

# DOWNTON PARISH COUNCIL



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

**Present:** Cllr Mace (Chairman) and Cllrs Brentor, Chandler, Cordell, Dean, Ford, Hayward, Lacey, Pearce, Sutcliffe, Yeates, and Whitmarsh.  
Bev Cornish, Parish Clerk.

Five members of the public were present.

**15/187: Apologies:** Cllrs Dickinson and Quarmby and Unitary Councillor Julian Johnson.  
**Absent:** Cllr Watts.

**15/188: Minutes:** The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Dean, seconded by Cllr Brentor and agreed by the meeting with abstentions from Cllrs Ford, Hayward, and Mace.

### **15/189: Public Question/Statement Time –15 minutes to receive any questions or statements from members of the public:**

Ms Susan Barnhurst-Davies asked whether the Parish Council would have any objection to the Downton Society repairing the public telephone box located outside the Library. The Clerk advised that box was listed and so it was in the ownership of BT, not the Parish Council. She said she would endeavour to find a contact number for BT so that permission could be sought.

Mr Rick Ladds read out a statement on behalf of Mr Bryan Morris seeking clarification on Downton Primary School's Admissions Policy which made reference to the Ecclesiastical Boundary rather than the Civil Parish Boundary. He asked how the objective of the Parish Council and the School could be achieved to enable all children within the civil parish to attend the school if the two boundaries did not align.

Mr Rick Ladds asked about the progress on getting the Bunny cleared and on the changes to the plans for the Memorial Hall. The Clerk advised that she had contacted an officer at the Environment Agency who had advised her that it had missed its usual scheduled clearance date of October but would be carrying out the clearance sometime in November and, if the silt build up was considered to be detrimental to the flow of the Bunny, a digger would be assigned to clear it out early in the Spring.

With regard to the Memorial Hall's plans, Cllr Sutcliffe explained that the Environment Agency had required the extension to be built 300 mm higher than the existing building to achieve no objection to the submitted revised Flood Risk Assessment, otherwise planning permission would not be granted. Following a further question from Mr Ladds regarding a request for a drawing on how the extension to the Memorial Hall and the extension to the

Primary School would impact on his property, Cllr Sutcliffe said that this could be done by placing together the two site plans for the two planning applications.

Mrs Nikki Wilson advised that representatives of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Groups from Idmiston, Shrewton, Laverstock and Downton would be meeting on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, to discuss the actions to be taken following the lengthy delays in Wiltshire Council's responses to their submitted plans. No objection was raised to Cllr Brentor's request that she attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

Mrs Wilson also advised that Wiltshire Council had abandoned the Housing Site Allocations Development Plan Document - Identification of Potential Housing Sites to which the Parish Council had provided comments in March 2015. She said it would be holding a new consultation in February 2016 and would be carrying out environmental assessments of every SHLAA site.

**15/190: Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Brentor declared a personal and pecuniary interest in Minutes 15/173 and 15/174 and did not speak or vote when those items were considered by the Parish Council.

Cllr Yeates declared a personal and non-pecuniary interest in planning application 15/10631/FUL and said he did not wish to speak or vote when that item was considered by the Parish Council.

**15/191: Matters arising from the Minutes:** There were no matters arising.

**15/192: Wiltshire Council matters – Unitary Councillor's Report:** In Cllr Johnson's absence, the Clerk passed on his report that the Cabinet had discussed the issue of the lengthy time it was taking for local authority searches for house purchasers to be carried out by Wiltshire Council. She said it had been agreed that more staff should be recruited to the department.

**15/193: Planning and Tree Work Applications:**

**15/07418/FUL 56 The Borough, Downton – Erection of a garden shed in front garden:** Cllr Hayward proposed, Cllr Pearce seconded and it was agreed by the meeting, with Cllr Yeates against, that the Parish Council should raise no objection to this application but, in view of its size, request that a planning condition be included which stated that the shed could not be used as a dwelling.

**15/10631/FUL 69 Catherine Crescent, Downton – Rear conservatory:** Cllr Dean proposed, Cllr Brentor seconded and it was agreed by the meeting, with an abstention from Cllr Yeates, that no objection be raised.

**15/10578/PNEX 11 Catherine Crescent, Downton - Prior notification for larger home extension - Proposed single storey rear extension with a rear projection of 4.3 metres, eaves height of 2.5 metres and maximum height of 2.7 metres:** Cllr Mace proposed from the chair that this application be noted by the Parish Council.

**15/194: To consider and approve an article to be published in the next InDownton Newsletter which contains information on the approval of the Charles Church development and Wiltshire Council's offer to the Parish Council to take on the responsibility of running the Public Conveniences in Downton:** Cllr Sutcliffe proposed, Cllr Brentor seconded and it was agreed by the meeting, with an abstention from Cllr

Chandler and subject to several minor amendments being made, that the article be approved.

