

## DOWNTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at the Band Hall, Gravel Close, Downton at 7.30 pm.**

**Present:** Cllr Mace (Chairman) and Cllrs Chandler, Cordell, Dean, Dickinson, Lacey, Hayward, Quarmby, Ross, Sutcliffe, Watts, Whitmarsh and Yeates.  
Unitary Cllr Julian Johnson and Bev Cornish, Parish Clerk.

Five members of the public were present.

**14/299: Apologies:** Cllrs Ford and Pearce.

**14/300: Minutes:** The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2015 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Sutcliffe seconded by Cllr Cordell and agreed by the meeting with abstentions from Cllr Dean, Ross, Watts and Yeates.

**14/301: Public Question/Statement Time:**

Mrs Chris Parry asked that members object to the planning application for the Co-op as metal shutters would be totally inappropriate for the Conservation Area and give the wrong impression. She said that the installation of better locks on the doors would provide greater security.

Mrs Nikki Wilson reported that the Downton Society would be objecting to the Co-op's planning application on similar grounds to that already mentioned. She said the Conservation Officer had put forward some good alternatives in her response.

**14/302: To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011:** Cllr Quarmby declared a personal and pecuniary interest in Minute 14/305 Application 15/00430/FUL and did not speak or vote.

**14/303: Matters arising from the Minutes:** None.

**14/304: Wiltshire Council matters – Unitary Councillor's Report:** Unitary Cllr Johnson gave a detailed report on the Council's budget and the savings which it needed to make. He said over the last 5 years government funding to Wiltshire Council had been reduced by 35 percent and it was likely that there would be a further reduction after this year's Election and thereafter until the next Spending Review in 2020. He also said the Council had reduced its management staff by 50 percent which in terms of numbers was 800 managers and it was likely that the Council would have little alternative but to put up the Council Tax next year.

**14/305: Planning and Tree Works Applications:**

**15/00430/FUL - 22 Saxonhurst, Downton - Erect greenhouse in rear garden:** Cllr Mace proposed, Cllr Yeates seconded and it was agreed by the meeting that the Parish Council should not submit a comment on this application on the grounds that the applicant was a member of the Council.

**15/00595/FUL - Plot 1 Pine Lodge Cottages, Mesh Pond, Downton - Amendment to replacement dwelling (approved S/2009/1052) to raise the building height by 600mm including alterations to fenestration on front elevation:** Cllr Quarmby proposed, Cllr Watts seconded and it was agreed by the meeting with abstentions from

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Cllrs Lacey and Chandler, that the Parish Council should object to the application on the grounds that the dwelling was contrary to the Wiltshire Council LTP3 Car Parking Strategy paragraph 7.4 which requires new dwellings with more than one bedroom to provide a minimum of two car parking spaces and this application provided only one space.

**15/01039/FUL - Co-op store, 66 The Borough, Downton - Installation of new roller-shutters on the existing shopfront & door sections to the front elevation of the store:** Cllr Lacey proposed, Cllr Hayward seconded and it was agreed by the meeting that the Parish Council should strongly object to the application on the grounds that the shutters were completely out of keeping with the street scene and within the Downton Conservation Area. It accorded with the views and proposals submitted by the Conservation Officer and would be supportive of internal shutters only if they were proven to be required.

**15/01045/TPO – Meadowside, 32 Gravel Close, Downton - At bottom of garden next to boundary with no 26 another Yew Tree AMENDED / ADDED WORK- ref 14/11383/TCA I would like to prune it back to the previous cuts (1.5m) I would like to do the same work on a Yew tree that is halfway down the garden on the boundary with no 26 (1.5m) only on the neighbour's side:** Cllr Watts proposed, Cllr Hayward seconded and it was agreed by the meeting, with abstentions from Cllrs Sutcliffe and Yeates, that the Parish Council should raise no objection to the application.

**15/01203/FUL - 24 Gravel Close, Downton - Removal of conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension, enclosed front porch:** Cllr Dickinson proposed, Cllr Quarmby seconded and it was agreed by the meeting, with abstentions from Cllrs Chandler, Sutcliffe and Yeates, that the Parish Council should raise no objection to the application.

