

## DOWNEND & BROMLEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT DOWNEND BAPTIST CHURCH, SALISBURY ROAD THURSDAY 16 APRIL 2015

**Present:**

Members: Councillors Mike Baker, Janet Biggin, Chris Boulton, Kate Conner, Mary Lewis, Sheila Ottewell, Martyn Poole, Graeme Riley and Elizabeth Shepherd.

Officer: Angela Hocking.

3 members of the public / 1 member of the press.

**131.1 Welcome** - Cllr Shepherd welcomed everyone to the last meeting of this Council's term and congratulated members for their achievements over the past four years.

**131.2 Apologies** - Received from Cllr Kathy Morris. Cllr Jon Hunt and Cllr Julia Wimbush were not present.

**131.3 Declarations of Interest under the Localism Act 2011** - Received from Cllr Sheila Ottewell as a volunteer on the First Bus Customer Panel.

#### **131.4 Items from the Public**

Resident living near Hurstwood Road reported –

1. An increase in litter and suggested a litter bin is installed at the bus stop
2. Muddy access to the bus shelter, which could be remedied by installing paving slabs
3. As some bollards have collapsed, it was suggested that the In Bloom group install a planter.

Cllr Ottewell considered that the litter situation should be monitored for a period of time and if it is deemed necessary a litter bin will be considered in the future.

With regard to the bus shelter access, the original 3-bay bus shelter installed by this Council in 2006 had double entry access to cater for passengers with buggies or wheelchairs. The groundwork, also funded by D&BH PC, was specifically designed to enable access from both the front and back of the shelter. SGC replaced this shelter with a small 2 bay open-fronted shelter with no access from behind and sited it on a different position on the concrete base. As a result passengers have to walk across the grass.

**AGREED that paving slabs are laid at the Overhill Road end of the shelter to improve access, at the same time as paving slabs are laid at the other end to allow access to the parish noticeboard. SGC will be asked to fund any necessary groundwork as this would not have been necessary if the original shelter had not been removed.**

**131.5 Items from the Police** – None received.

#### **131.6 Presentation by Simon Ford, First Bristol Ltd**

A variety of questions were given to Mr Ford prior to the meeting. Mr Ford explained that, as a commercial business, revenue from fares has to cover operating costs. Any services seen to be running at a financial loss may therefore have to be cut by First. However, as

the network changes, there may be scope to make alterations. Mr Ford also answered questions from a member of the public.

**RESOLVED – Traffic Committee will investigate opportunities for extending the no. 5 route and will liaise with SGC, as the Local Authority is empowered to act in such circumstances.**

#### **131.7 To receive and confirm as a correct record the Minutes from 19.03.2015**

**RESOLVED to accept the Minutes, which were signed by Cllr Shepherd.**

#### **131.8 Matters Arising**

- The new parish website has been created and a link sent to members to view.

**RESOLVED to proceed and ‘go live’ as soon as possible. Clerk confirmed that she would be receiving training to operate the site.**

- Order has been placed with Lacuna Graphics for the pop-up banner.
- Christmas lighting for Santa’s grotto has been received.
- Items for ‘Green Dog Walkers’ and Litter Busters are now held with the Clerk.

#### **131.9 Urgent Actions – None reported.**

#### **131.10 Finance & General Purposes Committee**

**(i) To authorise payments – AGREED to accept the attached list of invoices for immediate payment. Invoices signed appropriately.**

It was **noted** that bank interest for March amounts to £4.80.

**(ii) Spend to date against budgets / account balances**

Members received an up-to-date report showing the Council’s spend to the year end.

Total of all accounts as at 31 March 2015 is £113,107.19. **NOTED.**

#### **131.11 Annual Assembly**

Clerk advised that Paula Banks will now be unable to attend the Annual Assembly to receive her Parish Champion Certificate. John Stevens from the Bristol Branch of the Normandy Veterans confirms that he will be attending to receive a cheque on behalf of the charity.

#### **131.12 Localism – No report.**

#### **131.13 Members Concerns to be noted**

- Cllr Baker raised concerns at the litter being dumped at the rear of the old Co-operative Bank premises in Downend. This includes items of furniture.

**AGREED – Clerk will report these concerns as this area is now seen as a fire hazard / Health & Safety issue.**

- Cllr Boulton has received complaints about the new pedestrian crossing in Downend, which it appears is giving insufficient time for people to cross.

**ACTION – Clerk to contact SGC.**

- Cllr Biggin reported further concerns about the allotments. In addition, there has been a fire above the photographers in Downend Road.

**130.14 To receive a report from the Planning Committee**

Cleeve Hill Care Home, PK14/4921/F – The Parish Council awaits further information from SGC.

32/34 Buckingham Gardens, PK15/1304/F – Objection has already been made to this application by the Parish Council. Following discussions and a proposal by Cllr Poole to ‘call in’ this application, which was seconded by Cllr Boulton, on a vote (7:2),

**AGREED – Cllr Biggin will call in this application.**

**130.15 To receive reports from sub committees and working groups**

**Active Seniors:-** Cllr Poole advised that the Wednesday Keep Fit Club is being thoroughly enjoyed by the active seniors.

**Children & Young People:-** No report.

**Communications:-** Cllr Shepherd thanked Angela Hocking and Cllr Lewis for compiling the spring newsletter.

**Downend Business Community:-** Meeting attended by Cllr Biggin which included presentations on social media and the ‘Can’t wait’ initiative.

**Events:-** Now that the Christmas event has been set for Friday 27 November, dates will be circulated for an Events Committee meeting during May, when arrangements will start to be put in hand.

**Open Spaces:-**

Cllr Lewis circulated a report to members which was **NOTED**.

- The King George V play area grant application to Veolia Environmental Trust was unsuccessful.
- Monkey bars for King George V – Clerk is now in receipt of the original quotation which was sent to South Glos. Council and will place the Order, as agreed at March Council meeting.
- Master Strategic Plan at King George V is currently in the hands of Mark Pumphrey.
- Leap Valley noticeboard has been ordered.
- Scantleberry Close sign is waiting to be installed.
- Hill House Park – Property Services, SGC, have stated that the Parish Council’s request to proceed with a lease for this site comes at a time when SGC is looking at Local Green Space designations and Call for Sites in accordance with the Joint Strategic Planning Strategy. This site is being considered in association with those reviews and the proposals for a lease are therefore on hold for the interim.

**AGREED – Clerk to email SGC to outline the Parish Council’s disappointment, as this was all agreed by Lead Members of Communities Committee in 2014.**

- (i) D&BH in Bloom – Cllr Boulton explained that fundraising is going well. The trees proposed for Cleeve Hill will now be planted at the end of this month. Locations for the poles for the floral displays in Downend have been agreed with Dan Marchant, SGC. Many of the planters are now sponsored and plaques will be installed to reflect this. Work has begun on the wild flower meadows at Badminton Road and consideration is being given by the group towards future projects. DBH in Bloom is looking forward to receiving the banner which has been made by the Knit & Natter group.

**Traffic:-**

Report received from Cllr Ottewell was **NOTED**, in particular:-

- Hurstwood Road bus shelter (see 131.4).
- Cycle stands for Downend will be received on 20 April and installed by Chris Belcher.
- Welcome to Downend signs – Licences are not necessary as SGC will be maintaining the signs after installation. Traffic Committee will now review the requirements before an Order is placed.
- Simon Penfold, Arboricultural Officer, SGC, will be obtaining prices for the works to resurface the area to the front of Quakers Road shops, although has intimated that it would fall upon the owners of the land to engage and pay the contractors. SGC is merely trying to facilitate the repair works.

**External Meetings:-**

TOWN & PARISH COUNCIL FORUM – Apologies sent from both Clerk and Cllr Shepherd.

**131.16 Correspondence**

SGC wish to allocate a road name for the small development off York Close, Downend. The developer would like to use either Badminton Chase or Cotswold Chase. SGC favour Cotswold Chase and request further input from the Parish Council. After discussions,

**AGREED to put forward the names of**

- Newbury Chase / Close
- Doncaster Chase / Close
- Bath Chase / Close

**131.17 Reports from South Gloucestershire Councillors**

- Cllr Biggin/Cllr Lewis attended the Schools Gala Concert at the Colston Hall.
- 24 October: Madeleine Bills and other Town Criers will be at an event in Staple Hill.
- The Downend Day Centre is to be converted into the South Gloucestershire EOTAS Service (Education other than at School). The scheme will consolidate the current facilities at Filton and Mangotsfield to the single site at Downend.

*Cllr Riley thanked Cllr Shepherd for chairing the Parish Council during 2014/15 and wished her well for the future.*

**Chairman:**

*(Meeting closed at 9.25pm).*

**Date:**