



**Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at the Band Hall, Gravel Close, Downton at 7.30 pm.**

**Present:** Cllr Mace (Chairman) and Cllrs Brentor, Chandler, Dean, Ford, Hayward, Quarmby, Pearce, Saxby, Sutcliffe, Whitmarsh and Yeates.

**In attendance:** Mrs Bev Cornish, Parish Clerk.

**Also present:** Seven members of the public.

**Public Question Time:**

Cllr Yeates said he wished to make a statement on behalf of the Memorial Hall Working Group to address possible concerns which may be raised regarding the planting of a hedge on the boundary of the new school playground in the Memorial Gardens.

He said that the Working Group was aware of the newly planted hedge, agreed that it was not of a size which had been agreed with Wiltshire Council. He also said that he had agreed the following actions with the Site Manager for the school's contractor Hebs:

- No further planting would take place of the beech plants currently supplied.
- Once the metal fencing and associated kerbing within the fence had been erected, a weed killer would be applied to a 600mm wide strip outside of the fenced area in order to prevent further grass growth and this would be rotavated in preparation for planting.
- The Parish Council would supply beech hedging plants which would be of a height of 90cm -120cm high and 4 plants would be planted per metre.
- Planting would take place in October/November.

Cllr Yeates also said that all the bricks at the rear of the Memorial Hall would be cleaned and stacked to enable access during Cuckoo Fair.

Mr Bryan Morris said that as this was the last meeting within the term of this Parish Council he would like thank councillors very much for bearing with the neighbours to the school as it had not been an easy time over the last 3 years. He thanked Cllr Yeates for his statements and also asked if he could receive a copy of the lease with the Primary School.

Mrs Chris Parry said she had received enquiries from someone regarding the purchase of the bricks from the Parish Room.

Mr Rick Ladds ask you about the Environment Agency's maintenance regime for the Bunny running from The Borough to and beyond South Lane pumping station with particular regard to the blocked culvert close to the pumping station and whose responsibility it was to rectify it.

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Downton Parish Council – Full Council Meeting Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017

Minutes approved as a true and accurate record, and signed as so by the Chairman presiding

.....Date.....

Ms Susan Barnhurst-Davies said she had confirmation from the Longford Estates of their permission for the Circular Walk. She also gave a brief report on the recent AGM of the Downton Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Association which Cllr Watts, as representative of the Parish Council, had not attended. She said the rubbish had been cleared, a new noticeboard erected and she expressed her thanks to Cllr Dean for arranging for the additional gravel to be delivered.

**303.16 To receive apologies from Councillors:**

Cllr Cordell due to illness and Cllr Dickinson due to a work commitment.

Downton Parish Council RESOLVED to note the apologies received.

The Clerk advised that she had received not notification or reason from Cllr Watts for his absence.

**304.16 To consider and resolve to approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2017:** Downton Parish Council RESOLVED, with to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2017 as a true record and they were signed by the Chairman.

**305.16 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:**

No declarations of interest were received.

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.

**306.16 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 and it was RESOLVED that the following responses be recorded following the questions from members of the public:

1. The Clerk would provide Mr Morris with a copy of the Lease with the Primary School.
2. The Clerk follow up the issue raised on the Bunny and culvert with the Environment Agency and will relay their response to Mr Ladds.
3. Cllr Yeates will liaise with Mrs Parry regarding the bricks for the Parish Room.

**307.16 Planning and Tree Works Applications:**

**17/02886/FUL 45 Moot Gardens, Downton – Proposed rear single storey extension:** Downton Parish Council RESOLVED to raise no objection to this application.

**Appeal 15/10837/CLE - Planning Inspectorate APP/Y3940/X/16/3157020: Land at Long Meadow Nurseries, Breamore Road, SP5 3HW – The use of land for a mixed use comprising of a residential dwelling, retail, the stationing of caravans for residential purposes and the use of land for horticulture/agriculture:** Downton Parish Council RESOLVED that a letter should

be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate which stated that it strongly supported the arguments put forward by Wiltshire Council.

**308.16 To consider a proposal from the Memorial Hall Working Group that Mr Paul Stevens be appointed as the Parish Council's Contract Administrator for the Memorial Hall Extension Project for the fee of £13,200 to be allocated in the short term from reserves:** Following a brief report from Cllr Sutcliffe, Cllr Quarmbly proposed, Cllr Ford seconded and it was RESOLVED that Mr Stevens be appointed.

**309.16 To consider and resolve to approve that the Parish Council elects a representative to the Committee for Downton Band:** Cllr Pearce proposed, Cllr Brentor seconded and it was RESOLVED that an elected representative of the Parish Council could attend meetings of Downton Band.

### **310.16 Representatives Reports:**

**Downton Allotment & Leisure Gardeners Association: To receive a short verbal report from Cllr Watts on the recent AGM:** In Cllr Watts's absence, the report was given by Ms Susan Barnhurst-Davies during the public session of the meeting. Cllr Brentor said that she wished to make the point that she was disappointed that no-one from the Parish Council had attended the AGM and that she hoped the Allotment & Leisure Gardeners Association would be able to be supported in the future as the allotments were something for which the Parish Council had responsibility.

**Downton Millennium Green Trust: To receive a short verbal report from Cllr Whitmarsh on the recent AGM:** Cllr Whitmarsh gave a detailed report on the recent meeting at which there had been a report on activities of the last year, the increase in subscription to £15 had been advised and thanks had been expressed to the Parish Council and Cllr Whitmarsh for organising the replacement of a stile with a kissing gate on the footpath at the corner of the Green making it more accessible for walkers.

The Chairman, Cllr Mace, expressed his thanks to all councillors for their work over the last year and in particular to Cllrs Chandler, Dean, Dickinson, Ford, Hayward and Whitmarsh who had not put themselves forward for re-election. He also encouraged the other councillors to consider putting themselves forward for the chair of the parish council.

**311.16 Next meeting:** The Chairman confirmed the date of the next meeting as Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 7.30 pm at the Band Hall, Gravel Close, Downton.

With no further business, the meeting closed at 8.47 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.*