



DUSTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Duston Parish Council
Duston Community Centre
Pendle Road
Duston
Northampton
NN5 6DT

FULL COUNCIL MINUTES
THURSDAY 6th JULY 2023 7PM

Chair: Cllr P Enright-King

Councillors Present: Barnes, Ennis-Clark, Ingram, Liddon, Maitland, Roper

IN ATTENDANCE:

Gary Youens – Clerk

Ryan Ikavnieks – Assistant Clerk

Sarah Percival – Community Events Officer

George Nemteanu – Facilities Manager

33/23. To receive apologies for absence

- Apologies were received from Cllr Stonehouse, Mumford & Golby

34/23. To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 8th June 2023

- **RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday the 8th of June 2023 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair (APPENDIX A)

35/23. To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda

- Members were reminded of the need to declare any interests in the items on this agenda, whether pecuniary or otherwise. There were no interests declared.

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36/23. Public Participation Session

- There were three members of the public present; all three stood as candidates for Item 39/23. Co-option to fill two casual vacancies for Old Duston Ward. The vacancies were due to the resignations of Alan Bottwood and Nigel Hinch.

37/23. Bank Reconciliations

- **RESOLVED:** That the bank reconciliations for April 2023 were approved (APPENDIX B)

38/23. Payment of Invoices

- **RESOLVED:** That the invoice payments for April 2023 were noted (APPENDIX C)

39/23. Co-option of to fill two casual vacancies for Old Duston ward

- Four members of the public put themselves forward as candidates to be co-opted as Councillors for Duston Parish Council; three were present at the meeting. Each present candidate was given the opportunity to address the meeting for no more than 5 minutes each. Written statements were circulated. Councillors then voted for their preferred candidate via secret ballot.
- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) That the standing orders be suspended during this item to allow Councillors to vote by secret ballot
 - b) That Andrew Dickinson and Bill Littlewood were co-opted on to Duston Parish Council until next regular local government election period in May 2025.

40/23. Committee Updates

- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) That the report in the form of the minutes of the Planning Committee was received & noted (APPENDIX D)
 - b) That the report in the form of the minutes of the Community Services Committee was received and noted (APPENDIX E)
 - c) That the report in the form of the minutes of the Environment Committee was received and noted (APPENDIX F)

41/23. Recommendation From Environment Committee

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- Council noted that as time went on a natural boundary is being formed with smaller trees and hedges beginning to grow. In time it might not be necessary to do any more planting. Council should not look to fence up.
- **RESOLVED:** The Clerk to look into planting mature hedges between the boundary between St Luke's Field and Sussex Close if budget allows.

42/23. Recommendations from Community Services Committee

- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) To approve a grant form for £600 for grass cutting at St Luke's closed Churchyard (APPENDIX H).
 - b) To approve a grant form for £140 to Duston Library for Summer Reading Challenge (APPENDIX I).

43/23. Grant Policies

- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) That the Grant Awarding Policy was received, reviewed and readopted without further amendments (APPENDIX J).
 - b) That the Grant Application Form was received, reviewed and approved without further amendments (APPENDIX K).

44/23. Duston Fun Day 2023

- The Community Events Officer and Facilities Manager gave a general overview about what occurred on the day and on how successful Duston Fun Day 2023 from the perspective of staff, vendors and community organisations had been.
- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) That the Council raised a special thanks to all the staff involved with the planning and production of the day, and that if councillors should email the Clerk with any feedback from the day.
 - b) The Date of Duston Fun Day 2024 is Sunday 30th June at St. Lukes Field, Melbourne Lane.

45/23. Equality and Diversity Statement

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- **RESOLVED:** That the Equality and Diversity Statement was received, reviewed and readopted without further amendments (APPENDIX L).

46/23. Health and Safety Policy

- **RESOLVED:** That the Health and Safety Policy was received, reviewed and readopted without further amendments (APPENDIX M).

47/23. Youth

- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) That the Council agrees to formally end the trial period for Duston Trilogy Youth Club.
 - b) That the report from the Community Services Committee Youth Working Party by Cllr S Roper was received, reviewed and noted.
 - c) That the Council agrees to ask Free2Talk to provide 2 hour weekly youth sessions over the school summer holidays.

48/23. Local Area Partnership (LAPs) Update

- **RESOLVED:** That the item be brought forward to a future meeting of the Council.

49/23. Amend Standing Orders to Make "S106 / CIL" a standing item at both Full Council & Planning Committee

- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) That the amendment of the Standing Orders to make 'S106 / CIL' a standing item at both Full Council and Planning Committee was approved.
 - b) The Clerk to make the necessary changes to Standing Orders.

50/23. The use of Office 365

- **RESOLVED:** That the Clerk continues preliminary investigations and provides an update at the next ordinary meeting of the Full Council

51/23. PLR update

- Cllr Liddon supplied the Council with a written report and provided further context verbally. The four main speakers were Lori Hinde from the Complaints Department, Nick Adderley the Chief Constable, Liz Wilcox a Detective Chief Inspector and Mark Jones the

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Chief Fire Officer. Lori Hinde highlighted that the demand for the complaints service has increased by 30% year on year with roughly 60-70% of complaints resolved successfully. Nick Adderley noted that there is ongoing work to remove 'bad eggs' from the force and ensure that the 'bad eggs' don't slip in through the recruitment process. He also suggested that S106 monies dedicated to the force from new housing estates is not covering additional resources needed.

- **RESOLVED:** That the verbal and written report from the PLR (Cllr Liddon) was received and noted.

APPROVED

