



**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on
Tuesday 10th May 2022 in Village Hall, Dinton**

Present: Cllrs Usherwood, O’Driscoll, Vane, Lamkin and Cottman
K Gray (Clerk to the Council)

3 Residents C Lambert (Bucks Herald) M Dunton (FVS)

Cllr Usherwood asked for a moments silence in fond memory of Jon Horn (Honorary Freeman of the Parish of Dinton with Ford & Upton and a Parish Councillor for many years.
Monica Dunton also expressed sincere condolences on behalf of the Ford Village Society who Jon had supported for many years. Jon’s funeral will take place in Dinton on 24th May and he will be laid to rest in Ivinghoe.

1. Election of Chairman of the Council

To elect a Chairman for the term of one year

The Chairman to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Proposed by Cllr Usherwood and Seconded by Cllr Vane, that Dick O’Driscoll be elected as Chairman of the Parish Council for a term of one year.

RESOLVED: Unanimously, that Cllr Dick O’Driscoll be elected as Chairman of the Parish Council.

2. Apologies for Absence

To receive and accept apologies for absence notified to the Chairman or Clerk

RESOLVED: To receive and accept apologies from Cllr T Heath (prior commitment).

3. Declarations of Interest

To receive any pecuniary or non-pecuniary declarations of interest

To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)

To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

- No declarations made and no dispensations requested.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting

To accept and sign the minutes of 12/4/22 as a true record.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of 12th April 2022 be accepted and signed as a true record

5. Election of Vice-Chairman of the Council

To elect a Vice-Chairman for the term of one year

Proposed by Cllr D O’Driscoll and Seconded by Cllr N Cottman that Martin Usherwood be elected as Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council for a term of one year.

RESOLVED: Unanimously, that Cllr M Usherwood be elected as Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council.

6. Clerk’s Report

To receive a report from the Clerk on matters dealt with and taking forward for the parish council.

Nothing to report and no questions received.

RESOLVED: The Chairman to adjourn the meeting in order to receive questions from the public and receive any reports/questions from cllrs on matters relating to council business.

7. Questions from the public & any reports from Councillors or questions not on the agenda.

- Resident raised concerns about the proposed wooden posts to be installed around Westlington Green. During the last 2 years the green in Westlington has been eroded by up to 4 feet on the Southern side of the green. What was grass is now rutted mud and potholes. This erosion has been caused by lorries and other vehicles having to drive on the edge of the green to avoid the many vehicles (belonging to builders and residents) constantly parking along the opposite side of the road from the green.
He requested that the parish council install posts, temporarily, around the affected part of the green where the edge of the green used to be. Re-seed and fill in with soil the lost portion of the green and allow it to grow back. He also requested that the parish council make every effort to stop people parking on the opposite side of the road (the whole grass frontage of The Elms).
- Resident reported that the Rev'd David Cooke has recently passed away and his funeral was to take place on 26th May.
- Cllr Cottman reported that the two benches in the parish field, one of which was donated by Lord Wilson of Dinton, need refurbishing. Cllr O'Driscoll is to contact Mr Bill Lee and ask if he is able to carry out this work.
- Cllr Lamkin updated the council on the new benches which he was asked to purchase for the Queen's Jubilee. These will be delivered to Aylesbury Town Council and Steve Webb will install one on the verge by the Church in Dinton and the other to be installed on the opposite side of the post box, on the verge, in Ford.
- Cllr Vane expressed appreciation for the grass cutting opposite her property carried out by Matt from MRA Garden Services and the care he took regarding the wild orchids. She also reported that Mrs Pat Horn is willing to continue to edit the Bigg Issue. A request was made for an article about ex Parish Councillor Jon Horn and the eminent service he gave to the parish. Cllr Lamkin has volunteered to put notices up on the Upton notice board and will arrange a suitable lock.
- Cllr Usherwood reported that the Fire Engine shed had been inspected and he awaits a quote for some refurbishment works. Some of the brick work has been eroded by masonry bees. The roof appears to be in good shape. He asked who was receiving the Haddenham & Waddesdon Community Board information and it was confirmed that all councillors are forwarded copies of the email sent to the Clerk by Elaine Hassell. He mentioned the proposals for bulk purchasing of MVAS machines if required. He spoke about the need to review the arrangements for parking regarding the new events at the church and a meeting will be arranged by Cllr O'Driscoll. He also asked for an update on the new equipment to be installed in the playground and Cllr O'Driscoll is arranging this with the company.

RESOLVED: The Chairman to re-convene the meeting under Standing Orders

8. Finances and Orders for Payment

RESOLVED: To agree and authorise the following orders and retrospective orders for payment presented by the RFO and/or Clerk

• D Smedley	Bus shelter cleaning	£75.00	101087
• BMKALC	Subscription	£140.28	101088
• K Gray	Admin Contribution	£200.00	101089
• Ford Village Society	Tree planting in Dinton	£103.00	101091

Cllrs had been copied into the Bank Account statements showing the councils finances.

