



DROXFORD PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

6.00pm Thursday 14th December 2023

Droxford Village Hall

PRESENT: Councillors: Matt Avison, Mark Dennington, Colin Matthissen and Janet Melson (Chair)

IN ATTENDANCE: Ailsa Duckworth – Parish Clerk/RFO
District Cllr Danny Lee
District Cllr Frank Pearson
District Cllr Malcolm Wallace

PUBLIC: 0

- 23.195 Apologies for absence**
Councillors: Chris Hawkesford, Peter Richardson and Lewis Smith (Prior Commitments)
- 23.196 Declarations of Interest:** None
- 23.197 Requests for Dispensation:** None
- 23.198 Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 16th November 2023.**
RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting, having been circulated prior to the meeting, were approved and signed by the Chair.
PROPOSED: Councillor Matthissen **SECONDED:** Councillor Avison
- 23.199 Public Session:** None
- 23.200 Response to Public Participation:** None
- 23.201 Reports from County and District Councillors:** Written reports were received from District Cllrs Malcolm Wallace and Danny Lee, and County Cllr Hugh Lumby, and circulated prior to the meeting. District Cllr Pearson gave a verbal report. There were no questions.
- 23.202 Clerk's Report including updates on previous decisions:** Verbal report Noted.

- 23.203 Finance Reports:** Received and Noted
- a. NOTED:** Financial Status and bank balance
 - b. APPROVED:** Payments as per approval list
 - c. APPROVED:** The 24/25 Draft Budget was presented and approved. It was agreed that the precept should remain at £37,665. The Clerk is to complete the precept requirement form and return to WCC, and publish the budget on the website.
 - d. NOTED:** The 22/23 CIL Return has been completed; returned to SDNPA; added to the website and circulated to all cllrs.
- 23.204 Planning Report:** Received and Noted
- a. NOTED:** New applications and decisions.
 - b. NOTED:** The current open and closed enforcement cases were noted.
 - c. AGREED:** Cllr Hawkesford had attended a SDNPA event regarding Parish Priority Statements and provided written feedback from the meeting. It was agreed that Cllrs Avison and Dennington would take this forward on behalf of Droxford, with a public meeting to be held in February, with details shared in The Bridge magazine
 - d. NOTED:** No further update was available on the Japanese Knotweed on Park Lane.
- 23.205 Green Spaces Report:** Verbal report Noted.
- a. Recreation Ground:** A Winchester based company had visited the Recreation Ground and a quote for improving the play equipment was expected. Further quotes to be sought. The oak tree is to have its surround removed, which is hampering growth.
 - b. Pavilion:** Cllr Dennington presented plans for an improved outside area surrounding the Pavilion, and will provide a quote in due course. The internal storage has been approved and can be installed. **Cllr Dennington** is to meet with the Cricket Club to discuss the invoicing arrangements that have not progressed.
 - c. Cemetery:** The garden mole removal company had been instructed to treat the moles. The Clerk is to follow up to confirm this has been done and request invoice.
 - d. Garden of Reflection:** No update.
 - e. Signage:** This item was deferred until the next meeting.
- 23.206 Highways Report:** Verbal report Noted.
- a. NOTED:** Cllr Melson updated in Cllr Smith's absence and noted that work was continuing with HCC Highways on the White Gates Community Funded Initiative that has been developed jointly.
 - b. NOTED:** The Lengthsmen visited on the 30th November. One item not completed from the work schedule was removing the moss from the MUGA. The Clerk will purchase moss remover and request this is done by the handyman.
 - c. NOTED:** Storage and batteries are to be organised for the SLR kindly gifted by Swanmore Parish Council. Cllr Smith is to liaise with HCC Highways on placement.
 - d. NOTED:** Footpath 10 has been modified in accordance with the consultation.
- 23.207 Sustainable Droxford Report:** Verbal report Noted. The next SD meeting has been set for January 4th at 10am.
- a. APPROVED:** A grant submission by Mr Ian Withers for the SDNPA ReNature funding stream was approved. The Clerk is to finalise and submit prior to the deadline (15th December 2023).
 - b. APPROVED:** A second bid to the HCC Waste Prevention fund is to be drafted (deadline 15th January 2024).

c. NOTED: January is Buy Nothing New Month, which is a project run by Keep Britain Tidy. Details of how people can get involved will be shared via the website.

d. NOTED: Climate Action for Newtown and Soberton (CANS) has requested to attend the next Sustainable Droxford meeting and to collaborate on projects in the future.

23.208 Community Emergency Response: Following the recent flooding of the Church, it was agreed that a plan would be put in place to support residents in an emergency, such as a prolonged power cut. The PC will liaise with the other relevant village groups to create a draft, using guidance provided by HALC.

23.209 Correspondence received:

a. NOTED: An email of thanks was received from Homestart following the grant awarded by Droxford PC.

b. NOTED: A letter was received from Droxford Junior School highlighting the funding gap that will be caused by decreasing numbers of children requesting admission spaces.

23.210 Agenda Items for next Full Council meeting

23.211 Date of the next meeting: 6.00pm Thursday 18th January 2024, Droxford Village Hall