

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DOWNSWOOD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT 8.00 PM ON TUESDAY 7 DECEMBER 2010
IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Present: Cllrs Cheesman (Chairman); Bevan; Greenhead; Butler; Roberts; Chainey; Mrs T. Irving (Clerk); PSCO Stevens (part); Chris Chainey.

1 APOLOGIES: Cllr Weeks (work commitment); Cllrs Ladds (family commitment); Cllr Marchant; Rajan Kantaria.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

3 POLICE REPORT - DOWNSWOOD CRIME FIGURES for the period from 29 October to 6 December 2010.

31/11/2010. Gorham Drive.

Vehicle window damaged: possible domestic.

19/11/2010. Longham Copse.

Number plate reported as stolen from a moped parked in Longham Copse.

19/11/2010. Longham Copse.

Disc cutter stolen from the back of tipper lorry (the disc cutter was in the rear of an open back truck).

21/11/2010 to 23/11/2010. Foxden Drive.

Reported theft of hub caps from parked vehicle.

- **Smart Water Update.** PCSO Stevens confirmed that Smart Water can be obtained by contacting him or John Grant at MBC.

4 ADJOURNMENT FOR QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – no questions.

5 APPROVE & SIGN MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 2 NOVEMBER 2010:

The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

6 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – Not available.

7 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

- Concurrent Functions report has been circulated by Cllr Marchant.

8 MATTERS ARISING:

- **Report re. Christmas Carols and Lights Ceremony.** This year's event was very successful, despite the inclement weather.

New Father Christmas suit looked very smart. Sheila Noyce to be contacted to ask whether she would like a 'Mother Christmas' outfit.

Fireworks to be considered for 2011's ceremony.

-358-

Clerk to contact Gala Lights to resolve the problem with some of the lights going out (a solution needs to be found by no later than Friday 10 December). Gala have quoted £500 for storage during 2011.

- **Mallards Way Fencing** – Clerk to request a plan of the proposed fencing. It was resolved that in view of recent cut-backs, the parish council will only be able to offer a contribution of £500.
- **CCTV** – The proposals have been cancelled as MBC has confirmed that no costs will be incurred by the PC.
- **Handrail for Willow Rise/Old Church Road.** KCC are checking ownership of the land & will advise in due course (Ref. No. 10206624).

9 URGENT MATTERS:

- Clerk to obtain quotes for refurbishment of Foxden Play Area equipment.
- Overgrown bush in walkway between Monkdown/Murrair Drive is causing part of the pathway to be very dark.
- Sapling by Play Area in Mallards has been broken in two.
- Railings in the middle of the road – when crossing Willington Street to Mote Park – have still not been repaired.
- Replacement seat required by Foxden Drive/Longham Copse bus stop.
- **Annual Parish Meeting 2011.** It was agreed to follow the same format as this year's AMP, with the meeting held prior to the monthly Parish Meeting.

10 FINANCE

i) Items for payment

Balance of Current Account £24,709.57 credit, after all cheques sent.
Balance of Investment Account £9,938.62 credit.

The council confirmed approval of the following payments:

R. Cheesman	Chairman's Expenses (JPG/Glow Sticks)	10.00
Royal British Legion	Wreath	35.00
Victim Support	Donation	100.00
PCC of Otham with Langley	Choir Donation	100.00
Peeks of Bournemouth	Father Christmas Costume	90.40
Trevor Hales	Notice Board Repairs	45.00
Mr & Mrs Pateman	1 st Prize Gardening Competition	50.00
Mr & Mrs Baker	2 nd	25.00
Mr & Mrs Daly	3 rd	15.00
Chalkgate Ltd	Sundry Supplies	37.66
Jim Noyce	Litter Picking (November)	293.15
T. Irving	Clerk's Salary & Expenses (November)	747.21

Cheques Received:

Caxtons	Litter Picking Contribution	182.00
DCA	“ “ “	62.50

ii) **Concurrent Functions Update.** Whilst still waiting for the outcome of the Borough's meeting of 15.12.10, it appears likely that the 2011/12 CF Grant will be cut by 30%. Cllr Cheesman to respond to Cllr Wilson's letter.

iii) **Draft Budget:** It was resolved to accept the Draft Budget proposals and set the Precept for 2011/12 at £22,000

iv) **Clerk's Pension** – Awaiting figures from KCC.

v) **Other Matter to Report** - None.

11 JOINT PARISHES GROUP UPDATE – JPG has been informed of Downswood's decision & have confirmed that they will send a state of account in due course.

12 CLERK'S REPORT.

- The White Horse Public House in Otham is for sale by auction. Residents have formed a co-operative in an attempt to purchase it and continue running it as a public house.

13 REPORTS FROM SEMINARS ATTENDED – The 'Winter Services' meeting due to be attended by Cllr Cheesman/Cllr Marchant/Clerk was cancelled due to the inclement weather.

14 PLANNING.

New Applications.

MA/10/1936 – 5 Kings Acre

Erection of a single storey side extension and conversion of existing garage to habitable accommodation.

No objection. However, DCP are generally opposed to planning applications that convert garages into living accommodation due to the loss of parking.

MS/10/1925 – 20 Cheviot Gardens

Application to extend the time limit for implementing planning permission MA/07/2037 (Rear Extension to detached garage to provide granny annexe accommodation)

Do not wish to object.

MA/10/1983 – 4 Kings Acre

Conversion of double garage to single garage and habitable accommodation, involving single storey rear extension.

No comment. However, DCP are generally opposed to planning applications that convert garages into living accommodation due to the loss of parking.

15 COMMITTEE REPORTS – None available.

16 CORRESPONDENCE.

- Email – Ms D. McClean (letter + Clerk's response circulated prior to meeting). Mrs McClean expressed concern regarding general upkeep of houses/storage of wheelie bins/overgrown vegetation/parking. The meeting was in agreement with the Clerk's response and added that the Planning Committee generally oppose Planning Applications wishing to convert garages into living accommodation, due to the loss of parking involved.

17 ADDITIONAL MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED AT NEXT MEETING: Spring Clean. Please inform the Clerk of any other matters at least one week prior to the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 1 FEBRUARY, 2011

-360-