



Minutes of the Meeting of the Downley Parish Council held on Tuesday 11th October 2022 at 7:30 pm

Present: Councillors M Lazenby (Chairman presiding), K Ahmed, S Biggs, P Brooks, K Chandarana, A Lenard, A Mann, W Monroe-West, T Snaith and W Steneskog.

In attendance: five members of the public.

Officers: G Tandy (Clerk)

1) Apologies for absence (8561/10/22)

Apologies were received and accepted from and Buckinghamshire Councillor M Smith.

2) Declarations of Interest (8562/10/22)

None

3) Minutes (8563/10/22)

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2022 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

4) Public Participation Session (8564/10/22)

A member of the public enquired about covered bins on the Common and was advised that these need to be sourced and approved by Buckinghamshire Council. A member of the public enquired about the possibility of a light being installed near the alley that connects School Close and Commonsides and was advised that we have requested a quotation for this and various other electrical works from our contractor. A member of the public enquired about the possibility of us following the lead of other parish councils in publishing draft minutes. The response was that we would consider this but did not believe it to be standard practice.

A member of the public requested that as it was of particular interest to the assembled public that agenda item 10) should be brought forward This being to consider the issue of antisocial behaviour in Downley including the actions of youths and drug taking as evidenced by discarded used needles.

Several members of the public spoke about their experiences of being intimidated by youths. There followed a discussion that centered around the need for a multi-agency response relying on not just the police. The work of Buckinghamshire Councils Community Safety Team was emphasised together with the need for anti-social behaviour to be reported to them. It was noted that Housing Associations can act against tenants that are disruptive. It was agreed that criminal acts must be reported to the police & that only through such reporting can they be aware of the incidence and provide appropriate resourcing.

5) Reports from Buckinghamshire Councillors (8565/10/22)

Cllr Paul Turner read from his prepared update:

Junction protection markings

These have now been completed, a joint collaboration between the Parish Council and North West Community Board. If there are further areas for consideration please let me know and we can discuss.

Coates Lane

Maz and I have been working with the residents of Hughenden Park Estate (off Coates Lane) and have agreed a programme of work to incorporate parking places along Coates Lane (to replace parking on the grass verges) and also to install 'gates' at the lower end of the hill in an attempt to bring to the attention of speeding drivers the change in the speed restriction. Both measures have been agreed in consultation with the residents and will hopefully go some way to slow the traffic down along this stretch of road and stop parking on the grass verges which causes an unsightly mess, especially in the wetter months.

Pedestrian Crossing

In conjunction with the cross Wycombe cycleway project (LCWIP - which will be coming out for public consultation in the middle of October), I have secured funding to begin the process of providing a pedestrian crossing between Morrisons and the Spindle and Thread. As a result, this will enable all users of Hughenden Park to safely walk into the town using pedestrian controlled crossings to cross the busy roads and vice versa.

Hughenden Arboretum

Hughenden Park is a well-used and valuable asset for the people of Downley and much further afield. There has been a programme of specimen tree replacement ever since Disraeli was in occupation. Maz and I have been working on a project to create a 'Hughenden Park Arboretum', which will see specimen trees continue to be planted. We are also looking into providing walking maps (possibly downloadable on an app) to pinpoint the specimen trees, with details of the trees and a history of their planting.

Chilterns Centre

In December 2017, the site was purchased by Dandara Living as plans emerged to transform the centre into residential flats. The plans will see 313 new apartments built in place of the shopping centre and a new pedestrianised road connecting Frogmoor and Priory Road with the historic buildings and frontages in the area being preserved. Businesses inside the centre have been told that their tenancies will run until January 2024 but are unlikely to be extended further with development hopeful to get underway that year. It is important that something good happens to Frogmoor. The development will also provide funds for the improvement and upgrading of Frogmoor as a safe and usable space.

This project has been discussed for over 10 years, but unfortunately, until Dandara came on board, the centre was in the ownership of organisations who were not interested in development and only saw it as a financial asset. Four years ago the planning committee of the then WDC were presented with the draft plans and Dandara, in conjunction with the Council have continued to refine the offer and are now ready to proceed, the current plans are largely the same as those presented four years ago.

Celebrating our fantastic foster carers

They do so much for our children in care, but for one night last week, it was the turn of our foster carers to shine, as the annual Buckinghamshire Council Foster Carer Excellence Awards took place. The awards are held to say thank you to Bucks foster carers for all their hard work, to celebrate their achievements and their commitment to the children they care for.

New campaign seeks people who will give our children a new start in life

'Help Them Shine' is Buckinghamshire Council's new campaign that's asking people to provide a loving home

for children in the council's care who are waiting for adoption, and whose circumstances mean that they often have to wait longer to find their new family. If you feel that you can give these children their new family life and Help Them Shine, don't hesitate to find out more about how you can start your adoption journey.

www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/campaign/help-them-shine

Access All Areas, an event for people with learning difficulties and autism

In Buckinghamshire there are over 2,400 people with learning difficulties and over 5,000 people with autism, many of whom aren't accessing activities or services that can support and encourage healthy lifestyles and wellbeing. This event aims to showcase the fantastic range of services that are available which help support people with special needs and autism to live a fulfilled and healthy life.

Access All Areas this year will be held in two locations. The first event takes place at The Gateway in Aylesbury on 21 October between 10am and 4pm and the second event takes place in High Wycombe at the Highcrest Academy on 27 October, from 10am to 4pm.

Run in partnership with the Buckinghamshire Integrated Care Board, Access All Areas is hosting free events aimed at young people (14+) and adults with a learning disability and/or autism. Carers, family members, friends and care workers are also encouraged to attend.

Both events will feature information stands and interactive learning activities from charities and services who work to support and promote equality for people with learning disabilities and autism. This includes health services explaining what to expect from your annual health check, sporting activities open to everyone and advice on how to get your voice heard to make changes within public services.

Wycombe residents will be able to book a bus

Buckinghamshire Council and Carousel Buses have launched a new 'demand responsive transport' (DRT) service in and around High Wycombe. Described as a cross between a bus and taxi service, the new DRT service comes as part of a pilot scheme funded by the Government's Rural Mobility Fund. The new service will run for the next 3 years, with scope to run for longer if the pilot is successful.

Sitting under Carousel's 'PickMeUp' brand, the Wycombe pilot will serve several communities, including Booker, Daws Hill, Wooburn Green, Wycombe Marsh, Loudwater and **Downley**.

Users will be able to book one of the five fully accessible minibuses to collect them either directly from their home, or from one of the 500+ pickup points – also known as 'virtual bus stops' – out and about in the local area. Ideal for those who may not have access to a bus stop either by their home, or a service that operates direct to their desired destination, the DRT service is quick and easy to use for commuters, students, and people with accessibility issues.

Thanks to the technology in the PickMeUp app, users can really break free of the rigid structure of traditional bus timetables and have the buses work around them instead – arriving only when required and from a wider range of pick-up points.

Buses can be booked in advance of a trip via the app, through which you can also pay for your ticket and track your bus in real time. Those without access to the app can book over the phone 01494 296021. Buses can be booked in advance, or on the day of travel, and will run from Monday to Friday, 6am-7pm.

Concessionary bus passes will be accepted for free travel.

In addition Buckinghamshire Councillor Maz Hussain explained that he had been reporting abandoned cars in Downley in order to get these removed from the streets

6) Comments on Planning Applications (8566/10/22)

Comments on planning applications as set out below of the agenda were noted.