**14/306: To consider a response to the draft Downton Neighbourhood Plan written by the Downton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group ahead of a 6 week public consultation period:** Cllr Mace proposed, Cllr Sutcliffe seconded and it was agreed by the meeting that comments on the Plan should be considered and recommended by the New Housing Development Committee for the Parish Council meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015. All councillors were asked to submit their comments on the Plan to the Clerk prior to the meeting of the New Housing Development Committee on 19<sup>th</sup> March.

**14/307: To consider a response to the Wiltshire Council consultation on the Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations Development Plan Document - Identification of Potential Housing Sites:** Cllr Mace proposed, Cllr Quarmby seconded and it was agreed by the meeting that a response to the document should be considered and recommended by the New Housing Development Committee for the Parish Council meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015.

**14/308: To consider a request from Mr Glyn Parry of the Downton Cuckoo Fair Committee for permission to use the Borough Greens and Memorial Gardens for the 2015 Cuckoo Fair on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May:** Cllr Whitmarsh proposed, Cllr Sutcliffe seconded and it was approved by the meeting.

**14/309: To consider appointing Cllr Quarmby to conduct a review of the Governance Pilot which was implemented in June 2014 and to consider and approve a draft terms of reference for the review:** Cllr Quarmby proposed, Cllr Ross seconded and it was agreed by the meeting.

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**14/310: To consider a special motion from Cllrs Cordell, Pearce, Mace, Ross & Sutcliffe to rescind the decision made at Minute 14/166 to approve the sum from R2 funds of £5,924.60 for the purchase of the Uni Mini Hally activity piece from Hags SMP and to consider whether:**

- (i) To approve the alternative purchase of a Pirate Ship from Mant Leisure at the cost of £8,390 with £5,924.60 being taken from the Parish Council's R2 funds ; and**
- (ii) To vire the sum of £2,466.40, being the difference in cost, in the Parish Council's current budget from the unused 'Odd Job Contractor Line' to the line for 'Play Equipment Maintenance':**

Cllr Sutcliffe proposed, Cllr Cordell seconded and they were approved by the meeting with abstentions from Cllrs Chandler, Hayward and Yeates.

**14/311: To consider a request from the Sarum Orienteering Club to use the Moot Lane Recreation Ground in conjunction with The Moot again for setting up an orienteering maze on the afternoon of Saturday 4th July 2015 for their annual club championships:** Cllr Yeates proposed, Cllr Dickinson seconded and it was approved by the meeting.

**14/312: To consider a request from Mr Joe Stokes to hold a Fun Fair in the Moot Lane Recreation Ground in July:** Cllr Yeates proposed, Cllr Watts seconded and it was agreed by the meeting that permission should not be given on the grounds that the bye-laws and covenants did not allow vehicles on the recreation ground.

**14/313: To approve the appointment of Cllr Mace as the Parish Representative to attend the Memorial Hall Committee's AGM in the absence of Cllr Sutcliffe:** Cllr Sutcliffe proposed, Cllr Yeates seconded and it was approved by the meeting.

**14/314: To consider themes and a speaker(s) for the 2015 Annual Parish Meeting:** Following a discussion, Cllr Mace proposed, Cllr Hayward seconded and it was agreed by the meeting that Mr Matt Wheeldon of Wessex Water and Mr Danny Everett of Wiltshire Council be invited back to present the progress on the resolution of the drainage issues discussed at last year's meeting. It was also agreed that the plans for the Memorial Hall Extension should be available to view and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group should provide a display of the Neighbourhood Plan.

### **14/315: Committee Reports:**

**New Housing Development Committee:** Cllr Mace reported that the meeting consisted almost entirely of matters relating to the Primary School's planning application resulting in the Committee's decisions to object to both the height of the classroom block and community access to the Multi Use Games Area.

### **14/316: Representatives' Reports:**

**Community Area Transport Group:** Cllr Mace gave a brief report on two issues of most relevance to Downton: the removal of the lorry signs at Woodfalls and the sequencing of the traffic lights at the Britford Park & Ride which were reviewed.

**Stakeholder Engagement Event organised by Wiltshire Council Spatial Planning Team on the Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations Development Plan Document - Identification of Potential Housing Sites:** In the absence of Cllr Ford, this item was deferred until the next meeting.

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**Hive Energy Ltd Solar Farm Exhibition:** Cllr Sutcliffe reported that the meeting was very much like the exhibition held at the Memorial Hall in Downton.

