



**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022 in Dinton Village Hall**

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

2 Members of the Public

C Lambert (Bucks Herald)

M Dunton (Ford Vilage Society)

**1. Apologies for Absence**

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

**2. Declarations of Interest**

To receive any pecuniary or non-pecuniary declarations of interest  
To grant any requests for pecuniary declaration dispensation as appropriate

- No declarations made and no dispensations requested

**3. Minutes of the previous meeting 14<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

RESOLVED: To accept and sign the minutes of 14/6/22 as a true record.

**4. 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 from councillors.

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

**5. Questions from the public & any reports/questions from Councillors on matters not already listed on the agenda.**

- The Parish Councillors expressed disappointment that no Buckinghamshire Councillors were present at this meeting and wished for updates on various matters relating to planning and enforcement.
- Resident asked if the council had been informed that works were taking place on Upton Road. The clerk informed the council that we are not informed of utility works or some repair works. Parish councillors are sent a list of proposed road works across the county but some works will take place by various stakeholders that we are not notified of.
- Resident asked for an update on questions he had previously asked about the Ford MVAS and the clerk updated him accordingly.
- It was noted that Margaret Aston (previous Buckinghamshire County Councillor had died and her funeral will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> July with a wake at the Seven Stars Ph, Dinton.
- Cllr Heath updated council on a water leak which appears not to have been repaired due to a parked vehicle – it has been reported. He also mentioned that a discussion was taking place about possible volunteers to cut

bridleway/footpath grass. The clerk advised him on insurance, public liability, risk assessments and use of machinery etc. Volunteers can be used either by themselves as a group, with permission from the landowner to carry out work, or under the supervision of the parish council and the cover of insurance as a parish council organised volunteer event. The clerk is also arranging for the Community Service Payback Team to carry out grass cutting on the bridleway and footpath with town council supporting them at no cost to the parish council.

- Cllr Cottman asked for an update on the repairs to the footpath on Boot Lane. Cllr O’Driscoll will progress chase this with the Local Area Technician as we were told it was on the work schedule to do. He also mentioned the concerns over the loss of the playgroup at Dinton Village Hall as not enough were attending and this business is now closing which means a loss of significant income for the village hall.
- Cllr Vane reported concerns of parked vehicles on the grass verges by those using the church. This could become a problem when the weather changes and the verges could be significantly damaged. It may be necessary to raise these concerns with the church. Discussion also centred on the benefits of wooden posts being installed in that area.
- Cllr Usherwood reported that the works carried out on the playground were good and now finished. Planning appeal for Bigstrup Farm is still ongoing. Events have been taking place at the farm and the noise levels are concerning, with complaints being made. There is also an appeal for land adjacent the Dinton Hermit, Water Lane for the erection of a dwelling.
- Cllr Lamkin asked if contributions from elsewhere had been made towards the purchase of the two new benches. The Beer Festival had contributed money, which was very much appreciated. He also reported that “For Sale” signs were being placed on the highway and there were too many. The clerk advised that these could be taken down as they did not have permission from the parish council to place these signs on the highway in the parish. The agency could also be contacted and ask them to remove the signs.
- Cllr O’Driscoll reported on the electrical report he had received for both the parish field and the village hall. The field is satisfactory but the village hall is not and work needs to be carried out. He also reported that he had contacted Mr Woodford to cut the parish field hedge after the nesting season has ended.

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

## **6. Finances and Orders for Payment**

**RESOLVED:** To agree to pay the following orders and retrospective orders for payment presented by the RFO and/or Clerk.

• J Welland	2 x Bench Installation	£460.20	101100
• K Gray	Reimburse/Easyspace	£29.13	101101
• MRA G’dn Services	Grass Cutting	£1,580.00	101104
• Tomasz Kudzin	Benches Repairs	£100.00	101105
• Caloo Ltd	Playground refurbishment	£17,691.60	101106
• K Gray	Easyspace / website	£30.44	101109
• Dinton Village Hall	Hall hire	£45.00	101110
• Caloo Ltd	Playground Refurbishment	£17,691.60	101112
• EoN	Parish Field electricity	£13.80	101113
• Impact Signs	Playground plaques	£37.28	101114
• D O’Driscoll	Chairman’s Allowance	£135.00	101115

RESOLVED: To receive, and agree, the monthly finance report from the Finance Officer & RFO. Bank - Cash and Investment Reconciliation as at 30 June 2022

## **7. Call for Sites Consultation - Brownfield Sites in the Parish**

Bucks Council is beginning work on the new Local Plan for Buckinghamshire (LP4B). The LP4B will allocate sites for development in the period up to 2040 to meet the housing and economic development needs of Buckinghamshire.

They are keen to ensure that when new development takes place, it is sustainable and makes best use of available land. To achieve this, they have undertaken two 'Call for Brownfield Sites' consultations where they asked for previously developed land to be submitted for consideration. During this process, they received over 300 submissions of brownfield sites. A list and map of these sites can be found at:

[www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/brownfield-sites](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/brownfield-sites)

Not all of the brownfield sites submitted to the council previously will be suitable, achievable and available, this will be assessed by the Council in the Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessments (HELAA).

Bucks Council statement: Buckinghamshire Council is still committed to 'Brown before Green', however, based on what we currently understand our needs to be and an initial assessment of the brownfield sites submitted to us, it is important to also understand what further sites are available to ensure we have enough capacity to meet our future needs. This means we are now undertaking a 'Wider Call for Sites' (including Greenfield sites) to gather a fuller understanding of the land available for development within Buckinghamshire. All of the sites that are submitted to us through this Call for Sites consultation, and the previous two Call for Sites consultations, will be technically assessed in the HELAA. This will assess sites for their suitability, availability and achievability (including viability) to accommodate development. To give you an indication on how this process will be undertaken, we have published our draft methodology which can be found at:[www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/helaa](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/helaa)

In addition to this, further information is available in government guidance about Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessments (HELAA). This can be viewed at:[www.gov.uk/guidance/housing-and-economic-land-availability-assessment](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/housing-and-economic-land-availability-assessment).

***This Call for Sites is open from 13 June 2022 until 11 September 2022, although sites submitted after this may still be considered.***

RESOLVED: To note the above information without commenting.

## **8. Roads & General Maintenance**

Any specific matters for discussion relating to road maintenance concerns raised with the County Council and other stakeholders.

Cllr Lamkin reported road markings in various places and assumes this is Bucks Council marking areas for repair. Previous issues reported remain the same.

## **9. Parish Tree Warden**

To discuss the need for a Tree Warden and to be clear on what the role involves.

A parishioner, Mr Alan Floy, has volunteered to act as the Parish Tree Warden and Cllr O'Driscoll has explained the role which is to keep an eye on the land areas, note any trees that need maintenance and make sure the land areas are safe and accessible to the public where there are trees owned by the parish council.

RESOLVED: To appoint Mr Floy as Parish Tree Warden..

## **10. Purchase of a Bench**

Proposal from Cllr Lamkin that the Council purchase and install a bench in Upton.  
RESOLVED: A bench to be purchased, same design and cost as the previous new benches and to be installed in Upton on the grass verge (larger corner plot) on Upton Road. Cllr Lamkin to arrange the purchase and Steve Webb asked to install the bench.

#### **11. Hedging in Upton**

To discuss the overgrown hedging alongside Upton Road. To consider the need for reducing this hedge size so a better view can be made. To confirm the owner of the hedge before any works are considered by the parish council. To ensure that the council follows protocol and guidance in terms of the Devolved Services Agreement for land management and assets belonging to Buckinghamshire Council.

To remind Council that no grass will be cut near parked cars as insurance claims have increased due to cars being damaged by stones.

The Clerk informed the Council that the hedge is in private ownership and the landowner needs to be contacted to either cut the hedge back himself, allow the parish council to do it for free or pay the parish council.

RESOLVED: Cllr Lamkin to contact the landowner and discuss the matter further.

#### **12. Road Traffic Mirror**

To receive an update from Cllr Lamkin on the proposal for the installation of a mirror previously proposed by Cllr Lamkin. If agreed, to agree specific costs for this installation.

This proposal is on-going and Cllr Lamkin to continue working on a suitable proposal.

#### **13. Planning Enforcement**

To consider the issues and concerns around the enforcement needed from the Planning Department for specific planning applications

- Bigstrup Farm, Dinton  
Conversion and restoration of redundant barns to create an Outreach Education Centre and Wedding Venue and alterations to Wychert and Byre Barn to provide self-catering accommodation.
- 15/00448/CON3 – Land between Hare Folly and Westlington Cottage, Gibraltar.

RESOLVED: To note the above matters.

#### **14. 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.

No applications received.

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

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_