

Downley Parish Council
Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council
Held in the Downley Memorial Hall on the 9th May 2017 at 19.45

1 Attendance

Chairman Cllr C Burslem, Cllr Bowden , Cllr Lazenby, Cllr Loadman, Cllr Steneskog, , Cllr Monroe-West , Cllr V Srao

Apologies received from Cllr B Gay Vice Chairman, Cllr Chandarana , Cllr Egmore

County Councillor Wendy Mallen and District Councillor Paul Turner were in attendance

Five members of the public present.

2) Declaration of interest in items on the agenda (7569/5/17)

A Councillor declared an interest in the planning application for 40 Talbot Avenue

3) Minutes of the Previous meeting (7570/5/17)

The minutes were agreed as correct and signed by Cllr Burslem

4) Public Questions (7571/5/17)

Members of the public asked for information on the newly formed Allotment Committee. It was agreed that the Allotment holders would have two representatives on the Parish Councils Allotment Committee. Terms of reference will be drawn up by Cllr Bowden and Cllr Lazenby, they will be circulated once agreed by Council. The Clerk will arrange the first meeting.

5) Report from County Councillor (7572/5/17)

The following report was read out by Cllr Mallen –

Buckinghamshire County Council has 49 newly elected members; of these 16 are new members some filling the places of the 8 retirees. The council now has 4 Liberal Democrat, 1 Independent, 2 East Wycombe Independent, 1 Labour and 41 Conservative members and some 50 to 60% of all Councillors are “twin hatters” i.e. members are both county and district Councillors.

Buckinghamshire County Council has a budget of approximately £800m per year with a staff of over two thousand.

The Leader, Martin Tett recently reported that the introduction of live public questioning to Select Committee meetings now added robustness to their proceedings.

The Council has four Select Committees whose role is to help improve outcomes for Buckinghamshire's residents and hold decision-makers to public account. Each Select Committee has different areas of responsibility and each conducts its work through

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conducting inquiries with evidence-based recommendations for change, as well as meeting regularly in public to hold decision-makers to account.

The Energy from Waste facility in the north of the county had transformed the councils investment position with good returns from the electricity produced now going straight into the national grid.

The Council had protected staff pension fund investments by joining with eight other local authorities and the Environment Agency to create the Brunel Pension Partnership Ltd. A pool of £23bn of assets and a Price Waterhouse Cooper assessment indicated that the model would deliver £122m savings over 25 years.

Two new service directors have been recently appointed following the retirement of the previous directors. Gladys Rhodes White is now Managing Director of Children's Social Care and Sheila Norris is Managing Director of Communities, Health and Adult Social Care.

Ms Rhodes White reported to new councillors that although her staff are being pushed to make rapid changes following recent adverse comments from Ofsted inspectors that improvements were not progressing as quickly as had been expected. The moral of her staff was found to be good during information talks during which they could discuss any issues or improvements with senior directors and Rachel Shimmin, Buckinghamshire County Council CEO. Ms Rhodes White was determined that the next Ofsted would give an improved verdict.

BCC is part of the newly formed Economic Heartland Strategic Alliance that has 9 local authorities and 4 Local Enterprise Partnerships working together. It stretches from Cambridge through Milton Keynes and Northampton to Oxford. Its aim is to unlock new jobs including any enabling infrastructure. The Department for Transport has given £625.000 in matched funding to the Alliance with BCC acting as the 'accountable body' for the Strategic Alliance.

BCC has brought in a balanced budget for the year ending 2016/2017 with expenditure coming in just below expectation.

I am delighted to have been re-elected on 4 May 2017 to represent Downley Division and hope we can continue to work together for the benefit of all the residents.

Cllr Paul Turner gave an annual report at the Annual Parish Meeting on the 26th April 2017.

6) Downley Day (7573/5/17)

The Clerk ask for suggestions for displays on Downley Day. The following was suggested by Councillors- Road Safety, Pond regeneration at Gosling Grove and Lighting project.

7) Street Light Narrow Lane (7574/5/17)

The Clerk obtained a quote for a street lamp on Narrow Lane as per request. The quote is from SSE and is approx. £2k. This will be discussed at the next assets committee meeting.

