



Minutes of the Meeting of the Downley Parish Council held on Tuesday 14th November 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

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

1) Apologies for absence (8747/11/23)

Apologies were received from Councillors S Biggs and A Lenard

2) Declarations of interest and Dispensations(8748/11/23)

Councillors Ahmed and Snaith declared an interest in item 8) a grant application on behalf of the Wycombe Food Hub as directors of that organization.

3) Minutes (8749/11/23)

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th October 2023 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

4) Public participation session (8750/11/23)

None.

5) To receive and note the reports of Buckinghamshire Councillors (8751/11/23)

Cllr Turner reported that the Mayors Carol Concert will be held at 04:30 p.m. on Sunday 10th December at High Wycombe Parish Church.

6) Planning Committee (8752/11/23)

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 13th October 2023 were received and noted.

7) Councillor Reports (8753/11/23)

Cllr Steneskog reported on a successful meeting of the Gosling Grove Pond workers which was well attended despite poor weather.

Cllr Snaith reported on BMKALC's recent AGM and Award presentation in which he received an award for his voluntary work during the Covid Pandemic.

Cllr Lazenby attended the AGM of the Festival Committee and advised that while three members have left the committee, two others have been recruited. The Festival Committee have funds potentially available to local grant seekers.

8) Grant Applications (8754/11/23)

Cllrs Ahmed and Snaith left the room and a grant application received from the Wycombe Food Hub was considered. The CIC was seeking a grant up to £100 to help finance toys and gifts for their Santa's Sleigh that would be visiting Downley this Christmas. Cllr Lazenby proposed a grant of £50 but no one was found to second this. An alternative proposal was sought but none was forthcoming.

Cllrs Ahmed and Snaith returned to the room and Council considered a grant application received from Wycombe Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme. Proposed by Cllr Steneskog, seconded by Cllr Mann it was RESOLVED that a grant of £100 be made in support of the Wycombe Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

9) The Local Government Pay Services Agreement (8755/11/23)

The Council noted the Local Government Pay Services Agreement – that for all spinal points to 43 the agreed award was a flat rate of £1925 (pro-rata for part time employees). For scale points above that, the award was 3.88%.

10) Standing Orders and Financial Regulations (8756/11/23)

Proposed by Cllr Lenton and seconded by Cllr Monroe-West it was RESOLVED unanimously to adopt revised Standing Orders and Financial Regulations dated November 2023.

11) Bank Reconciliations (8757/11/23)

The reconciliation of bank statements covering the Councils current accounts through October 2023 were noted. Cllr Mann volunteered to check the reconciliation of accounts during November 2023, December 2023 and January 2024.

12) Bank Balance(8758/11/23)

Council noted the balance of the savings account as at 27th October 2023. A statement on that account is outstanding and the reconciliation will be forwarded to Council on receipt.

13) Invoices (8759/11/23)

Payments made since the last meeting on 10th October 2023 were noted and approved. The schedule of invoices received through November was considered and authorised.

14) Clerks Progress Report (8760/11/23)

Noted

15) To note the date and place of the next meeting (8761/11/23)

Tuesday 12th December 2023 at 7:30 p.m. at the Downley Community Centre

16) Closure of the meeting (8762/11/23)

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 20:32.

Chairman

Date