

DOWN ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 9th May 2023 in the Village Hall

Present: Mr J. Tucker, Ms P. Rogers, Mr A. Clark, Mr P. Seller, Mr M. Austin, Mr S. Penny, Mrs. N. Letch and Mr A. Martin [Clerk]

In attendance: Mr R. Hodgson

[2023/5/1] The **Minutes** of the meeting held on 11th April which had been circulated were approved.

[2] The new district councillors were welcomed.

[3] **Public Conveniences.** There was one applicant to take on the lease. Questions to be submitted to Mr. Penny.

[4] **Village Green etc.:** Mr. Austin had been cutting the wire round the trees in the orchard. One tree had died and one seemed to be infected. They would need to be replaced. The art work for the map of the trees needed to be commissioned. It was proposed that “no-cut May” should be observed for May and June.

Wildflower planting needed to be done in the autumn. For most of the year the orchard area would have a natural look but would provide a wildlife haven. It was proposed that the parish should be asked whether the area should be extended. A meeting could be held and fliers explaining what the intention is distributed. Details to be discussed at the July meeting.

An oak tree had been donated by Lord & Lady Swire. This could be placed at the bottom of the triangle.

Two people had complained that the area next to Windwhistle Cottage was overgrown.

There was a complaint about dog fouling in Yeo Road. One person had been filmed at Zeal Monachorum allowing this. This had been a problem in the village before. New notices and signs need to be erected. Fine can be up to £2000. Another dog bin could be installed.

Some of the “Twenty is Plenty” signs had been damaged by tractors or have been bleached out. The road marking of “Slow” had also been worn out. The speed limit needed further consultation.

Two benches needed repairing and restoration. Some of the finger posts needed replacing.

Signed Date

Mr. Barber was going to paint the bus shelter.

There needed to be an investigation as to whether Section 106 money was available.

[5] Financial report:

Current Account Balance as at 31/3/2023£13,455.00

INCOME: MDDC [Precept less DALC subscription].....£4,445.30

EXPENDITURE:

Cheque cashed :

407 Down St Mary Village Hall £135.00

Current Account Balance as at 28/4/2023£17,765.30

Business Reserve Account Balance as at 7/3/2023£11,608.33

Interest: March£9.86

Business Reserve Account Balance as at 6/4/2023£11,618.19

REQUESTS FOR PAYMENT:

Stapletons [Accountants] £96.00

Mike Leach [Grasscutting] £200

A. Martin [Clerk's Salary] £500

Ms P. Rogers [Rounders Kit] £32.99

Community First [Insurance] £189.85

Coronation Event Expenses:

Mrs M. Tucker £102.60

Mr A.J. Tucker £252.00

Mr R. Hodgson £98.15

Ms J. Sey £154.49

Ms P. Rogers £120.65

These payments were approved.

Signed Date

5) Vacancies

It was agreed that Mr R. Hodgson should be co-opted to fill one of the vacancies.

Next meeting: The next meeting was due Tuesday 11th July but the council thought that another meeting should be held on Tuesday 13th June.

Dates for 2023:

Tuesday 11th July, Tuesday 12th September, Tuesday 10th October, Tuesday 14th November, Tuesday 12th December

Anthony Martin, Clerk 7/6/2023

Signed Date