



Minutes of the Meeting of the Downley Parish Council held on Tuesday 12th April at 7:30 pm

Present: Councillors M Lazenby (Chairman presiding), S Biggs, P Brooks, A Lenard, A Mann, W Monroe-West, T Snaith and W Steneskog.

In attendance: Buckinghamshire Councillors M Hussain and P Turner. Buckinghamshire Council Transport Strategy Officer Jess Everett Puttur and one member of the public.

Officers: G Tandy (Clerk)

1) Apologies for Absence (8492/04/22)

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors K Ahmed, K Chandarana, A Lenard and Buckinghamshire Councillor M Smith.

2) Declarations of Interest (8493/04/22)

There were none

3) Minutes (8494/04/22)

It was **RESOLVED** that the **Minutes of the meeting held on 8th March be received, approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.**

4) Public Participation (8495/04/22)

A member of the public requested an update on the streetlight replacement program. The Clerk reported that subject to the provision of a street works permit the light on the corner of Narrow Lane where it joins Commonside is due to be in the week commencing 18th April.

An overhead linesman has been booked to complete the remaining works which are principally in Littleworth Road and Commonside. There is approximately one weeks work left and this will begin in the week commencing 25th April at the latest.

In November of last year a light column was taken down at the top of Hithercroft Road in order for SSE to execute emergency work underground. Sparkx have quoted to put the column back in place. Their quote has been accepted by SSE and once an order is issued this work can be completed.

As requested Sparkx have produced quotes to provide electrical sockets at Jubilee Green and onto Commonside. We await quotes to supply power to what are currently solar light columns under the arch in School Close and to erect a new lamp column in School Close to provide illumination towards the alley that cuts through into Commonside and to fix a lamp bracket to an existing pole outside 4 Littleworth Road, Once all quotes are in Council can prioritise the works and see which, if any, are affordable.

Cllr Biggs suggested that any such quotes should include a likely start date, timescale & end date as these may influence our decision.

5) Reports from Buckinghamshire Councillors (8496/04/22)

The report of Cllr P Turner, circulated previously was noted. Cllr Snaith asked the Buckinghamshire Councillors for their position on the proposed bin tax where charges would be levied for green waste curbside collection. Cllr Turner explained that as a matter of principle, the Conservative Councillors had attended the relevant Cabinet meeting, tabled questions and opposed this charge. However, despite their efforts, the charge will stand as charges have been standardized across the county to bring what was Wycombe District in line with all others.

6) Comments on Planning Applications (8497/04/22)

Comments on planning applications as set out in appendix a) of the agenda were noted.

7) Decision Notices (8498/04/22)

The Decision notices made by Buckinghamshire Council in respect of the Planning Applications as set out in appendix b) were noted

8) Electric Scooters (8499/04/22)

Buckinghamshire Council Transport Strategy Officer Jess Everett Puttur explained that trials were in place to gain an understanding of how this new mode of transport works and how the public interacts with it. Buckinghamshire has been selected to represent rural towns. Two bays have been put in place within the parish, one on Plomer Hill and another at the Pastures, these were placed in response to requests from the public. Along main roads e-scooters have provided a viable alternative to access the town centre. There are no plans to put in further bays following objections from DPC and an acceptance that e-scooters are not suitable for Downley village. Only two accidents relating to e-scooters have been reported within Buckinghamshire since the trial began. The scooters are limited by geo-fencing as to where they can travel and their speed is limited to 15.5 mph with automatic braking in force. The bay system has been developed to minimise the scooters impact upon blind pedestrians and a team is in place to right scooters that have fallen over within bays and to redistribute them by electric van as required. The trial is due to close at the end of November 2022

9) Platinum Jubilee (8500/04/22)

Cllr Lazenby reported that the Platinum Jubilee plans are progressing to schedule.

10) The Queens Green Canopy (8501/04/22)

Cllr Lazenby reported that six trees were planted on 11th March as part of the Queens Green Canopy project. The commemorative plaques have now been received and are due to be distributed.

11) Street Lighting Project (8502/04/22)

The Clerks oral report was provided during the public participation section of this meeting.

12) Number 30 bus- reduction of service (8503/04/22)

The bus company Arriva have timetabled a reduced service which comes into play from the 17th April. Three buses per hour will reduce to two buses per hour from 3:30 p.m. and to one bus per hour from 6:00 p.m.

13) Football coaching (8504/04/22)

A request was considered from Xtra Time Football to run football coaching sessions on the football pitches at Mannings field. These sessions would run on Saturday mornings once Downley Dynamos have finished training and potentially on Wednesday and/or Friday evenings. There would be sessions for Ladies, mixed children and possibly a girl's group too. The request was proposed by Cllr Biggs, seconded by Cllr Lazenby and unanimously RESOLVED that this usage be allowed.

14) The Clerks Progress Report (8505/04/22)

The Clerks Progress Report was noted.

15) Reports from other Committees and Working Parties (8506/04/22)

Discussed at the Planning Meeting it was suggested that the current design statement be developed into a neighbourhood plan.

The Environment and Climate Change working party have yet to hear back from Hazlemere Parish Council with regards to their enquiry around sourcing bulk seeds for the bee squared project.

Councillor Lazenby reported that both The Festival Committee and the Art Show Committee are making good progress towards their events

16) Payment of invoices (8507/04/22)

The payment of invoices shown in appendix c was noted

17) To note the date and place of the next meeting (8508/03/22)

Tuesday 10th May 2022 at Downley Community Centre

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 08:35 p.m.