle St will soon become a 20 mph limit area, any SID located there must have the ability to display and record speeds relevant to that limit. The current old SID will not meet that requirement and therefore requires a suitable replacement at the earliest opportunity.

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

A Quote has been obtained from the manufacturer of £2,339.99 for one unit, delivered. This includes the same level of Commercial Discount as received on our previous order for two units.

**Notes from the Clerk**

Since 2023 the Council has spent £7,000 on SID units and a total of £10,000 since 2018. The Council currently owns three Elan City SIDs and two older SIDSign units (which don't function at 100%).

The Elan City SIDs are designed to be portable to allow for them to be easily moved between locations (there are five locations approved and in use in Aldbourn). Short placement of SID units has shown that the units work best in helping to reduce drivers speeds and avoids drivers becoming 'sign blind' and ignoring them. Regular movement of SID units signals to residents and drivers that speed monitoring is active and ongoing, rather than passive and static. The messaging on the Elan SIDs can be modified, which could combat some of the issues which have been shown when units remain static. However, it remains best practice that they are moved at regular intervals.

Currently Councillor Warren is happy to maintain/move the SIDs and download the statistics at regular intervals for it to be sent to the police and to be formatted to publicise to residents. However, the Council should consider the burden adding further devices could place on future councillors.

There is funding remaining in the Community Infrastructure (CIL) funds that the Council has received. Using this fund will leave £1,900 remaining for other projects. All three of the Elan City SIDs have been purchased using CIL. The only other item purchased using these funds (which started in 2019) is the new basketball hoop. Future CIL may be forthcoming, but it can never be guaranteed. There is also the maintenance and replacement reserve, but it is anticipated that these funds will be required for repairs/replacement of the Orchard Mammoth unit in the Goddards play area. Ongoing maintenance costs for SIDs would be covered by the speed indicator future needs reserve, which from 2026/2027 will be £300.

### **173/26 Assets & 174/26 Risk Management**

[Click here to view the 2025/2026 Asset List.](#) [Changes noted at the bottom of the list].

[Click here to view the 2025/2026 Risk Management.](#) [Where changes have been made these have highlighted in **yellow**. If the change was only to some of the wording, this has been shown in **blue**].

### **175/26 Link Scheme**

<b>NAME:</b>	Cllr Ros Oswald	<b>DATE:</b>	22 January 2026
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### **AGENDA ITEMS**

To discuss the implications of the possible effect on the Aldbourne LINK service if the funding for Community Transport Groups is withdrawn on 31 March 2026 and if appropriate to consider any action that should be taken at this time.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Wiltshire Council has informed Community First that both the funding agreement and the direct operational funding provided to Community Transport groups are being reviewed at the Full Cabinet meeting scheduled for the end of February. Community First has been advised that all funding is expected to cease at the end of the current financial year (31 March 2026).

### **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Emails received by the Clerk forwarded to all Councillors.

### **181/26 Next Meeting**

Wednesday 4 March 2026 at 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall