

# DENTON PARISH COUNCIL

C/O 33 Friars Avenue, Delapre, Northampton. NN4 8PY

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Minutes of the **Ordinary Meeting of Denton Parish Council** held in the Village Hall, Vicarage Lane, Denton on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024** at **7.30pm**.

**Present:** Cllr P Cammack (Chair), Cllr L Ferrant, Cllr L Gibson, Cllr K Hewitson, and Cllr D Penn

**In attendance:** Mrs. S Wong (Clerk) Unitary Councillor Stephen Clarke and 3 Parishioners

| Item No  |  |
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| 348/2024 | <b>Public Session – Parishioners Points</b><br>There were 3 members of public in attendance. Points raised were as follows: Alan Jukes from Denton Village Hall Committee reminded parishioners the village hall car park is not a public car park. Thanks were given to Cllr L Ferrant for organising a village tidy up of the playground and village pathways this coming Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> September 2024.  |
| 349/2024 | <b>Record Attendance and receive apologies of absence</b><br>Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr A Addison, Cllr P Manley and Cllr S Holden.  |
| 350/2024 | <b>Invite Declarations of Interest in respect of items on the agenda</b><br>No Declarations of interest were received.   |
| 351/2024 | <b>To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 10<sup>th</sup> July 2024</b><br>It was <b>Resolved</b> the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2024 having been previously circulated, were approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair Cllr P Cammack.  |
| 352/2024 | <b>Receive Reports from West Northamptonshire Councillors</b><br>Unitary Councillors Stephen Clarke was in attendance. Stephen gave an update report on matters relating to West Northants Council, details of current consultations and a summary of his monthly newsletter.  |
| 353/2024 | <b>Receive any Police updates from Cllr L Gibson</b><br>Cllr L Gibson gave out recent crime figures for Denton for June and July. There were 7 reported crimes covering theft, violence and anti-social behaviour.<br><br>The Beat Bus that was scheduled to visit Denton and also Yardley Hastings on the 17 <sup>th</sup> July never showed up. Cllr L Gibson complained no notification was received but he didn't receive a response to his complaint.<br><br>Northamptonshire Police is relaunching its countywide Street Watch programme and is inviting local people to come together as volunteers to contribute to community safety and crime prevention in their neighbourhood.<br><br>Street Watch enables local people to take an active role in keeping their community safe by patrolling their local area as part of an organised scheme, identifying potential issues and engaging with local residents, encouraging them to report things like antisocial behaviour, vandalism and suspicious behaviour to the police.<br>Anyone who would like to get involved or set up a Street Watch scheme in their area can find out more at <a href="http://www.northants.police.uk/streetwatch">www.northants.police.uk/streetwatch</a> or email <a href="mailto:citizensinpolicing@northants.police.uk">citizensinpolicing@northants.police.uk</a> . |

