



Minutes of the Meeting of the Downley Parish Council held on Tuesday 10th December 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Councillors M Lazenby (Chairman presiding), S Biggs, P Brooks, A Lennard, C Lenton, A Mann, W Monroe-West, and W Steneskog.

In attendance:

Buckinghamshire Councillor P Turner

1) Apologies for absence (8952/12/24)

Apologies were received from Councillors K Ahmed, K Chandarana, T Snaith and the Clerk G Tandy

2) Declarations of interest and dispensations (8953/12/24)

None.

3) Minutes (8954/12/24)

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th November 2024 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

4) Public participation session (8955/12/24)

A member of the public spoke of an increase in illegal and nuisance activities around the top of Downley Common citing use of nitrous oxide, car and motorcycle racing and theft. These instances have been passed to the police and the member of the public was asked to email their concerns to the Clerk.

5) To receive and note the report of Buckinghamshire Councillors (8956/12/24)

Councillor Turner had previously issued his written report which had been circulated to Councillors.

6) Councillor Reports (8956/12/24)

Contractors are due to remove the fallen Walnut Tree at Jubilee Green later this week. The Christmas tree at Jubilee Green will be decorated on Sunday 15th December

7) To Consider an alternative to a 12-month Fixed Term Deposit for recently received CIL monies. (8957/12/24)

8945/11/24 Council resolved to place CIL monies in a 12 month Fixed Term Deposit with Unity Trust. On attempting to do so, it transpired that the sum was below Unity's minimum requirement (£85,000) for such a deposit. Alternatives to be considered were Instant access with Unity at 2.62% or their 18 month FTD at 4.55%. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to open an 18 month Fixed Term Deposit with Unity Trust and credit this with the recently received CIL Monies.

8) Budget year commencing April 2025 (8958/12/24)

Council considered the budget outlined and recommended by the Finance Committee that saw the precept remain at its current level of £110,000. A shortfall of £23,505 was anticipated to be met from Reserves. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept this budget and request a precept of £110,000.

9) Grounds Maintenance (8959/12/24)

Council considered the proposal of the Grounds Maintenance working party to put forward their Invitation to Tender document through the governments Contract Finder Website together with the Parish Council's own website. It was noted that the green at Ford Way had been omitted from the tender and needed to be

included. Subject to this amendment it was **RESOLVED** unanimously that said invitation to tender documents be put forward.

10) Grant application (8960/12/24)

Council considered a grant application received from the Downley based Six Wise Goats organisation which sought £129 to allow them to purchase a replacement galvanised feed bin. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to make this grant.

11) Litter picking volunteers (8961/12/24)

Council considered applications from residents on behalf of local teenagers wishing to pick litter within the village. Our insurers would extend cover for Employers Liability, Personal Accident and Public Liability subject to the following assumptions, as minors; adult supervision would be required at all times, litter picking should be restricted to traffic free areas, a risk assessment would be required and the volunteers should comply with health and safety guidelines. Subject to the above, it was **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the volunteers.

12) Invoices (8962/12/24)

Payments made since the last meeting on 12th November 2024 were noted and approved . The schedule of invoices received through November and December still outstanding was considered and authorised.

Date	Payee	Details	Ex-VAT	VAT	Total
20/11/2024	Buckinghamshire Pension Fund	Staff pensions	£ 603.87	£ -	£ 603.87
22/11/2024	Telecoms World	Telephone	£ 12.04	£ 2.41	£ 14.45
26/11/2024	SSE Southern Electric	Street lighting	£ 1,501.38	£ 101.98	£ 1,603.36
28/11/2024	Staff	Staff Salaries	£ 2,270.41	£ -	£ 2,270.41
28/11/2024	HMRC	Tax & NIC	£ 748.01	£ -	£ 748.01
06/12/2024	Smarty mobile	Mobile 'phone	£ 4.17	£ 0.83	£ 5.00
12/12/2024	Wycombe Wanderers	Event staff for bonfire	£ 860.00	£ 172.00	£ 1,032.00
12/12/2024	SparkX	Streetlamp repairs	£ 367.00	£ 73.40	£ 440.40
12/12/2024	Shield Maintenance Ltd	Collection of Bins	£ 130.00	£ 26.00	£ 156.00
12/12/2024	BMKALC	Training Courses	£ 140.00	£ -	£ 140.00
12/12/2024	Claritas accountancy Ltd	Professional fees	£ 25.00	£ 5.00	£ 30.00
12/12/2024	KAD Garden Services	Gardening in November	£ 2,957.80	£ -	£ 2,957.80
	Totals		£ 9,619.68	£ 381.62	£10,001.30

13) The Clerks Progress Report (8963/12/24)

Noted

14) To note the date and place of the next meeting (8964/1/24)

Tuesday 14th January 2025 at 7:30 p.m. at the Downley Community Centre

15) Exclusion of the Public and the Press (8965/12/24)

In accordance with the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 it was **RESOLVED** that the public and the press were excluded from the remainder of the meeting as matters to be discussed were considered confidential.

16) Council Matters (8966/12/24)

Council discussed a confidential matter There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20:15 pm

Chairman

Date