**Emergency Planning Workshop:** Cllr Hayward reported that he had been unable to attend.

**Parish Council Surgery:** Cllr Dickinson reported that two members of the public attended the surgery and raised the issue of a parked car close to the junction of Moot Lane with the High Street and the unfinished resurfacing work to the B3080 beside the Fish & Chip shop.

**14/317: To approve the following payments:**

£183.84 - The Landscape Group - For bin emptying.

£169 - Mrs B Cornish - for Clerk's home working allowance April 2014-March 2015.

£172.69 - Mrs B Cornish – For Clerk's expenses January - March 2015.

£105 - Community Heartbeat Trust – For 4 sets of Adult Defibrillation Electrodes for the defibrillators.

£66 - Downton Cuckoo Fair - For a Neighbourhood Plan stall at this year's Cuckoo Fair.

£241.98 - D Yeatman Glaziers – Memorial Hall Window repairs.

£130.80 - Rialtas Accounts Business Solutions – Alpha Software Maintenance.

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

**14/318: To approve the Accounts for payment for March and to record the bank balances:**

	£
The Landscape Group Bin emptying – March 2015	183.84
Community Heartbeat Trust - Defibrillator Electrodes	105.00
Rialtas Accounts Business Solutions - Maintenance of Accounts system	130.80
Bev Cornish - Expenses Jan-March 15	172.69
Bev Cornish - Home Working Allowance April 14-March 15	169.00
James Howells - March Salary	196.80
B Cornish - March Salary	1335.23
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Total	2293.36
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**Balances Approved and Noted as at 09.03.15:**

Current A/c: £8,489.32 Deposit A/c: £28,524.63 Santander Time Deposit: £42,067.66

Cllr Ross proposed, Cllr Whitmarsh seconded and they were approved by the meeting.

**14/319: Correspondence.**

- 1 Wiltshire Association of Local Councils – February Newsletter.
- 2 Southern Wiltshire Area Board – An email from Karen Linaker regarding nominations for a Community Award to be presented at the 26th March board meeting. Nominations will be accepted for individuals, projects, groups, which can demonstrate real, tangible community benefit, bring people together to give up their time for the local community and have achieved particular success. There will be 10 awards of £50 to individuals and 4 awards of £200 for groups / projects.
- 3 Post Office – an email response to the clerk's submission regarding the Crossroads Post Office in which she also asked for news of the High Street Post Office. The response was as follows: 'Post Office have advertised the vacancy for the Post Office service at Downton and we have engaged with a potential applicant who has expressed

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an interest in taking on the service. The application is at a very early stage in the process and when we do have a confirmed proposal for the Post Office service we will hold a 6 week public consultation with local stakeholders and the Downton community’.

- 4 Mr Luke Wordley – Three emails inviting the Chairman and Clerk to view the revised plans for a proposed new dwelling behind the Dental Surgery.
- 5 Wiltshire Spatial Planning – An email from Ms Sophie Davies enclosing the Housing Site DPD leaflet.
- 6 Longford Estate – A copy email from Ms Nancy Stewart regarding a litter picking day along the roads around the Estate including Britford, Downton & Alderbury being carried out by all 40 employees on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March.
- 7 Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre – An email from Ms Julie Davies seeking information on anyone who has been working creatively in the parish either artists, sculptors, actors, writers, musicians to name but a few. The project Creative Wiltshire & Swindon aims to fill significant gaps in the collections at the Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre and at Wiltshire and Swindon’s Museums.
- 8 Wessex Water – A copy email to Charles Church from Mr Matt Wheeldon regarding the draft Flood Risk Management Strategy and his offer to contact Wiltshire Council drainage engineers to help them with the writing of the groundwater management strategy with the aim of lifting their objection to the Charles Church development.
- 9 New Forest National Park Authority – An email from Shona Marsh advising of an HGV meeting in Downton on Wednesday 11th March at 10.30 am.
- 10 Linden Homes – An email from Mr Mark Carrington requesting a meeting with the Parish Council to discuss the site at Breamore Road, Downton.
- 11 Mr Neville Jennings – An email seeking information on the resurfacing of the pavements and equipment left by the contractors in the Moot car park.
- 12 SLCC – March edition of The Clerk magazine.
- 13 Clerks & Councils Direct – March edition.

**14/320: Date of next meeting** – Monday 23rd March 2015 at 7.30 pm at the Band Hall, Gravel Close, Downton.

With no further business, the meeting closed at 9.00 pm.