8) Road Repairs (7575/5/17)

There have been repairs on Plomer Green Lane which have been reported by members of the public as not being a satisfactory repair. This has been reported to Bucks CC. Cllr Mallen will raise this matter with TFB.

9) MVAS- (7576/5/17)

A reported was circulated to Councillors detailing the work that Cllr Gay , Cllr Loadman and C Knapman have carried out in preparation for purchasing an new SID(Speed Indicator Device). It was agreed that the company that has been shortlisted will be invited to the June Parish Council meeting to present to the Council so that an informed decision can be made before purchase.

9) Planning applications and Decision notices (7577/5/17)

A)17/05089/FUL - The Old Post Office High Street Downley- Demolition of existing building and erection of a terrace of 1 x 3-bed & 2 x 2-bed dwellings retaining existing access with new parking layout for 5 vehicles.

There is very considerable village opposition to this proposal both in respect of the inherent dangers of on road parking and additional vehicular movement at this busy junction, together with the overbearing nature of the 3 replacement houses. Previous comments made by the Council still stand.

B)Ref. No: 17/06073/HPDN - 11 Talbot Avenue - Notification of proposed single storey rear extension; Depth extending from the original rear wall of 7.255 metres, a maximum height of 2.861 metres and an eaves height of 2.500 metres. No comment from DPC

C)Ref. No: 17/06085/MINAMD - 18 Westover Road- Proposed non-material amendment for construction of single storey side extension granted under householder planning ref. 16/05554/FUL. No Comment from DPC

D)Ref. No: 17/05994/FUL - 25 Talbot Avenue - Householder application for construction of lower ground floor single storey rear extension and construction of garden retaining wall & steps at rear of property.

Although this is a proposal for a basement and ground floor extension it will be almost 5 metres from the rear of the house and therefore will impact upon neighbouring properties. With a balcony also proposed there could be an issue regarding intrusion of privacy, even though screening is proposed.

E)Ref. No: 17/05862/FUL - 3 Downs Park - Householder application for construction of single storey front extension . No comment from DPC

F)Ref. No: 17/05869/FUL - 20 Talbot Avenue - Householder application for construction of part two storey, part single storey side/rear extension, formation of paved vehicular parking area at front of property with new steps and bin store and garden retaining wall to rear.

This proposal is for a considerable extension that incorporates the existing garage and will provide a 5 bed residence. Similar to others within the vicinity the ground footprint will virtually fill the width of the plot. Two small side windows from the 1st floor en-suite bathrooms are proposed and these should be suitably glazed.

G)Ref. No: 17/05867/FUL - 40 Talbot Avenue High Wycombe Buckinghamshire HP13 5JA - Householder application for construction of two storey side extension and first floor rear extension, formation of paved parking area with new retaining walls and steps including construction of bin/cycle store and dropped kerb .

Another example of the extension proposed is almost the full width of the plot and to a degree overbearing on the neighbouring property at No 38. With several side windows looking west towards the new extension, it is somewhat understandable that the occupants have raised an official objection as all the light from these windows will be compromised. The suggestion that new side windows in the plan would create an intrusion of privacy is misleading as the windows are of a very small slit design. The only other window proposed is in the bathroom area and this should be securely glazed.

Off road parking for 3 vehicles is planned, but for a 6 bedroom house this inevitably will place further strain on the on street parking which has already reached saturation point.

Decision Notices

A)Ref. No: 17/05775/HPDN – 19 Southview - Notification of proposed single storey rear extension; Depth extending from the original rear wall of 5.5 metres, a maximum height of 4 metres and an eaves height of 2.4 metres - Status: Details Not Required to be Submitted

B)Ref. No: 17/05466/FUL – 25 Kestrel Close - Householder application for construction of single storey front and two storey side extensions - Status: Application Permitted

C)Ref. No: 17/05433/FUL – 19 Turners Field - Householder application for construction of fenestration alterations in connection with garage conversion - Status: Application Permitted

D)Ref. No: 17/05422 – 16 Selwood Way- Householder application for erection of single storey rear & part single/part two storey front & side extensions following removal of part rear element of existing garage - Status: Application Permitted