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| 354/2024 | <p><b>Parish Council Vacancies – Discuss any applications and co-option on to the Parish Council</b><br/>The Clerk has received no recent expressions of interest in the current Councillor vacancy at the council. <b>Action:</b> Clerk will continue to re advertise the position on the website and social media.</p>  |
| 355/2024 | <p><b>Appointment of Michael Brown as Voluntary Parish Foot Path Warden</b><br/>The Clerk has created a document detailing the main purpose of the Footpath Warden Scheme and role of the Footpath Warden. This was circulated to members prior to the meeting. The document was discussed and some amendments were needed. Once amendments have been made Michael can be sent them for his approval and appointment. All were in agreement. <b>Action:</b> Clerk to make documents changes for approval before the appointment can be made.</p>  |
| 356/2024 | <p><b>Discuss any Correspondence</b><br/><b>Request to remove stinging nettles from alleyway along Main Street and The Leys</b><br/>The Clerk has received a complaint about stinging nettles over growing in the alleyway along Main Street and The Leys. Cllr L Ferrant is organising a village tidy up this weekend and will attend to these if there are enough volunteers to carry out works.</p> <p>The Clerk has received a request to attend to overhanging vegetation in Bridge Meadow. Unfortunately, this piece of land is not owned by the PC and not our responsibility to maintain. <b>Action:</b> The Clerk to reply back to the home owner, that they are welcome to trim back the over hanging vegetation but it is not the PC’s responsibility.</p> <p>The Clerk has received a number of road closure notifications from Highways which have been circulated and shared to the website.</p>  |
| 357/2024 | <p><b>Village Services – Receive reports from Working Groups</b><br/><b>a. Receive any updates on the play area / refurbishment project Cllrs K Hewitson &amp; L Ferrant, including review of the annual health &amp; safety inspection report</b><br/>Cllr L Ferrant has organised a village tidy up of the play area and equipment and village pathways on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September. It is anticipated there will be a good turnout of volunteers. Cllr L Ferrant would like the PC to cover refreshments costs. This be an agenda item for our October meeting.</p> <p>A meeting will be arranged with the play area group to discuss urgent maintenance matters after the village tidy up. The annual health and safety report will be discussed and decisions made based on the findings of the report.</p> <p>We should be notified after the October Government Budget announcement, if we have been successful with our Community Ownership grant and how much we have been awarded. If we have not been successful then Cllr L Ferrant will ask the Lottery Fund if our Lottery Grant can be spent on the play equipment and not on an enrichment seating area?</p> <p><b>b. Receive update reports from the following working groups – Footpaths, Lighting, Grass Cutting, Highways Warden and Village Hall</b><br/>Carried forward from the previous PC meeting. The pumps in the village need to be looked at. <b>Action:</b> Members to locate a suitable company to carry out the necessary repairs.</p> <p>Following our last PC meeting, the Clerk notified Compton Estates of an overgrown paddock that needed attention. They have responded that the tenant has been approached and asked to attend to the overgrowth.</p> |

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|          | <p>No other village issues were raised by members.</p> <p><b>c. Discuss and agree to schedule heavy cut of the rec hedges, bus shelter and along the A428 and a review of the grass cutting and works for around the village for next year</b><br/>It was agreed that Cllr D Penn will cut back hedges and the overgrowth at the bus shelter. Grass cutting in the village is ok and doesn't need any extra attention. The PC will consider carrying out a village litter pick in the spring.</p> <p><b>d. Discuss and agree the cost of purchasing a Christmas tree and agree location for planting</b><br/>It was previously been <b>Resolved</b> to purchase a temporary Christmas Tree this year. It was <b>Resolved</b> at the meeting to set a purchase limit of £150. The Christmas tree will be planted on the village green. All were in agreement.</p>  |
| 358/2024 | <p><b>Receive any update reports from Parish Councillors</b></p> <p><b>a. Discuss creating a Volunteer Register to take care of the Village Environment – Cllr K Hewitson</b> - This agenda item was cancelled.</p> <p><b>b. Discuss if the PC should create a Newsletter – Cllr S Holden</b><br/>This item was deferred until the next PC meeting.</p>   |
| 359/2024 | <p><b>Discuss any Planning matters and receive any reports</b></p> <p><b>a. Discuss the PC's response to the Green Hill Solar Farm – EIA Scoping Notification and Consultation</b> – It was <b>Resolved</b> not to respond and observe and support surrounding PC's if need be.</p> <p><b>b. 2024/4213/FUL – Single storey rear ext for garden room &amp; store – 15 Bypass Way, Denton. NN7 1DZ</b> – The PC have no comments or objections to make at this time.</p>  |
| 360/2024 | <p><b>Financial matters</b></p> <p><b>a. Review Financial Statement as at 11/09/24 for information as agreed to the Bank Statement Reconciliation</b><br/>Financial reports were received for information. £150.64 in bank interest has been received since the 10<sup>th</sup> July. Current bank balances stand at <b>Current Account £35,266.36 and Premier Account £40,432.79</b><br/>Bank reconciliation stands at <b>£73,465.40</b> broken down to <b>£41,628.64</b> parish council funds and <b>£31,836.76</b> ear marked funds for the play area refurbishment project.</p> <p><b>b. Propose Payments for bank transfer and Sign any Cheques agreed by the Council</b><br/>It was <b>Resolved</b> to approve payments to be made in September 2024 (Appendix A).</p> <p><b>c. Discuss and Agree the renewal of the Annual Insurance Liability Policy at a cost of £585.95</b><br/>It was <b>Resolved</b> to accept the renewal cost on the Annual Insurance Liability Policy.</p> <p><b>d. Discuss and Agree whether to provide some financial assistance to the VE Day Celebrations 2025</b><br/>It was <b>Resolved</b> to award the Village Hall Committee £1500 to help with costs of the VE Day celebrations. As this is taking place in May 2025. This process will have to be formalised again and payment will come out of next year's budget / finances.</p> <p>It was also noted that the 2nd Internal Financial Audit Inspection will take place on the 20<sup>th</sup> September by Parish Cllr Liz Ferrant.</p> |
| 361/2024 | <p><b>Progress any matters arising from the previous minutes not covered by items on the agenda</b><br/>No matters arising.</p>   |
| 362/2024 | <p><b>Discuss any items to be considered for the next meeting agenda</b></p>  |

