



DUSTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Community Services Committee Minutes
Thursday 9th November 2023

Chair: Cllr S Maitland

Councillors Present: Ennis-Clark, Enright-King,

IN ATTENDANCE:

Gary Youens – Clerk

Ryan Ikavnieks – Assistant Clerk

Alison Grantham – Business and Community Development Officer

Jenny Evans – The Grow Together Allotment Coordinator

Cllr Craven

CSC33/23. To receive apologies for absence

- Apologies were received from Cllrs Golby and Roper.

CSC34/23. To receive and approve the minutes of the Community Services Committee on 30th August 2023

- **RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on the 30th of August were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

CSC35/23. 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.

CSC36/23.Public Participation Session

- There were no members of the public present.

CSC37/23. Community Service Committee Working Parties

- **RESOLVED:** That the reports from the working parties be deferred until the next ordinary meeting of the Community Services Committee.

CSC38/23. The Grow Together Allotment Report

- The Grow Together Allotment (TGTA) Coordinator gave a Autumn 2023 update presentation. The presentation refreshed Councillors on TGTA's core values, aims and objectives. 'What and who do we grow' was also explored as part of the presentation, highlighting two of our most frequent users, Better Lives and Affinity Daycare, make use of the space, what activities they engage with and how it provides unique enrichment to their users.

The Allotment has evolved over time to support more users, who may not want or cannot participate in the general activities, through providing alternative craft based activities. Furthermore, by increasing the number of 'no dig' beds they have decrease the overall hard maintenance of the plot. The green house has been taken fully advantage of this year, all plans have been grown from seed, reducing costs and also allowing for plants and seedlings to be given away at Community Events.

Additionally, £3000 has been secured via the Grow Cook Eat Project. Our TGTA coordinator has received training to be a Community Champion of the scheme, this means that users can use the allotment can learn where food comes from and how to grow it, learn valuable life skills by being introduced to simple and nutritious one pot meals.

The presentation also noted the TGTA's plans for 2024. The introduction of a polytunnel will provide more space that can shielded users from the elements as well as increasing the growing period. Goals to expand the Grow, Cook, Eat Project were set out, along with the aspiration to increase the amount of sheltered seating areas via a new pergola. The expansion of the allotment timetable to include pop up evens & open days has been identified in its plans for 2024.

The presentation thanked its volunteers for their continuous support of the allotment and that the coordinator is looking to expand their volunteer base.

- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) That the report on the recent activities of The Grow Together Allotment was received and noted.
 - b) That the Committee thanked The Grow Together Allotment Coordinator, Staff who are involved and the volunteers for all of the hard work that has been put into establishing, running and enhancing this wonderful community asset.

CSC39/23. Duston Resident setting up a Charity

- **RESOLVED:** That the presentation from the resident be deferred until the next ordinary meeting of the Community Services Committee.

CSC40/23. DPC Health & Wellbeing Strategy

- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) It was noted that full Council has agreed to do with a Health & Wellbeing Strategy.
 - b) This will be discussed further at a future meeting of the Community Services Committee.

CSC41/23. Limehurst Square Resurface

- It was discussed about whether to do a launch for the resurfacing of Limehurst Square. It was also suggested the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council could go and speak to the shops to see what they would like.

CSC42/23. Lamp post Hanging Baskets

- **RESOLVED:** That the purchasing of 8 lamp post hanging baskets was approved to be installed at the following locations:
 - a) Four Limehurst Square / Pendle Road area
 - b) Five around the shops at Weggs Farm Road
 - c) To be funded from CIL. No more than £1000 in total (excluding VAT)

CSC43/23. DPC Four Year Plan

- **RESOLVED:** That an extraordinary meeting of the Committee be called to discuss this item for the next Council meeting.

CSC44/23. Youth Provision

- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) That the Clerk sign the Service Level Agreement after consulting Cllr Roper and Cllr Maitland.
 - b) To discuss this again at the next ordinary meeting of the Committee.

CSC45/23. Successful Grant Application Report

- **RESOLVED:** That the report on successful grant applications (APPENDIX D) was received, discussed and noted.

CSC46/23. Local Dog Parks

- That item be deferred until the next ordinary meeting of the Community Services Committee.

CSC47/23. Parish Council Noticeboards

- **RESOLVED:** That item be deferred until the next ordinary meeting of the Community Services Committee.