Householder application for construction of two-storey rear extension with general alterations

E)Ref. No: 17/05402/FUL -41 Southfield Rd - Householder application for construction of two-storey rear extension with general alterations - Status: Application Permitted

F) Ref. No: 17/05457/FUL – 9 Turners Field - Householder application for construction of single-storey rear extension and loft conversion with 2 x rear dormer windows, 1 x rear roof light and 1 sunpipe- Status: Application Permitted

G)Ref. No: 17/05246/CLP – 3 Westover Rd - Certificate of lawfulness for proposed construction of hip to gable end roof extension and 1 x rear dormer window in connection with loft conversion Status: Refuse Certificate of Proposed Use

H)Ref. No: 17/05088/FUL -2 Plomer Green Lane - Householder application for insertion of 3 x velux rooflights to front & 1 x velux rooflight to rear & new window to rear gable in connection with loft conversion (retrospective) - Status: Application Permitted

I)Ref. No: 16/08475/FUL - Erection of a new porch to each side, alterations including creation of light well to front & terraced area to rear all to facilitate conversion to a three

storey detached 4-bed dwelling with associated car parking (alternative scheme to 16/07391/FUL and 16/06231/FU- The Stables Downley Common Status: Application Refused

10) Correspondence (7578/5/17)

- Anti Social behavior has been reported on the green on Plomer Green Avenue. Residents are advised to contact the local Police and the Red Kite housing association who own
- the green. Cllr Paul Turner is going to make some enquiries regarding ownership of the green.
- The Downley School are having a spring fayre on the 20th March
- There are three workshops being hosted by Bucks CC regarding Unitary Proposals. Details have been circulated
- Best kept village starts in June, posters are now in the village.
- BALC have a number of training courses coming up that Cllrs maybe interest in. Details have been circulated.
- A member of the public has expressed concern regarding the spraying of weeds in the Village. The Clerk will speak to the contractor and ask what pesticide is being used.
- A member of the public has asked if a roundabout can be considered on Plomer Green Lane and Littleworth Rd junction. This will be added to the agenda for the next meeting

11) Reports and minutes from other Committees (7579/5/17)

None

12) Resolutions of which have been notified (7580/5/17)

To consider Resolutions and Items for discussion which have been notified-

- The Council resolved to grant the Downley School £200 to pay for little picking equipment.

13) Accounts (7581/5/17)

Accounts.

Please find items set out below for payment by the Council.
Items to be approved on 9th May 2017

Payee	Cheque No	Amount
Downley Memorial Hall - Meeting venue hire May	1432	15.00
Downley Community Library - Admin expenses	1433	30.00
J Miles - Library craft expenses	1434	31.00
BALC - Cllr training X 2	1435	89.75
Cllr B Gay - Notice board expenses	1436	100.00
Mini Skips - Allotment Skip hire	1437	276.00
Dosca Room Hire April	1438	299.50
TBS Hygiene Ltd Jan 17/Dec 16	1439	421.20
SSE Contracting Feb/March Invoices	1440	1,064.18
KAD Garden Services- April grass maintenance	1441	1,198.00
Clerks Salary with Expenses	1442	1,393.30
Total		4,917.93

- Bank balance as at 1st May 2017 = £87,967.66
- Payments made in May 2017 = £4,917.93
- Current Balance £87,967.66 - Payments made £4,917.93= £ 83,049.73

13) Any other Business (7582/5/17)

Cllr Lazenby would like Ford Way and School Close grass maintenance added to the contract schedule as Bucks CC are only cutting the grass once a year. The Clerk will obtain a quote.

Cllr Srao asked for an update on the trees in Downley woods that were being vandalized. This matter is now with the Dashwoods and the Police.

Cllr Loadman gave an update on the pond regeneration works, some work needs to be carried out by the Chiltern Rangers. This will go on the agenda for the next meeting for approval.

14) Date of Next Meeting (7583/5/17)

13th June at the Community Centre

15) Date and Place of Next Meetings of Committees (7584/5/17)

CIA meeting on the 25th May

16 Closure of the Meeting (7585/5/17)

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.45

Chairman _____

Date _____