

DOWNTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 11th August 2014 at the Band Hall, Gravel Close, Downton at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr Mace (Chairman) and Cllrs Ford, Harrison, Hayward, Lacey, Pearce, Quarmby, Ross, Watts, Whitmarsh and Yeates.
Bev Cornish, Parish Clerk.

Two members of the public were present.

14/119: Co-option of Cllr Christine Pearce: Following a welcome from the Chairman and a summary from Cllr Pearce on her background and the reasons for her wishing to join the Parish Council, Cllr Whitmarsh proposed, Cllr Hayward seconded and Cllr Pearce's co-option was approved by the meeting.

14/120: Apologies: Cllrs Chandler, Cordell, Dean and Sutcliffe and Unitary Cllr Julian Johnson.

14/121: Minutes: The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 28th July 2014 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Ford, seconded by Cllr Ross and agreed by the meeting with two abstentions from Cllrs Hayward and Whitmarsh.

14/122: Public Statement/Question Time: Mr Peter Favier said he would like to thank the Parish Council very much for its response to the Charles Church planning application.

14/123: To receive Declarations of Interest from Councillors in respect of matters contained in this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011: Cllr Mace declared a personal and pecuniary interest in Minutes 14/130 and 14/131 which included payments to himself and his wife.

14/124: Matters Arising:

14/22: External Audit of Annual Accounts: The Chairman reported that the Annual Accounts for 2013/14 had been approved by the External Auditors, Grant Thornton, with no additional comments. He offered his congratulations from the chair to the Clerk.

14/76: Overgrown Pavement from The Bull to the Old Police House: The Chairman reported that Wiltshire Council had cleared the overgrown pavement.

14/125: To receive a report from Unitary Councillor Julian Johnson: In Cllr Johnson's absence, no report was received.

14/126: Planning and Tree Works Applications:

14/06716/LBC - Barford Park Farm, Downton - Internal alteration to create kitchen area and toilets for the wedding reception venue (retrospective)

& 14/06568/FUL- Barford Park Farm, Downton - Change of Use from agricultural barn to wedding reception venue (use class D2) (retrospective):

Cllr Mace proposed, Cllr Hayward seconded and it was agreed by the meeting that no objection be raised. However, the Clerk was asked to express the Parish Council's concern that the application was retrospective and the proper planning process had not been followed.

Cllr Yeates asked for his objection to the work being done prior to any planning application being submitted to be recorded.

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14/06788/FUL - 58 Moot Close, Downton - 2 storey extension to existing 3 bed dwelling to allow the sub-division into 2 x 2 bed dwellings. Erection of a cycle/bin store: Cllr Lacey proposed, Cllr Ross seconded and it was agreed by the meeting, with one objection from Cllr Watts, that the Parish Council should object to this application on the grounds that it was overdevelopment of the site and contrary to Saved Local Plan Policy D3 of the South Wiltshire Core Strategy.

14/07306/FUL - 39 The Borough, Downton - Demolish existing flat roofed single storey extension and replace with a new single storey extension and associated works
& 14/07308/LBC - 39 The Borough, Downton - Demolish existing flat roofed single storey extension and replace with a new single storey extension and associated works: Cllr Yeates proposed, Cllr Ford seconded and it was agreed by the meeting that no objection be raised.

14/127: To consider whether to accept the revised Bus Shelter Maintenance Agreement from Wiltshire Council: Cllr Mace proposed from the chair that this item be deferred to the next meeting as the revised agreement had not been received following a request from the Clerk that further alterations be made.

14/128: To consider a draft Press Release setting out the details of the Parish Council's holding response to the Charles Church proposed development of 99 houses and to consider other ways in which the holding response can be communicated: Following a lengthy discussion on the suggested alterations and the requirement to inform the Leader of Wiltshire Council of the difficulties being experienced by the Parish Council in eliciting any information from officers, Cllr Mace proposed, Cllr Ford seconded and it was agreed by the meeting that a revised Press Release be issued to Mr Paul Leo for the September InDownton Newsletter and for its further distribution to be considered at the next meeting.

14/129: Representatives' Reports:

Wiltshire Council meeting on the proposed Site Allocations Development Plan: Cllr Mace gave a brief report on a meeting he attended with Mrs Nikki Wilson at which the proposed plans for alterations to settlement boundaries in Wiltshire were discussed. He said that concern had been expressed by a number of Parish Councils about the impact of the Development Plan and proposed development sites on their yet to be completed Neighbourhood Plans.

Southern Wiltshire Area Board: Cllr Lacey gave a brief report on a recent meeting at which the new Police Inspector for Salisbury, Inspector Dave Minty, had been introduced. She also advised that the next meeting of the Area Board would be on Monday 13th October in Downton which clashed with a Parish Council meeting and asked whether the Parish Council meeting could be changed to enable councillors to attend the Area Board.

Quadripartite meeting between representatives of the Parish Council, Environment Agency, Wessex Water and Wiltshire Council on the issue of the village sewerage and drainage system: Cllr Mace gave a brief report on an encouraging meeting he had attended with Cllr Quarmby and the Clerk with all the parties who were working in partnership to resolve the issue of Downton parish's sewerage and drainage system. He said that the formulation of an Infiltration Reduction Plan was at an early stage but was likely to be in place next year. However, it was understood that a temporary solution would be put in place to deal with the impact of high groundwater if it occurred again in the coming winter.