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|                 | Discuss and agree to cover the refreshment costs for volunteers carrying out the village tidy up –<br>Cllr Liz Ferrant  |
| <b>363/2024</b> | <b>Date of next meeting – Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024 – Ordinary Meeting of the Parish</b><br><b>Resolved</b> to hold the Ordinary Meeting of the Council. The meeting to be held in Denton Village Hall at 7.30pm. |
|                 | <b>Close:</b> The meeting ended at 9.05pm   |

Signed by ..... Date .....

## Appendix A

### 360/2024 Financial Matters

#### a. Review Financial Statement as at 11/09/2024 and b. propose payments and sign cheques

Monies must be paid out only in pursuance of statutory powers (SP) vested in the Parish Council.

**RESOLVED** balances as presented are accepted. **RESOLVED** the following accounts be paid

| Payment Method | Amount | Inc VAT of | Payee                | Details  | Power           |
|----------------|--------|------------|----------------------|--|-----------------|
| D/D            | 39.61  | 0.00       | Nest Pension         | Employer Contribution £14.85<br>S Wong Contribution £24.76   | LGA 1972 s 112  |
| BT             | 978.75 | 0.00       | Shirley Wong         | Clerks Salary /Office Expenses<br>& Pension Aug 24   | LGA 1972 s 112  |
| BT             | 82.08  | 0.00       | HMRC                 | Employers NI £35.48<br>Clerks Tax £46.60   | LGA 1972 s 112  |
| BT             | 161.93 | 7.71       | NPOWER               | Electricity Costs to 1.8.24 to<br>31.8.24  | Highways Act    |
| BT             | 903.99 | 150.66     | Hayeswood Landscapes | Monthly grass cutting  | Open Spaces Act |
| BT             | 72.00  | 0.00       | David Penn           | Tree for D Day remembrance<br><b>This payment was originally agreed on the 10.7.24 but due to an error wasn't paid</b> | Open Spaces Act |
| BT             | 585.95 | 0.00       | Zurich Insurance     | Insurance Renewal 1.10.24 to<br>30.09.25   | LGA 1972 s 112  |

**Total of payments  
£2,824.31**

#### To note approved payments made out of meeting in August by the Clerk using delegated powers

| Payment Method | Amount | Inc VAT of | Payee                            | Details  | Power           |
|----------------|--------|------------|----------------------------------|--|-----------------|
| D/D            | 39.61  | 0.00       | Nest Pension                     | Employer Contribution £14.85<br>S Wong Contribution £24.76           | LGA 1972 s 112  |
| BT             | 982.75 | 0.66       | Shirley Wong                     | Clerks Salary /Office Expenses<br>& Pension July 24<br>Stationery £4 | LGA 1972 s 112  |
| BT             | 82.08  | 0.00       | HMRC                             | Employers NI £35.48<br>Clerks Tax £46.60                             | LGA 1972 s 112  |
| BT             | 159.73 | 7.61       | NPOWER                           | Electricity 1.7.24 to 31.7.24  | Highways Act    |
| BT             | 65.34  | 0.00       | RGC Ground Maintenance           | Trim back hedge adj to play area                                     | Open Spaces Act |
| BT             | 903.99 | 150.66     | Hayeswood Landscapes             | Monthly grass cutting  | Open Spaces Act |
| BT             | 21.00  | 0.00       | Denton Village Hall              | Room Hire – Meeting of 10.7.24                                       | LGA 1972 s 133  |
| D/D            | 35.00  | 0.00       | Information Commissioners Office | Renewal of Data Protection<br>Licence                                | LGA 1972 s 112  |

**Total of payments  
£2,289.50**