

# DOWNTON PARISH COUNCIL



**Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019 in the Bonvalot Room at the Downton Memorial Centre, The Borough, Downton at 7.30 pm.**

**Present:** Cllr Mace, (Chair) and Cllrs Brentor, Cornell, Hall, Pearce, Randall and Watts.

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

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

## **219.19 Public Question Time:**

A parishioner raised the issue of a broken BT manhole cover located in the road near Iron Bridge. She said it was disturbing all nearby residents by the noise it was making when cars drove over it. She said she had tried many times to advise BT of it but no action had been taken.

The Chair of the Downton Memorial Hall Committee said she wanted to check whether there was to be sufficient funds in the Council's budget to cover the maintenance and repairs of the alarm, lift and AV system at the Downton Memorial Centre.

A parishioner spoke in detail about the history of the Council's support for the Bridge project and his continued support for the Council to go ahead with it.

**220.19 To receive apologies from Councillors:** The Clerk advised that apologies had been received from Cllrs Mount-Kingett and Roberts due to illness. Cllr Mace proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the apologies and the reasons for them be noted.

**221.19 To consider and resolve to approve the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019:** Cllr Mace proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the Minutes be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record subject to the inclusion of Cllr Watts as a further abstention in Minute 189.19.

## **222.19 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:**

Cllrs Mace and Pearce declared a personal and non-pecuniary interest in discussions on the budget relating to the Downton Memorial Centre.

**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.

**223.19 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 responses to the questions raised during the public question time be as follows:

- The Clerk would raise the matter of the manhole cover with BT.
- The Clerk confirmed there was provision in the budget for the maintenance and repairs of the alarm, lift and AV system at the Downton Memorial Centre.
- The Council will take the comments on the Bridge project when considering the 3 year budget.

**224.19 To consider a proposed 3 year Budget and level of Precept for 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23 as prepared by the Clerk:** Following a lengthy discussion on

every budget line and consideration of income and reserves, Cllr Mace proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk should make the amendments agreed and submit a revised budget and precept to the December Council meeting.

**225.19 To consider the current allocated reserves and to agree on whether any further allocations should be made:** Following a detailed discussion, Downton

Parish Council RESOLVED to use £6,000 from the 'play equipment' reserves to offset the level of precept and to allocate £10,000 from those same reserves to the future refurbishment of the Public Toilets.

**226.19 Date of next meeting:** Cllr Mace confirmed the date of the next meeting as Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 7.30 pm at the Downton Memorial Centre, The Borough, Downton.

With no further business, the meeting closed at 9.55 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.*