



Minutes of the Meeting of the Downley Parish Council held on Tuesday 11th February 2025 at Downley Community Centre.

Present: Councillors M Lazenby (Chairman presiding), K Ahmed, P Brooks, A Lennard, A Mann, W Monroe-West, T Snaith and W Steneskog.

In attendance:

Officers: G Tandy (Clerk)

1) Apologies for absence (8983/02/25)

Apologies were received from Councillors S Biggs, K Chandarana, C Lenton and from Buckinghamshire Cllr P Turner.

2) Declarations of interest and dispensations (8984/02/25)

None.

3) Minutes (8985/02/25)

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2025 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

4) Public participation session (8986/02/25)

None.

5) To receive and note the report of Buckinghamshire Councillors (8987/02/25)

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

6) Councillor Reports (8988/02/25)

Councillor Brooks reported on two courses she had attended: "Making your website work better for you" and the "Local election process".

7) Planning Committee Minutes (8989/02/25)

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 16th January 2025 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

8) Planning Applications (8990/02/25)

Council considered its response to the planning applications received from Buckinghamshire council as set out below:

25/05004/FUL 1 Brenchwood Close

Application for: Householder application for construction of single storey front and rear extensions, internal alterations and garage conversion.

Neutral

No Comments

25/05100/TPO Cross Court

APPLICATION FOR: Reduce in height by up to 3m to prevent snap-out and reduce overall size x 2 Silver Birch (G2), reduce the height of the tree by up to 2.5m to prevent snap-out and reduce overall size x 1 Silver Birch (T1), reduce by 3 metres to leave finishing height of 5 metres to allow the tree to reshoot from new pollard growth points x 2 Ash (G1), crown reduction by 3 metres and shape to balance canopy and clear overhang of the road and footpath x 1 Purple Plum (T2), recommend the reduction in height by 2m from tips to prevent snap out and reduce overall size of the tree in the position x 1 Silver Birch (T3) and remove as dead x 1 Hawthorn tree and x 1 Hawthorn bush (G1)

Neutral

Refer to Buckinghamshire Council's Arboriculturist.

9) Banking (8991/02/25)

Bank balances held as at 31st January 2025 were received and noted.

10) Grounds Maintenance Contract (8993/02/25)

The Clerk spoke about the tenders received, having shared a document summarising these as the working party moves towards assessing the most economically advantageous tender and making recommendations to Council.

11) Memorials (8994/02/25)

Council considered requests for three memorials within Downley:

- A) To replace one of the older and more worn benches at the cricket pitch replacing it with a new memorial bench, transferring any commemorative plaques to this new bench.
- B) To replace the fallen almond tree at Jubilee Green with a similar flowering tree in memory of a former resident.
- C) To plant a woodland tree close to the hedgerow on the eastern side of the cricket pitch in memory of a former resident

Subject to the approval of other interested part it was **RESOLVED** unanimously that these three proposals be accepted.

12) Allotment Fencing (8995/02/25)

The Allotment Committee recommended that Council pay to remove a decrepit section of panel fencing that forms part of the border of the allotment and replaces this with fencing similar to the existing stock fencing that forms the rest of that border. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept this recommendation.

13) Invoices (8996/02/25)

Payments made since the last meeting on 14th January 2025 were noted and approved . The schedule of invoices received through January and February still outstanding was considered and authorised.

Date	Payee	Details	Ex-VAT	VAT	Total
20/01/2024	Buckinghamshire Pension Fund	Staff Pensions	£ 629.58	£ -	£ 629.58
24/01/2025	Telecoms World	Telephone	£ 12.07	£ 2.41	£ 14.48
27/01/2025	SSE Energy Solutions	Street lighting	£ 1,253.90	£ 62.70	£ 1,316.60
28/01/2025	Staff	Salaries	£ 1,831.10	£ -	£ 1,831.10
28/01/2025	HMRC	Tax and NIC	£ 493.00	£ -	£ 493.00
31/01/2025	Unity Trust Bank	Bank Charges	£ 6.00		£ 6.00
03/02/2025	McAfee	Anti-virus software	£ 33.32	£ 6.67	£ 39.99
06/02/2025	Smarty Mobile	Mobile 'phone	£ 4.17	£ 0.83	£ 5.00
13/02/2025	Chiltern Carving	Back door and door frame	£ 1,460.00	£ -	£ 1,460.00
13/02/2025	SparkX	Call out fee for two lamps	£ 205.00	£ 41.00	£ 246.00
13/02/2025	KAD Gardening	Gardening in January	£ 946.00	£ -	£ 946.00
13/02/2025	Claritas Accountancy Ltd	Professional Fees	£ 25.00	£ 5.00	£ 30.00
	Totals		£ 6,899.14	£ 118.61	£ 7,017.75

14) The Clerks Progress Report (8997/02/25)

Noted

15) To note the date and place of the next meeting (8997/02/24)

Tuesday 11th March 2025 at 7:30 p.m. at the Downley Community Centre

16) Closure of the meeting (8998/02/24)

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 20:03.

Chairman

Date