- **22/06727/FUL 21 Middlebrook Road** Construction of a half-hipped roof to existing garage.
Neutral
 No comments
- **22/06412/FUL 25 White Close** Excavation of front for off street parking, widening of dropped kerb and associated alterations.
Neutral
 No comments
- **22/07077/CTREE War Memorial Hall High Street** Fell x1 Lawson Cypress.
Neutral
 No comments
- **22/07133/CTREE Diamond Cottage Moor Lane** Remove x1 Norway Spruce
Neutral
 No comments
- **22/06926/FUL Land adjacent to 47 Plomer Green Avenue** Erection of detached single-storey two-bedroom dwelling with mezzanine level study, associated parking, refuse/recycling storage and landscaping.
Object
 While Downley Parish Council admired the design of the proposed dwelling they felt that access to the property was too hazardous as the junction on which this is sited, already involves three roads.
- **22/07169/FUL Carningli Downley Common** Construction of first floor rear extension and garage conversion
Neutral
 No comments
- **2207131/CLP 46 Grays Lane** Certificate of lawfulness for proposed detached single storey rear outbuilding for gym/office use
Object
 Downley Parish Council request that Buckinghamshire Council should issue a stop notice and that we feel that the development requires full planning permission.
- **22/0799/FUL 36 Middlebrook Road** Erection of part two/three storey rear/side extensions with balconies amongst other external alterations to convert existing dwelling to 5 x 1-bed and 1 x 2-bed flats (6 in total) with associated parking and bin stores.
Object
 The revisions of these plans to those rejected in April are small cosmetic changes and don't address the fundamental objections raised previously around the quality of the accommodation, the size and overbearing nature of the development and the inadequate parking facilities.

 - **22/07231/FUL 81 Littleworth Road** – construction of a part single storey, part two storey side extension, demolition of garage and roof fenestration alterations.
Neutral
 As long as the parking criteria meets the standards required by Buckinghamshire Council then Downley Parish Council have no further comments.
 - **22/07241/FUL 10 Talbot Avenue** – erection of outbuilding to rear for use as a gym.
Neutral
 No comments.
 - **22/07618/CTREE 2 The Stables Downley Common** – Reduce height and spread of tree by up to 4 metres x 1 Sycamore

Neutral

Refer to Buckinghamshire Council Arboriculturist.

7) Decision Notices (8567/10/22)

The Decision notices made by Buckinghamshire Council in respect of the Planning Applications as set out below were noted:

- a. **22/06389/FUL 37 Plomer Green Lane** construction of a single storey rear and side extension new front door position , porch and shed to rear.
Application permitted
- b. **21//05416FUL 30 Gosling Grove** construction of single storey rear extension with patio alterations.
Application permitted
- c. **22/06698/TREE 23 Commonsides** Fell 2 x cedar
Decision not to make a tree preservation order
- d. **22/06206/FUL 2 The Stables Downley Common** construction of a single storey side extension
Application declined
- e. **22/06279/FUL 19 Downs Park** construction of first floor front, side and rear extension.
Application refused.
- f. **22/06821/PNP16A Green Space Opposite the Downley Donkey Plomer Green Lane** prior approval application (Part 16, Class A) for proposed 5G telecoms installation: 15 m street pole and 3 additional ancillary equipment cabinets and associated ancillary works.
Telecom approval refused and required
- g. **22/07000/CTREE Flagmore House Downley Common** Fell x1 Cotoneaster, x 1 Tamarix, x 2 Apple, x 1 Cherry, x 1 Hazel, x 1 Lawson Cypress and 2 x Holly.
Split Decision
- **22/06763/FUL** – construction of two storey side extension to facilitate creation of 1 x 1 bed attached dwelling with parking and amenity space.
Application refused.
- **22/07169/FUL Carningli Downley Common** – construction of first floor rear extension and garage conversion
Application permitted

8) Recent filming in Downley (8568/10/22)

Filming has recently taken place in Downley which has resulted in the Parish Council receiving a fee of £2,000 for providing the use of Mannings Field Car Park and the Sports Pavilion. It was proposed by Cllr Lenard Seconded by Cllr Steneskog and **RESOLVED** that the monies be used to make the following donations: £1500 Downley Sports Association, £250 Downley Guides and Scouts and £250 One Can Trust.

