

**MINUTES - DOWNSWOOD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 5 JULY 2022 AT 8.00 PM
IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Present: Cllrs G Newton; R Cheesman; K Alden-Morris; A-M Butler; J Cottis; J Tournay; B Cottis; Mrs T. Irving – Clerk; Cllr G Cooke (KCC); 1 member of the public.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllrs Pallant and Fincham – work commitments.
The apologies and reasons for absence were noted and accepted.
2. **NOTIFICATION OF WHETHER ANYONE WISHES TO RECORD ANY ITEMS:** The Clerk for the purpose of minuting
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/REQUEST FOR DISPENSATIONS:** None declared.
4. **ADJOURNMENT FOR QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** None received.

The meeting was reconvened.

5. **APPROVE & SIGN MINUTES OF MEETING 7 JUNE 2022:** The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings and were duly signed by Cllr Newton.
6. **CRIME REPORT:** No new crimes reported on e-watch.co.uk

7. **REPORTS RECEIVED FROM:**

7.1 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

Personal issues have prevented Cllr Cooke from responding to emails etc as quickly as he would have liked but he is dealing with these as quickly as he can.

- Ofsted Report. KCC's children's services has been rated as '**outstanding**'
- Celebration of viticulture 16 July.
- British Citizenship ceremonies are held every Thursday.

7.2 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

- Cllr Newton has requested that no lorries (to/from Parsonage Place) are parked outside the Community Centre. This will ensure safe access and egress, particularly for children.

7.3 REPORT FROM DCA REPRESENTATIVE: Not available.

8 **FINANCE:**

i. Items for Payment

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| K. Alden-Morris | Expenses re Lanyards | 9.99 |
| Bearsted Parish Council | Donation re Summer Play Scheme | 100.00 |
| Aford Awards | Medals for Olympicnic | 478.80 |
| NT Security | CCTV Reset/Training | 343.20 |
| Staffing Costs | Payroll & Expenses (June) | 2128.81 |
| Collector Set Printers | (Scarbutts) NL/Olympicnic Flyer | 140.00 |

Cheques received: Nil

Balance of Current Account: £42,983.43 credit, after all cheques sent

Balance of Investment Account: £10,605.44 credit

Acceptance of the previously circulated financial report was proposed by Cllr Alden-Morris, seconded by Cllr Butler and unanimously agreed. **RESOLVED**

ii. **Annual Insurance Renewal:** Following due consideration, the renewal premium of £448.48 was proposed by Cllr Butler, seconded by Cllr Cheesman and unanimously agreed. **RESOLVED**

iii. **Other Matters to Report:** No further matters.

9 PLANNING: New Applications and Existing Applications Update:

The appeal by Bellway Homes re non determination of application 22/501614/FULL was held in Maidstone Town Hall and attended by Cllrs Newton, Hickmott (OPC), Springett & Spooner (Bearsted PC).

Consider Support for Temporary Construction Site Access Proposal – Woolley Road.

Due to the imminent road closures and requests for information how traffic will access the site during the Deringwood Drive closure, the Clerk requested BH to consider the above.

The response from the Technical Team was:

‘.....during the road closures, it will be necessary for site traffic to access the site via Gore Court Road and Church Road, just whilst that closure is taking place, as per the official diversion.

I am told that there are no appropriate other options.’

10 OLYMPICNIC 2022:

- Risk assessment has been issued for guidance on the day.
- Flyer/Newsletter by Scarbutts @ £140. All requested to assist with delivery.
- Ice cream vendor has confirmed attendance (unable to find a smoothie vendor).
- Discussion to formalise details of final running order etc to be held.

11 GOVERNANCE & POLICY REVIEW: Cllr Butler to report at September’s meeting.

ACTION: Cllr Butler

12 CLERK’S REPORT: To receive reports & update on previous actions.

- Verge in Bournemouth Close appears to have been taken over by a resident - reported to KHS.
- Flag pole – awaiting confirmation of installation date.
- Flytipping incident reported at Foxden Drive & rear of Spires Shops - reported to MBC.

- Two blocked drains reported: 1 x Longham Copse (understood to be blocked by a decorator working at a LC) & 1 x Forden Drive (reported and cleared by the Residents' Association).
- MBC confirmed that the LVPAS notice board will be removed from Mallards
- Repairs to Orchard Spot roundabout are overdue but reported by KHS as being in hand.
- Overhanging vegetation reported to KHS
- Request for a handrail at Grampian Way had been made to KHS via HIP
- Virtual meeting arranged for 21.09.22 with Michelle Norris – WK Highways to discuss HIP and other outstanding issues.

- 13 SPEEDWATCH/TRAFFIC RELATED ISSUES INC 20 MPH POLL UPDATE :** Update awaited re poll for a 20-mph speed limit **ACTION: Cllrs Alden-Morris/Pallant**
- 14 REPORT FROM MEETINGS/SEMINARS ATTENDED:** None to report
- 15 DPC BANNER:** Awaiting update from Cllr Fincham. **ACTION: Cllr Fincham**
- 16 DOWNSWOOD DIGGERS:** To meet at 10 am on Saturday 30 July at the Orchard Spot roundabout. Invitation to be inc on Fbook inviting residents and requesting that they bring their own gardening tools.
- 17 URGENT CORRESPONDENCE:** Various emails circulated as received.
- 18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday 6 September at 8 pm.
- 19 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:** Garden Competition.
Please contact the Clerk if you have items that you wish to be considered for future agendas.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.40 pm.

The next meeting of the Council will be held at 8 pm on Tuesday, 6 September 2022.