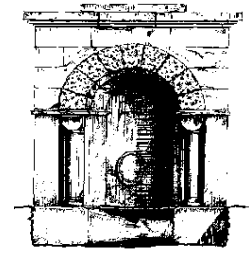


# Dowdeswell Parish Council



**A Full Meeting of Dowdeswell Parish Council held on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023  
at 7.30 pm at Allington House**

## **Minutes from the Full Meeting**

**Present:** Cllr Chris Smyth, Cllr Penny Banyard, Cllr Nigel Jones the Clerk and three members of the public.

- 1. Apologies for absence** - Cllr Philip Evans, Cllr C Lee, County Cllr P Hodgkinson, and Dist. Cllr Robin Hughes
- 2. Declaration of interest on items on the agenda-**
- 3. Minutes from the last full meetings**

Cllr Smyth signed minutes dated 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022.

#### **4. Matters Arising from the minutes.**

The outstanding actions were discussed.

It was updated that concerns have been raised for some years at the speed of traffic through the village. A survey was carried out in the village at 3 different locations but no conclusions were drawn from this. There have also been problems with signs being requested along the stretch of road at Garrick Crossroads for speeding traffic which have been objected to. It was agreed that the view of the Parish Council is that we need to go back to CC Hodgkinson in the first instance as he holds a No Crash meeting in Andoversford where they discuss the areas traffic issues. It was agreed to canvass his views and to then pursue with Highways how we achieve a speed limit in the village.

**Action 1 2023** for this to be raised again at the No Crash meeting chaired by CC Hodgkinson.

Update on Trees – a grant has been received to plant trees. The Parish Council would like to pass on its thanks to Philip and Maura Evans who applied for the grant and everyone in the village who took part in the planning of them.

#### **5. Confirm Budget and Precept for 2023**

It was updated that the Trust fund has now been closed and the money paid out.

The Parish Council agreed the precept for next year at £1070 which is a 7% increase. The reasoning behind this was that we need to keep on top of the deficit. If we increased the precept

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by £70.00 to £1070.00, this would keep the deficit at £57.00 this year. It was updated that this is the last year of the insurance offer and so that will be increasing next year. This was agreed.

## **6. Planning Updates & Applications**

Three planning applications were reported:

There is an application to install a carpark opposite the junction onto the A40 at the bottom of the hill to give access to Dowdeswell Woods. This is, intended to regularise the position there will be space for about 20 cars and a much improved access from the A40. The report provided by the applicant (a charity) suggests that there is no adverse impact on the local highway. Other reports (on trees and biodiversity) suggest there is no overall adverse effect.

An application for planning on a listed building consent is made to build a swimming pool and further outbuildings at the Rookery and for the installation of gates at the top of the drive. The Conversation Officer has no objection to the gates or the swimming pool but does raise objection in relation to the additional store, given the outbuildings for which consent has already been granted

An application to build a barn at the coach house has been made. This was discussed and it will be shielded from view by trees.

## **7. Co-option and Election May 23**

It was updated that this year there will be a full election of Councillors to the Parish Council. If we do not get enough applicants to become Councillors we will have to co-opt after the elections are over. If we have too many this will warrant an election. Forms are now available and the process was discussed.

Notices will need to be put up to advertise the request for Councillors, it was agreed to put something on the website to respond to the Clerk and for notices to be placed around the village.

## **8. Finance**

An request for payment has been received from Mr Mike Payton – includes 3 invoices for Dowdeswell Website. Cheques were raised for the following:

Mr M Payton £189.19

Clerk Salary – the Clerk presented her hours from Nov 2022 – Feb 2023 = £134.40

HMRC contribution £ £48.83

Donation to Burial ground at Andoversford £100.00

Donation to the Village Hall £100.00

## **9. Correspondence**

A request has been received to increase the donation to Andoversford burial ground for 23/24. This was discussed as it was historically based on the house numbers in the villages and it was reported that we have an agreement to fund 1/3 of the cost. It was agreed that Andoversford has increased in size a lot quicker than Dowdeswell. The Clerk was asked to write back to them and point out that we are a small parish and the request was made without consultation and that the Parish Council is disappointed that we had not had a chance to build this into the budget and will consider this in 24/25 budget. The housing in Andoversford is far greater than the growth of housing in Dowdeswell.

Signed by

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Letter from Marie-Christine Leroux who are visiting the area in September and walking the Cotswold way. They would like accommodation in Dowdeswell. Could we send a list of B&B.s. This was discussed and it was suggested that the only accommodation in the area is 1 room at the Kilkenny Inn, the nearest hotel is the Charlton Hotel in Charlton Kings which would be nearer their route. The clerk to respond.

**10. Any Other business - Dates for next meeting**

A dog poo bin has been requested as a lot of people walk dogs in the village. The clerk will ask Cotswold District Council.

Road signage in the village is in a poor state of repair. Cllr Jones asked if we could request new signs as the old ones are faded and some facing the wrong way. He also asked if the no through road sign can be moved. Where it is currently cannot be seen by road users. This is causing issues with traffic using a road they should not.

Date of the next meeting was discussed. This will be the AGM and due to the elections will be in late May/June. The Clerk will liaise with the Chairman to arrange a suitable date.

Signed by

Date