9) Memorial Tree 8569/10/22)

A resident had requested planting a tree as a memorial to his late father. A dead tree in School Close requires replacement Proposed by Cllr Biggs, seconded by Cllr Mann, it was **RESOLVED** that this replacement be a memorial and that a commemorative plaque should be allowed.

10) Anti-social behaviour and drug taking (8570/10/22)

This item was covered during the public participation section of the meeting

11) Invoices (8571/010/22)

Invoices paid since the last meeting on 12th July 2022 were authorised.

Oct-22

Invoice date	Cheque No	Payee	Amount	Details
28/07/2021	2159, 2160	Confidential payments	£ 1,866.70	Confidential payments
15/07/2022		2161 B Gray	£ 800.00	Live band 03/06/22
01/08/2022		2162 Claritas Accountancy	£ 30.00	Monthly payroll fee
27/07/2022		2163 TBS Hygiene Ltd	£ 180.00	Dog waste bins
01/08/2022	DD	Plusnet	£ 32.17	Monthly wi-fi fee
10/08/2022		2164 BALC	£ 930.57	Membership & courses
12/08/2022	DD	Telecoms World	£ 12.26	Telephone line
12/08/2022		2165 Confidential payments	£ 124.11	Confidential payments
16/08/2022		2166 Colemans	£ 2,730.00	Professional fees
16/08/2022		2167 Chiltern Society	£ 211.00	Path clearance
16/08/2022		2168 KAD Garden Services	£ 3,536.76	Gardening June
18/08/2022		2169 Confidential payments	£ 483.52	Confidential payments
18/08/2022		2170 Buckinghamshire Council	£ 2,800.00	Memorial bench, partially refunded by resid
19/08/2022		2171 BALC	£ 693.00	Training courses
22/08/2022	2172,2173,2174 & 2175	Confidential payments	£ 3,046.76	Confidential payments
25/08/2022		2176 SparkX Ltd	£ 3,373.46	Installation of new lighting column
25/08/2022		2177 SparkX Ltd	£ 3,082.41	Installation of column. Partial reimbursment
25/08/2022		2178 TBS Hygiene Ltd	£ 144.00	Dog waste bins
25/08/2022		2179 Colemans	£ 546.00	Professional fees
01/09/2022		2180 M Lazenby	£ 84.23	Purchase of materials
01/09/2022		2181 Claritas Accountancy Ltd	£ 30.00	Monthly payroll fee
01/09/2022		2182 BALC	£ 35.00	Training
09/09/2022		2183 KAD Garden Services	£ 3,045.00	Gardening July
15/09/2022		2184 Colemans	£ 1,224.00	Professional fees
16/09/2022		2185 Confidential payments	£ 107.60	Confidential payments
21/09/2022		2186 C Price	£ 4.60	Baton
22/09/2022		2187 Confidential payments	£ 483.52	Confidential payments
23/09/2022		2188 BALC	£ 35.00	Training
28/09/2022	2189, 2190	Confidential payments	£ 1,901.38	Confidential payments

29/09/2022	2191	Sign Wizzard	£ 39.76	Signage
29/09/2022	2192	TBS Hygiene Ltd	£ 180.00	Dog waste bins
29/09/2022	2193	West Wycombe Estate	£ 540.00	Rent
Total			£ 32,332.81	

Resolved to pay the following invoices received

Oct-22

Invoice date	Cheque No	Payee	Amount	Details
30/09/2022	2194	DOSCA	£ 3,000.00	re Community library
01/10/2022	2195	Claritas Accountancy	£ 30.00	payroll fee
Total			£ 3,030.00	

12) The Clerks Report (8572/10/22)

Noted

13) Reports from other Committees and Working parties (8573/10/22)

The Downley crossing feasibility study was mentioned it was agreed that this could be progressed with a public meeting from March 2023.

Cllr Lazenby reported on the progress being made with the ongoing works on the Sandpits Pond at Gosling Grove

14) To note the date and place of the next meeting (8574/10/22)

Tuesday 8th November 2022 at 7:30 p.m. Downley Community Centre

15) There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:32 p.m.