**15/195: To receive a report from Cllr Pearce on councillors' suggestions submitted for the Budget and Three Year Plan process:** Cllr Pearce thanked members for their contributions which would be considered at a meeting of the Working Group to follow the Parish Council meeting.

**15/196: To consider the new letterhead and logo for the Parish Council's correspondence and documentation:** Cllr Yeates proposed, Cllr Whitmarsh seconded and it was approved by the meeting with one abstention from Cllr Lacey.

**15/197: To consider and approve the construction and installation of a new Noticeboard outside the Memorial Hall by Mr Bob Moody for the cost of £296.08:** Cllr Dean proposed, Cllr Cordell seconded and it was approved by the meeting. The Chairman asked that the Parish Council's thanks be passed to Mr Moody.

#### **15/198: Representatives' Reports:**

**Wiltshire Council:** Cllr Brentor gave a detailed report on a meeting and presentation given by Cllr Baroness Scott of Bybrook OBE, Leader of Wiltshire Council and other members of the Cabinet, which considered the challenges Wiltshire Council faced in 2016 and in the future as a result of less funding being provided from central government. She said Wiltshire Council had been required to make a £30 million cut in its spending in the current year with a further £24 million being required in 2016/17.

**Wiltshire Council Broadband Exhibition:** Cllr Mace gave a brief report on a recent interesting Broadband Exhibition hosted by Wiltshire Online which he had attended at the Memorial Hall. Cllr Chandler commented that numerous residents from Charlton All Saints had attended because the broadband performance in Charlton was currently poor at around 1MB.

**Parish Council Surgery:** Cllr Mace advised that no residents had attended the recent Surgery and in due course the Parish Council should consider whether it was worthwhile continuing to hold a monthly surgery.

#### **15/199: To approve the following further payments:**

- £183.84 - The Landscape Group – for bin emptying.
- £65.60 – Mrs B Cornish – For reimbursement of train fares to attend the Strategic Planning Committee in Trowbridge.
- £710.79 – Mrs B Cornish – For purchase of new desktop computer and associated equipment from PC World Business.
- £127.73 – Viking – For Printer Cartridges and Stationery.
- £109.78 – Cllr Brentor – For Neighbourhood Plan expenses.

Cllr Pearce proposed, Cllr Ford seconded and they were approved by the meeting.

**15/200: To approve the Accounts for payment for November and to record the bank balances:**

	£
The Landscape Group – for bin emptying	183.84
Mrs B Cornish – Train tickets to Trowbridge	65.60
Mrs B Cornish – Computer and equipment from PC World Business	849.95
Viking – For Printer Cartridges and Stationery	127.73
Cllr Brentor - For Neighbourhood Plan expenses	109.78
Ms R Saxby – November Salary	151.20
Mr T Price– November Salary	151.20
Mrs B Cornish – November Salary	1375.26
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<b>Total</b>	<b>3014.56</b>
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**Balances to be Approved and Noted as at 09.11.15:**

Current A/c: £8,184.83    Deposit A/c: £33,153.30    Santander Time Deposit: £41,650.92

Cllr Ford proposed, Cllr Sutcliffe seconded and they were approved by the meeting.

**15/201: Correspondence**

- 1 Wiltshire Council – An email from Mrs Tina Winfield of Financial Planning advising of the Parish Council's grant and precept calculations.
- 2 Mrs Jenny Saxby – A letter regarding the conditions contained in the officer's report for the Primary School's planning application.
- 3 Wiltshire Highways – An emailed Newsletter from Mr Adrian Hampton regarding a report on highway works and Parish Stewards across the county.
- 4 Mrs S Pargeter – An email enquiry regarding the flood risk in Charlton All Saints.
- 5 Wiltshire Council – An email from Ms Marie Lewis advising of Learning in Wiltshire which is Wiltshire Council's professional learning and development arm, delivering courses and qualifications across the community to benefit both individuals and local businesses.
- 6 Cllr Whitmarsh – An email regarding the use of The Borough by large tractors at peak times.
- 7 Wiltshire Council – Several emails from Ms Emma Dragge regarding youth issues.
- 8 Wiltshire Council – An email from Mr John Cole enclosing the Closure Notice for the temporary road closure of The Borough for the Remembrance Sunday service.
- 9 Wiltshire Council – An email from Mrs Lisa Moore enclosing the Minutes of the Southern Wiltshire Area Board.
- 10 Mrs June Hawkins – An email of complaint regarding the grass verges in Moot Lane and requesting that they be cut. The Clerk reported it on the Wiltshire App.
- 11 Wiltshire Council – An email from Cllr Dick Tonge, Cabinet Member for Finance, advising of the registering of interest in the devolvement of assets and the work being done on a package for Salisbury City Council which is delaying the work to other parishes.

**15/202: Date of next meeting:** Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2015 at 7.30 pm at the Band Hall, Gravel Close, Downton.

With no further business, the meeting closed at 8.50 pm.