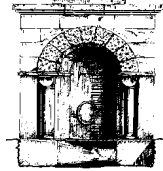


# Dowdeswell Parish Council



## The Full Meeting of Dowdeswell Parish Council held on the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 19.30 at Allington House

### Present:

C. Smyth - Chairman Parish Council

P. Banyard – Councillor

P. Evans – Councillor

N. Jones – Councillor,

J. Thayer - District Councillor CDC

Sue Green (Clerk)

Parishioners present: 6 members of the public

**Declaration of interest on items on the agenda** – Cllr Smyth declared an interest on a planning application to his property. (This was an update only)

### 1. Apologies for absence –

County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson

### 2. Minutes from the last full meetings

The clerk was asked to update the spelling of Maura Evans - Actioned

Cllr Smyth signed the minutes dated 15<sup>th</sup> November 202

### 3. Co-option of a new Councillor

Cllr Smyth welcomed Kraig Graves to the meeting. It was agreed to co-opt Kraig to the Parish Council as a Councillor.

Declaration of acceptance of office was signed.

Register of members interest was signed by all parties.

### 4. Confirm budget and precept for 2024

The Precept payment was discussed. It is a currently largely made up of grants to the village hall, The Clerks salary, Insurance (held to cover the Council and its members in the event of litigation) and the website. The Parish Council held large reserves in the past, and we have worked hard over a number of years to bring those down to an acceptable level. Items to be taken account of are, increase to insurance as this was on a 3 year deal which ends in 2024 an increase to this has been forecast. The Village hall receives a donation and it was agreed to keep that at the same

Signed by

Date

Deleted: H

level of expenditure. The Andoversford Burial ground was discussed, it has been indicated that they require the donation to be raised to £200.00. Cllr Smyth suggested that he would like to know what the running costs are for the burial ground. The Clerk has found papers that suggest that a discussion should take place between Andoversford and Dowdeswell annually, to discuss any increase proposed.

Discussion on Clerks salary to be increased to £12.30 per hour.

It was suggested to keep in line with inflation and budgetary costs the precept will be increased to £1300 this year. The Parish Council agreed to this increase.

**Action 1** for the Clerk to send off the paperwork to CDC requested that mount.

#### **5. Planning and related matters**

Full application for erection of garden summerhouse at Allington House Dowdeswell – Ref 23/03412/FUL. Was discussed at the last meeting – there has been no decisions on this.

Telecommunication Notification for Prior notification for the installation of 3 replacement antenna and ancillary radio equipment at existing lattice mast, internal upgrades to existing cabinets within compound, and ancillary development thereto at Kilkenny Picnic Site Transmitting Station Foxcote Andoversford. This was duly noted.

The Clerk updated on information she has received from - National Grid's Visual Impact Provision (VIP) Project in the Cotswolds National Landscape, which if approved would see 18 pylons and around 7km of overhead line replaced with underground cables.

They have for the past two years been consulting with stakeholders and the local community while developing their proposals. A planning applications for the project is due to be submitted in Spring 2024. This was discussed. Question raised, why are they not burying the cables near Dowdeswell especially as it is in an AONB.

**Action 2** Cllr Jones is prepared to attend the meeting on behalf of the Parish Council and was asked if he could put the questions raised to them.

#### **Update on Highways issues**

Cllr Smyth attended the No Crash meeting at Andoversford. They discussed the following items:

A436 collisions changes to markings highways put in, highways are looking for addition funding for the stretch by the air balloon and seven springs.

Discussed the stretch from Seven Springs to Kilkenny. Last year a Triple fatality occurred, highways have remarked the road with longer and brighter lines. The problem with lorries leaving the road, was discussed, they have laid some plaining with posts along one stretch, and they are looking to maybe extend that but there is no intention to widen the road.

Speed limits were discussed and CCllr Paul Hodgkinson is going to try to get a group of villages with issues to work together to get a road traffic order to cover that group. Also updated, Dan Tiffney will carry out some more speed surveys through the village to see if they can reduce the speed. Cllr Smyth will continue to take this forward at future meetings.

Highways are also looking at speed data on Tunnel hill, it is currently in the top 30 on the county's hotspot list for accidents. They are also looking to review the light timings at Shipton Oliffe lights as it causes some issues.

Signed by

Date

Water running down the road onto the A40 – It was updated that a culvert was put in to sort this out, but it is still running down the road, this is due to further damage to pipes around that area and highways will be looking to repair that.

**6. Finance** - Clerks Salary Payment from November 2023 - December 2023 £159.60, HMRC 39.90, Website 36.80.

### **7. Any Other Business**

Update on the Parish Council looking at the possibility to register the pub as an Asset of Community Value which may have the effect of preserving the pub for the village and surrounding area. Cllr Smyth has looked at the application process and it will require the support of the village. He is looking to make contact with the current owners and has tried to get hold of Red Oak tavern, his concern is that the Kilkenny Inn is not listed on their website. He has been in contact with Brockhampton Parish Council who have successfully registered the Craven Arms and he is hoping to look at their successful application. The ideal scenario is to prevent the selling without consultation of the Pub or turning it into housing. Cllr Smyth will continue to look into this.

The Clerk has received an e-mail from Helen Lord asking for information on the Telephone box, currently being used to house a defibrillator and run by the village hall – Clerk will respond.

Update from Cllr Thayer on Publica, night time road closures, Fly tipping increased fine from £400 – 1,000. It was updated that there are problems in Dowdeswell 4/5 incidents a year on industrial waste being dumped. It was updated that when CDC are notified they are quick to respond. Cllr Thayer said if this continues they do have cameras that can be placed in these areas that are hidden

Cllr Smyth updated on archiving that took place between himself and the Clerk recently. Cllr Smyth looked at what should be kept and what could be disposed of. Some of the old information will be sent to the county archives and some will be confidentially disposed of. This was agreed.

Cost £14.40.

### **8. Date of the next meetings –**

19<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – May AGM to be confirmed

**The meeting closed a 21.00**

Signed by

Date