



Minutes of the Meeting of the Downley Parish Council held on Tuesday 8th February at 7:30 pm

Present: Councillors M Lazenby (Chairman presiding), K Ahmed, S Biggs, P Brooks, A Lenard, A Mann, W Monroe-West, T Snaith and W Steneskog
Officers: G Tandy (Clerk)

1) Apologies for Absence_(8454/02/22)

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr K Chandarana and Buckinghamshire Councillors M Hussain, M Smith and P Turner.

2) Declarations of Interest_(8455/02/22)

There were none

3) Minutes (8456/02/22)

It was **RESOLVED** that the **Minutes of the meeting held on 11th January be received, approved, adopted and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.**

4) Public Participation_(8457/02/22)

A member of the public alerted us to the issue of cars parking at Commonsides and the damage being done to curbs. It was agreed that the Clerk should request via our Buckinghamshire Councillors for NSL to conduct a ticketing exercise in Downley.

A member of the public pointed out that there are lights out through Downley and wanted a commitment that the light replacement programme would focus on those that are out rather than replacing working sodium lights. The contractors are due to focus on the outstanding areas of Commonsides and Littleworth Road, this is where most of the non-working lights are.

A member of the public wanted to be updated on the previous suggestion that the bus stop on Commonsides towards Narrow Lane be decommissioned to offer further parking to residents. It was explained that Buckinghamshire Council were loathe to do this, as it would be a loss of amenity to the Community and suggesting that the existence of the bus stop improves traffic flow by providing a passing space on Commonsides. The Clerk has requested usage figures of Arriva, the bus company but these have not been forthcoming.

5) Reports from Buckinghamshire Councillors_(8458/02/22)

Reports from Councillors Smith and Turner were noted.

6) Comments on Planning Applications_(8459/02/22)

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

7) Decision Notices (8460/02/22)

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

8) E-Scooters (8461/02/22)

E-Scooters have recently been placed in Downley as part of a National initiative, the Parish Council were not consulted. The Buckinghamshire Transport Strategy Officer involved was expected at our meeting but did not attend. Cllr Monroe-West volunteered to raise this issue at the next Community Board meeting. It was agreed that the Clerk should invite the Transport Strategy Officer to our next meeting.

9) Repairs to fascia and guttering at Downley Community Centre (8462/02/22)

Council considered quotations received for repairs to the Community Centre that were more than £500. It was proposed by Cllr Mann, seconded by Cllr Steneskog and unanimously RESOLVED that we accept the quotation provided by 1st Class Roofing

10) Queens Platinum Jubilee (8463/02/22)

Council discussed a proposed event to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee to be held on the Common on Friday 3rd June. This would involve a band; a DJ and fireworks display It was proposed by Cllr. Lazenby, seconded by Cllr Monroe-West and RESOLVED unanimously that we hold such an event and a working party set up to arrange this.

11) Grant (8464/02/22)

BBOWT have offered a grant to The Community Orchard of £1300 and request that Downley Parish Council make a 15% contribution towards their Chalk, cherries and chairs scheme. It was proposed by Cllr Lenard, seconded by Cllr Steneskog and unanimously RESOLVED that the Council make a £195 grant to this scheme.

12) Dog Faeces (8465/02/22)

Council considered how to address the increasing incidence of dogs fouling the Common and village. It was agreed that the Clerk should approach our Buckinghamshire Councillors for “Eyes” posters encouraging people to clear up after their dogs to also contact the Buckinghamshire dog warden and for our Facebook page to be used to highlight this issue.

13) Social Media (8466/02/22)

Council were reminded of our published Social Media policy and asked to adhere to it.

14) Model Publication Scheme (8467/02/22)

The Clerk had prepared a set of Guidelines detailing Information available from Downley Parish Council under the model publication scheme. It was proposed by Cllr. Brooks, seconded by Councillor Mann and unanimously RESOLVED that these guidelines be adopted.

15) Councillor Email Usage (8468/02/22)

16)Councillors were reminded that downleyparishcouncil.org addresses have been set up for each of them and that council emails should be sent and received through these.

17)Downley Parish Council Website (8469/02/22)

In order to comply with the Public Sector Bodies Websites and Mobile Applications No 2 accessibility Regulations 2018, Local Councils are required to provide a WCAG2.1 AA rated website. Council considered using a range of website development agencies to do so and it was proposed by Cllr. Lazenby seconded by Cllr. Steneskog 7 RESOLVED unanimously that we use website developer Aubergine the SLCC's official partner.

18) The Clerks Progress Report (8470/02/22)

The Clerks progress report was noted

19)Reports from other Committee's and Working Party's (8471/02/22)

Cllr Lazenby reported on the recent work carried out by herself Cllr Steneskog and 9 volunteers at the Sandpit Pond in Gosling Grove and thanked the volunteers for their efforts.

Cllr Lazenby provided an update on the Environment and Climate Change Working Party confirming that now permission had been granted from Buckinghamshire Council we would be sourcing trees to plant before the end of March. The Clerk was asked to contact Hazlemere Parish Council regarding sourcing seeds for Bee Squared.

20)Payment of invoices (8472/02/22)

The payment of invoices was noted.

21)To note the date and place of the next meeting (8473/02/22)

Tuesday 8th March 2022 at Downley Community Centre

22) Exclusion of the Public and the Press ((8474/02/22)

In accordance with the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 it was RESOLVED that the public and the press were excluded from the rest of the meeting as matters to be discussed were considered confidential.

23) Council Matters (8475/02/22)

Council discussed a confidential matter

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 09:15 pm