There are some payments that will need to be listed separately such as the Parish Orchard project

amounts as these were not budgeted for but, along with some other payments, will either be taken from the Maintenance Budget or shown as taken from the Council's reserves.

9. Annual Internal & External Audits

Council to agree to the Internal Auditor appointment.

RESOLVED: That Mrs D Cole be appointed and continue as the Internal Auditor for 2022/2023 Annual Audit.

10. Outside Bodies, Organisations & Councillor Leads/Representatives

RESOLVED: To agree the following Parish Councillor Representatives to outside bodies/organisations and the Lead Councillors for specific roles/responsibilities:

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| • Haddenham & Waddesdon Community Board | - | Cllr Usherwood |
| • Cuddington & Dinton CofE School | - | Cllr Vane |
| • Village Hall Committee | - | As per current arrangements |
| • Parish Public Footpaths / Bridleways | - | Cllr Heath |
| • Parish Field, Playgrounds & Spinney | - | Cllr O'Driscoll |
| • Devolved Services Agreement work | - | Remove from list & monthly agenda |
| • Roads - Traffic & Maintenance | - | Cllr Lamkin |
| • Community Events Team | - | Cllr Cottman |

11. Standing Orders & Financial Regulations

The Council to review and approve its current Standing Orders & Financial Regulations

RESOLVED: Reviewed and to remain in place with no changes. It was noted that the Clerk will make changes to the Financial Regulations under the governments advice regarding the EU and Brexit decisions. This will then come to Council for formal approval.

12. General Powers of Competence

To resolve to take the powers of the General Powers of Competence and to agree that the Parish Council meets the criteria for eligibility relating to its Electoral Mandate and Qualified Clerk.

RESOLVED: That the Council take on the General Powers of Competence and agree that the criteria has been met to be able to do so.

13. Code of Conduct

Councillors to agree to abide by the Code of Conduct as advised by Government/NALC/SLCC and administered by the Monitoring Officer of Buckinghamshire Council.

RESOLVED: To continue to abide by the above mentioned Code of Conduct.

14. Policies and Risk Assessments

Council to review its current Policies and Risk Assessments.

RESOLVED: Reviewed and to remain in place with no changes. The Clerk to copy all councillors into the current policies and documentation.

15. Co-option of Councillors

The Council to consider any applications for co-option or to further advertise.

RESOLVED: No applications received and the vacancy noted by Council.

16. Devolved Services

To receive any reports, if available, and agree any specific actions in relation to devolved services.

RESOLVED: Nothing to report and this agenda item to be removed from the monthly meetings.

17. Roads & General Maintenance

To receive any feedback (if required) on matters relating to road maintenance concerns raised with the County Council and other stakeholders.

Cllr Lamkin spoke about the "Blind Spot" mirror he had obtained quotes for and suggested this could be installed in Upton. This was supported by councillors as being a good idea. Discussion centered on who could install this work, along with other works required. It was noted that Steve Webb is very busy at the moment and the council is not able to have works carried out as quickly as they would like.

Thought to be given as to who can carry out maintenance works other than relying on Steve Webb.

Cllr Lamkin also reported that the Local Area Technician (LAT) had agreed that there could be a layby, near the school, installed so the parking can be managed properly. The parish council would have to pay for this. He also mentioned about the informal parking arrangements in Upton and whether this could be made permanent by way of another layby area which, again, would have to be paid for by the parish council. The matter would be discussed with the LAT for advice.

The continued concerns about the footpath at the top of Boot Lane were raised and the Clerk was asked to issue an assertive letter to both officers and members of Buckinghamshire Council, requesting that works be carried out urgently. This matter has been unresolved for some considerable time and the footpath is used by children going to the village school.

18. Community Orchard

To receive an update on the works in the Community Orchard and to discuss the requirements for water and agree any proposals.

No updates. It was noted that 25 trees have now been planted and watering continues.

19. Planning Enforcement

Council to receive an update on the enforcement, by Buckinghamshire Council Planning Enforcement Officers, of specific planning breaches raised by the Parish Council.

1. Ford field, Main Road, Ford - 19/00304/C0N3
2. Land between Hare Folly and Westlington Cottage, Gibraltar, 15/00448/C0N3

RESOLVED: No changes to the above. It was noted that this matter continues to be unresolved and has been unresolved for many years. It is embarrassing to the planning department that they have not carried out any enforcement on the above properties and matters are made worse as one property continues to expand with no enforcement carried out.

20. Planning Applications

To receive, comment and to either object, support or oppose the following planning applications:

To accept and consider late applications presented by the Clerk.

To note any applications (decisions made and to be made) delegated to Councillors.

- **22/01185/APP** **Westlington Manor, Oxford Rd, Dinton**
Householder application for external alterations and single storey rear demolition to form new window and door openings.
RESOLVED: No Objections

There being no further business of the Council, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____