

DOWNTON PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Tuesday 28th May 2019 in the Centenary Room of the Downton Memorial Centre, The Borough, Downton at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr Brentor (Chair) and Cllrs Cornell, Pearce, and Ricketts.
Bev Cornish, Parish Clerk.

Three members of the public were present.

Public Question Time:

Ms Susan Barnhurst-Davies, Chair of the Memorial Hall Committee advised that the Committee had yet to discuss the proposal to erect a flagpole on the Hall and she said she was unclear on who would meet the cost of doing so.

In her separate capacity as the Chair of the Footpaths Working Group, Ms Barnhurst-Davies also advised that she was happy to speak to Nick Cowan at Wiltshire Council about sending some way markers for the footpaths.

A parishioner relayed some information regarding the tenancy of the White Horse.

01.19 To resolve to elect a Chair of the Committee for 2019/20: Cllr Cornell proposed, Cllr Pearce seconded and it was RESOLVED that Cllr Brentor be elected as Chair of the Committee for 2019/20.

02.19 To receive apologies for absence: The Clerk advised that apologies had been received from Cllr Mace due to a holiday commitment and Cllr Watts due to a work commitment.

03.19 To consider and resolve to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18th March 2019: Cllr Brentor proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18th March 2019 be approved and they were signed by the Chair.

04.19 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.

05.19 To resolve to note the matters arising and actions taken from the Minutes: Cllr Brentor proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the progress of the following matters raised at the last meeting be noted:

21.17 Awards for All Application: This has been awarded.

45.17 Silver birch tree in the Memorial Gardens: Work will be carried out on Tuesday 5th June.

28.18 Bus Shelter repairs: *The Clerk is awaiting a quote from a company based in Tatcham which took on employees from Queensbury Shelters.*

38.18 a. Church Hatch and Gravel Close: *The Community Area Transport Group meeting in June will discuss these requests along with the work to the area around the Cross.*

b. Borough Cross: *The Clerk is awaiting a revised quote for the lighting.*

45.18 Castle Meadow bench: *This has been installed along with another bench in Moot Lane and the 2 benches on the Greens have been installed with the one on the Maypole Green to be replaced with a refurbished bench from storage..*

40.18 Shelter in Memorial Gardens: *This was completed in April.*

48.18 Emergency Plan: *The Clerk has been unable to prioritise this above other work.*

55.18: Stage Curtains: *These have been installed.*

57.18 Litter Pick in Barford Lane: *This will require a temporary road closure and cannot be done by the lengthsman.*

58.18 Defibrillator in Charlton: *The electricity supply in the telephone needs to be checked because the light may just not be working. We need to get a test done.*

63.18 Play Inspection Reports: *Bob Moody is working through the repairs highlighted by the reports.*

06.19 To consider a request from a resident to plant some trees around the picnic tables in the Moot Lane Recreation Ground and also along Moot Lane and to resolve to make a recommendation to the Parish Council: Following a brief discussion, Cllr Brentor proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that this request be delegated to the Moot Lane Recreation Ground Working Group for consideration.

07.19 To consider a proposal from Cllr Brentor to work with the Co-op in the joint-funding of replacement public bins in the car park of the Co-op and in the area adjacent to it and to resolve to make a recommendation to the Parish Council: Cllr Pearce proposed, Cllr Cornell seconded and it was RESOLVED that a recommendation be made to the Parish Council that it should work with the Co-op in the joint-funding of replacement public bins in the car park of the Co-op and in the area adjacent to it.

08.19 To consider a request from a resident to retain the street light on the boundary with the Moot Lane Recreation Ground in Castle Meadow as permanently unlit and to resolve to make a recommendation to the Parish Council: Following a brief explanation from the Clerk, Cllr Brentor proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that a recommendation be made to the Parish Council that the street light remain permanently unlit.

09.19 To consider a quote from Mant Leisure for the purchase and installation of a basketball post for the Moot Lane Recreation Ground and to resolve to make a recommendation to the Parish Council: Following a brief discussion and view that the quote for both installation and the post were high, Cllr Cornell proposed, Cllr Pearce seconded and it was RESOLVED that more research should be carried out to find posts which could be purchased at a more reasonable price.

10.19 To consider a proposal from Cllr Gentle to install a flagpole above the portico of the Downton Memorial Centre and to resolve to make a recommendation to the Parish Council: Following a detailed discussion on the requirements in terms of risk assessments, insurance and training, Cllr Brentor proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that this item be deferred to a future meeting in order to await the feedback from the discussions of the Memorial Hall Committee.

11.19 To re-consider whether to submit an application to register the White Horse (and other assets) on Wiltshire Council's asset register and resolve to make a recommendation to the Parish Council: Cllr Cornell proposed, Cllr Pearce seconded and it was RESOLVED that as the Council currently did not have sufficient councillors, it was not possible to draw up a register of assets and in the knowledge that the White Horse would continue to remain open for the foreseeable future, this item should be deferred to a future meeting.

12.19 To consider the new Facebook page for Downton Parish Council set up by Cllr Cornell and to resolve to make a recommendation to the Parish Council that it be approved and adopted: Cllr Brentor proposed, Cllr Pearce seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Facebook page should be recommended for approval by the Parish Council.

13.19 To consider a request from Cllr Ricketts that the Council applies for replacement waymarkers for the parish's rights of way: Cllr Brentor proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that Cllr Ricketts should liaise with Ms Barnhurst-Davies to request and subsequently affix the waymarkers to the rights of way posts.

14.19 To consider and to resolve to agree on the Parish Council's requirements in terms of Wiltshire Council's Parish Emergency Assistance Scheme for Winter 2019/20: Following a brief report from the Clerk, Cllr Brentor proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that a similar order to last year's order be placed and that a councillor should accompany the Clerk when collecting the salt from the High Post depot.

15.19 Working Group Reports:

Moot Recreation Ground Working Group: In Cllr Watts's absence, Cllr Brentor advised that a meeting was to be held shortly to consider the adult exercise equipment and the installation of the refurbished equipment.

World War I Tree Planting Project: The Clerk advised that she had been unable to trace any confirmation from the Woodland Trust about when the whips she had ordered as part of the WW1 Project were to arrive.

Bridge Project: Cllr Brentor gave a detailed report on a positive site visit by CTS Bridges at which the tenant farmer and the agent for the landowner were present and in advance of their carrying out a feasibility study. She said their report on the study should be available in two weeks' time and this would be circulated to the working group for consideration before making recommendations to the Parish Council.

16.19 Next meeting: Cllr Brentor confirmed that date of the next meeting as Monday 22nd July 2019 at 7.30 pm.

With no other business, the meeting closed at 8.35 pm.