



**DUSTON PARISH COUNCIL**

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

**Community Services Committee**  
**Minutes 5<sup>th</sup> August 2024 7pm**

Chair: Cllr S Maitland

**Councillors Present:**  
Craven, Roper, Golby

**IN ATTENDANCE:**  
Gary Youens – Parish Clerk

**CSC09/24. To receive apologies for absence**

- Apologies were received from Cllrs Enright-King and Ennis-Clark.

**CSC10/24. To receive and approve the minutes of the Community Services Committee on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2024 (APPENDIX A)**

- **RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on the 29<sup>th</sup> May 2024 were approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chair.

**CSC11/24. To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda**

- No declarations of interest of interest were declared.

**CSC12/24. Public Participation Session**

- There were no members of the public present

**CSC13/24. Community Service Committee Working Parties**

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- There were no updates from the Working Parties.
- Cllr Sandie Maitland said the working parties have fulfilled their purpose and it is now time to bring them to an end and discuss these matters within the Committee.
- **RESOLVED:**
  - a) To disband the all working parties as stated on the agenda except the Grants Working Party.
  - b) The Grants Working Party will report back when required. The purpose of the Grants Working Party is to consider grant applications and report back to Committee or Council. All members of the Committee are invited to attend the Grants Working Party.

#### **CSC14/24. Free2Talk Report**

- **RESOLVED:**
  - a) The Free2Talk report was discussed and noted.
  - b) That the Free2Talk Report should be presented to Council.
  - c) That it is recommended to Council that the Free2Talk contract is renewed for an additional 12 months from November.
  - d) Cllr S Roper will contact Free2Talk to seek clarity about the unused half hours for outreach that accumulated over the winter. They would be used over the summer.
  - e) Cllr S Roper will also raise the possibility of the temporary skate ramp.

#### **CSC15/24. Newsletter**

- The Committee discussed the newsletter and despite the length of time it has taken to get out it has been worthwhile. Not everybody looks at DPC Facebook Page, Twitter and website.
- When it comes to delivery next time it should be clearer what our expectations are.
- The Committee discussed the possibility of sending the newsletter through the post but this would add significantly to the cost. It should be delivered by a local leaflet company which is cheaper.
- **RESOLVED:**
  - a) The Clerk to begin the next draft of the newsletter so it can be presented to a Council meeting in September or October.
  - b) It should be the same design and format as before called "Duston Together".
  - c) The Clerk to contact local leaflet delivery companies to get clarity on the timescale in which it can be delivered.

#### **CSC16/24. Northampton West Local Area Partnership**

- Cllr Golby gave an overview of the Local Area Partnership. LAPs cover all parts of West Northamptonshire. Cllr Golby gave a summary about LAPs.
  - Been going for 18 months
  - Good attendance at them
  - Both Duston PC and Upton PC are represented on the Northampton West LAP.
  - Police and St Lukes Surgery are on there.
  - Northampton West LAP had a community fun day at St Crispin Centre.
  - Northampton West LAP is engaging with The Duston School.
  - The Duston School has high expectations of its students with zero tolerance for vaping. Number of permanent exclusions is on the decrease.
  - LAPs help with social care coordination.
  - Looking to put a Family Hub somewhere in the LAP area.

#### **CSC17/24. Bleed Kit**

- The Clerk reported that a bleed kit has been donated by The Duston School following the fatal stabbing of a teenager in Kingsthorpe.
- **RESOLVED:** To place the bleed kit in the defibrillator box at St Lukes Centre, if possible.

#### **CSC18/24. Public Living Room**

- This is an initiative by a staff member. It will be at Duston Community Centre in a room which currently has no bookings. It will start in September.
- It will be a trial period for about 4 months or so.
- **RESOLVED:** To approve this initiative and see how it goes (APPENDIX C)

#### **CSC19/24. Security at Duston Fun Day**

- The Clerk reported at the Council meetings questions were raised about the security arrangements. The Clerk said the item has been placed on this agenda to find a way forward to ensure correct procedures are followed.
- Discussion centred whether the parking attendant was an event steward or security guard.
- **RESOLVED:** The issue is carefully looked at next year in the Event Planning process to ensure security industry standards are being adhered.

#### **CSC20/24. Grant Application Criteria**

- The Clerk reported that it is not best practice to pay public money into private individual bank accounts. The Clerk spoke to the Internal Auditor who advised against the Council putting taxpayer money into private accounts. How can the Council be sure the money was spent appropriately? The Clerk has also contacted NCALC Member Advisory Service who said the same.
- However, the Committee still thought “seeding funding” was useful and should still be pursued. It was felt NCALC should be asked again.
- **RESOLVED:**
  - a) The Clerk to approach NCALC again about the legalities of seed funding and whether this is something the Council could pursue if it wants.
  - b) Once an answer has been obtained to put this on a Council agenda for further discussion.

#### **CSC21/24. DPC Corporate Objectives**

- The Committee discussed the idea of a new Corporate Plan based on the Objectives.
- **RESOLVED:**
  - a) The Committee welcomed the Corporate Objectives approved by the Council.
  - b) The Clerk should produce a draft Corporate Plan for the Council and Committees to discuss.

#### **CSC22/24. DPC Health & Wellbeing Strategy**

- The Clerk and Cllr Golby briefed the Committee on how this is being taken forward.
- **RESOLVED:** It was noted what has been on the Health & Wellbeing Strategy since it was adopted by the Council.

*The meeting finished at 8:33pm*