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On the issue of the Charles Church planning application, Cllr Mace said that all parties agreed that there was an issue with the plan for the surface water at the site and Charles Church was likely to have to submit a different plan to resolve the issue in a way which was acceptable to all parties and particularly the Environment Agency.

Wiltshire Council Response to Several issues relating to education infrastructure on the Charles Church application: Cllr Mace advised that the Clerk had received confirmation that the Section 106 monies allocated for pre-school infrastructure would be made available to help fund the Parish Council's plans to extend or adapt the Downton Memorial Hall to make it more suitable for early years provision. However, he said that there had been no news on the application to the Environment Agency to culvert The Bunny and so this would be the principal issue to be discussed at a meeting being held on 15th August with John Glen MP.

First World War Commemoration Event: Cllr Mace gave a brief report on a very moving service organised by Wiltshire Council at the Tidworth Military Cemetery.

14/130: To approve the following payments:

£410 - All Saints Church, Charlton All Saints for annual grasscutting.

£13.20 - Cllr Dave Mace for Parish Council Public Exhibition expenses.

£22.56 - Mrs Hilary Mace for the cost of a laminated map of Downton - expenses related to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

£149.00 – Mrs B Cornish for telephone, broadband, stationery and travel expenses 10th March to 11th August 2014.

£95.99 – Ms Jane Brentor for expenses related to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

Cllr Yeates proposed, Cllr Hayward seconded and they were approved by the meeting with one abstention from Cllr Mace.

14/131: To approve the Accounts for payment for August, to record the bank balances and to note the Budget to Actual figures for the year to date as follows:

	£
Ava Recreation - Installation of Swings in Moot Lane Recreation Ground	480.00
B Cornish - Salisbury Journal Public Notice	336.00
All Saints Church, Charlton All Saints - Annual Grasscutting	410.00
Cllr D Mace - Public Exhibition expenses	13.20
B Cornish - August Salary	1322.29
B Cornish - Approved back pay to December 2013	769.20
B Cornish - Expenses – March to August 2014	149.00
Mrs H Mace - Neighbourhood Plan expenses	22.56
Ms Jane Brentor - Neighbourhood Plan expenses	95.99
James Howells - August Salary	196.80
The Landscape Group - Bin Emptying – July 2014	157.82

	3952.86
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Balances to be Approved and Noted as at 11.08.14:

Current A/c: £10,165.12 Deposit A/c: £38,230.78 Santander Time Deposit: £42,067.66

Cllr Hayward proposed, Cllr Quarmby seconded and they were approved by the meeting.

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14/132: Correspondence: The following correspondence had been received:

- 1 Mrs Sally Bird – A request to hang 8 3' x 4' banners for 3 weeks along The Borough to advertise the Christmas Tree Festival. *It was agreed that this was contrary to Parish Council Policy in the Downton Conservation Area.*
- 2 Mrs Jenny Mawer – An email expressing concern about the lack of advertising for the changes to the green bin collection and asking the Parish Council to bring pressure to bear on Wiltshire Council to conduct a meaningful consultation. With the present publicity it can only be called a meaningless farce. *The Clerk has responded.*
- 3 Mr Tracy Myers, Wiltshire Council Highways Co-ordinator – An email stating that Highways will be holding a community day on 21st August and asking if there is any areas of Downton which need to be included. *The Clerk has asked for the trees to be pruned on the roundabout to improve visibility for pedestrians crossing the A338.*
- 4 Mr Paul Drinkwater – An email seeking guidance on the location of the burial plot for a relative. *The Clerk has responded.*
- 5 Ms Katrina Edwards – A request to improve the accessibility of the footpath along the river from The Moot to Millennium Green. *The Clerk has responded.*
- 6 Mr David Parkes, Wiltshire Council – The Agenda for the Southern Area Planning Committee on 14th August.
- 7 Mr Malcolm Dodds, Wiltshire Council – An email stating the investment of early years S106 contributions can be used to extend or adapt the Downton Memorial Hall it to make it more suitable for early years provision.
- 8 Ms Jo Earley – An email regarding the overgrown brambles on the section of pavement in The Borough. *The Clerk has responded.*
- 9 Mr Paul Martin – An email requesting contact details for BT Openreach to ensure his new development in Breamore Road is included in the installation of superfast broadband.
- 10 Mrs Maria Pennington – An email from the Clerk to Whiteparish Parish Council seeking guidance on the incidences of graffiti at the Downton skatepark. *The Clerk has responded.*
- 11 Unitary Cllr Richard Britton – An email asking whether the Parish Council meeting being held on 13th October 2014, which clashed with the Southern Wiltshire Area Board meeting, could be changed so that members from Downton could attend the Area Board – *The Clerk was asked to add the date of Monday 6th October as an alternative date for the October Parish Council meeting to the Agenda for 8th September 2014.*

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 8th September 2014 at 7.30 pm at the Band Hall, Gravel Close, Downton.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.15 pm.