

DOWNTON PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 23rd November 2016 at the Memorial Hall, The Borough, Downton at 8.15 pm.

Present: Cllr Mace (Chairman) and Cllrs Chandler, Cordell, Dean, Ford, Quarmby, Saxby, Sutcliffe, Watts and Yeates.

In attendance: Mrs Bev Cornish, Parish Clerk.

Also present: Eleven members of the public.

Public Question Time:

Mr Bryan Morris made a brief statement on behalf of the neighbours to the Primary School and thanked the Parish Council for sight of the finalised lease for the land in the Memorial Gardens prior to its approval. He said the last two years had been a very painful, fraught and testing experience for the neighbours. He said he hoped that the building project would go well and that the Primary School would do its utmost to ensure all children within the parish would be able to gain admission.

Mr Jonathan Freer, Chair of Governors for Downton Primary School, made a brief statement on behalf of the Governing Body and the school's working party thanking the Parish Council for the leasing of the land. He said it had been a long a difficult process to agree the lease but everyone had worked hard over the last few weeks to reach agreement with the principle aim of ensuring that all children in the parish could attend the Primary School. He also said that work would start almost immediately to build two additional classrooms to accommodate all in-catchment applications and the Car Park deed would allow the school's car park to be used outside of hours by patrons of the Memorial Hall.

Mr Freer also read out a brief statement from Ms Clare Medland, Head of School Place Commissioning at Wiltshire Council, thanking the Parish Council and the School for all their hard work in agreeing the lease and enabling an extension to the school.

Mr Jeremy Parsons asked if an additional clause could be added to the reinstatement section of the lease which requested that additional trees be planted on the boundary with the school once the land returned to the ownership of the Parish Council.

Cllr Quarmby said that it had been very difficult for the New Housing Development Committee to envisage how the land should be reinstated in 100 years. Consequently, he said the lease stated that it should be returned to a blank canvass so that the Parish Council at the time could then decide, in consultation with the community, how it could be best used.

Cllr Ford said in these circumstances the lessee normally would provide a sum of money for the lessor to reinstate the land in the way it chooses.

179.16 To receive apologies from Councillors: Cllr Mace advised that apologies had been received from:

Cllrs Brentor and Whitmarsh due to personal commitments.

Cllrs Hayward and Dickinson due to work commitments.

Cllr Pearce due to holiday commitments.

Downton Parish Council RESOLVED to note the apologies received.

180.16 To consider and resolve to approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14th November 2016: Downton Parish Council RESOLVED, with an abstention from Cllrs Watts, to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 14th November 2016 as a true record and they were signed by the Chairman.

181.16 Declarations of Interest:

a. To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers:

Cllr Saxby declared a personal and pecuniary interest in Minutes 184.16, 185.16 and 186.16 and did not speak or vote when the items were discussed.

b. To consider any Dispensation Requests received by the Parish Clerk and not previously considered:

The Clerk advised that no dispensation requests had been received.

182.16 To resolve to refer any business raised by the public in public discussion, and any other matters or items of information from councillors, to the appropriate committee or to resolve to agree on any other action: Cllr Mace proposed from the Chair that no action be taken from matters raised by the public in public discussion.

183.16 To receive a short verbal report from the Chairman on the outcomes of the meetings of the Working Party to agree the documents to be signed with the Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education: Cllr Mace gave brief report on what he said had been a long and tortuous process over the last few weeks to agree the documents being considered by the Parish Council at the meeting.

184.16 To resolve to approve the signing of the Lease between the Parish Council and the Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education for the area of land in the Memorial Gardens for a term of 99 years: Downton Parish Council RESOLVED unanimously to approve the signing of the lease.

185.16 To resolve to approve the signing of the Deed of Grant between the Parish Council and the Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education for patrons of the Memorial Hall to use the Primary School's Car Park outside of school hours: Downton Parish Council RESOLVED unanimously to approve the signing of the Deed of Grant.

186.16 To resolve to approve the signing of the Car Park Contract between the Parish Council and the Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education to give effect to the Deed of Grant prior to the registration of the land with the Land Registry: Downton Parish Council RESOLVED unanimously to approve the signing of the Car Park Contract.

187.16 To resolve to approve the signing of the Access Licence between the Parish Council and Wiltshire Council for access via the eastern side of the Memorial Hall to the land in the Memorial Gardens, for the purpose of carrying out the works to the playground and ancillary works subject to the terms of the Licence: Cllr Quarmby advised that due to the Project Manager being on leave, the amendments requested by the Parish Council had not been made. Cllr Mace proposed from the Chair that this item be deferred to a future meeting.

188.16 To resolve to approve the signing of the Deed between the Parish Council and Charles Church Developments Limited for the voluntary financial contribution to support the development of the Memorial Hall for the benefit of the residents of Downton Parish: Downton Parish Council RESOLVED unanimously to approve the signing of the Deed between the Parish Council and Charles Church Developments Limited.

189.16 To confirm the date of the next meeting as Monday 12th December 2016 at 7.30 pm at the Band Hall, Gravel Close, Downton: Cllr Mace advised that the next meeting will be held on Monday 12th December.

Cllr Quarmby proposed a vote of thanks for the hours of work put in by the Chairman to getting the documents agreed and signed at the meeting.

With no further business, the meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Members of the Council considered the foregoing in the matters in consideration of their duties: Equal Opportunities, (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability); Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety, and Human Rights.