



DUSTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Environment Committee Minutes
Thursday 19th September 2024 7pm

Chair: Cllr P Enright-King

Councillors Present:

Cllrs Craven, Dickenson, Ingram, Liddon

IN ATTENDANCE:

Gary Youens – Clerk

EC31/24. To receive apologies for absence

- Apologies were received from Cllr Ennis-Clarke.

EC32/24. To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 18th July 2024 (APPENDIX A)

- **RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 18th July 2024 were approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chair.

EC33/24. 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.

EC34/24. Public Participation Session

- There were no public speakers.

EC35/24. Timken Estate Responsibilities

- There is often confusion as to who is responsible for what on the Timken Estate. Broadly speaking Meadfleet looks after the public open space whilst the roads, majority of the footpaths and grass verges are responsibility of WNC Highways. FirstPort look after some communal areas belonging to certain properties.
- A resident has been in contact asking if Duston Parish Council can “adopt” the Timken Estate Public Open Space. Unless the land is put up for sale on the open market then there is no mechanism for the Parish Council to take it on.
- **RESOLVED:** To note the diagram / map which outlines who has responsibility for each area on Timken Estate (APPENDIX B).

EC36/24. Staggered Barriers on Timken Estate

- The Clerk has walked around the Timken Estate with a resident to look at the problem of illegal e-scooters and motorbikes on the Estate. People are coming to and from the Sixfields area and are using the Estate as a cut through.
- The Clerk did see illegal e-scooters on the Timken Estate whilst out with the resident.
- A few potential spots were identified where staggered barriers could go.
- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) The Clerk to get in touch with WNC Highways to see if there are prepared to have staggered barriers on their land.
 - b) The Clerk to report back to a future meeting once a response from Highways has been obtained.

EC37/24. Parking at Junction Signage

- The Clerk reported these signs have gained attention from residents within Duston. Some have gone missing and a couple have been vandalised.
- A view was expressed that they have raised awareness of an important issue within the community.
- The Clerk reported that some have challenged the wording.
- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) To purchase 10 more signs that can be moved around the parish.

- b) To keep the wording exactly the same. If anybody wants to complain they can write directly to the Parish Council.

EC38/24. Pavement Parking

- Pavement Parking it was argued has become a real problem in Duston particularly for mobility scooters, wheelchair users and prams.
- It was also said the pavement slabs are cracking and becoming uneven due to the weight of cars on them.
- Sometimes though parked cars help to slow speeding traffic down.
- It was suggested putting flyers on vehicles to draw attention to culprits who are causing obstruction. However, Duston Parish Council has no legal powers of enforcement on this issue and it has been reported to the Police numerous times.
- **RESOLVED:** The Clerk to raise this matter at the Police Surgery in Duston next week to see if any action can be taken.

EC39/24. Police Advice Surgery

- Cllr Liddon expressed a view that it was hard for working people to attend this Police Advice Surgery as it was in the middle of the day.
- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) Cllr Enright-King and the Clerk Gary Youens will attend the Police Surgery at Duston Library to highlight various issues such as drug dealing in the Limehurst Square / Pendle Road area and illegal e-scooters on Timken Estate.
 - b) The Police Officers present will be invited to attend future Committee and/or Council meetings.

EC40/24. Street Wardens

- A view was expressed Street Wardens should wear fluorescent jackets to make them visible to the public.
- **RESOLVED:**
 - a) The Committee welcomes and supports the Police Street Warden Scheme.
 - b) This scheme is brought to the attention of Full Council to note.

EC41/24. Litter Bin on Port Road

- Previously Harlestone Manor Parish Council has declined with request for a litter bin in this area.
- **RESOLVED:** To recommend to Full Council that a litter bin is installed on Port Road. The bin itself is funded by Community Infrastructure Levey (CIL).

EC42/24. Soakway on Mendip Park and Errington Park

- **RESOLVED:** To seek new quotes now that the previous contractor has ceased trading.

EC43/24. Clipston Way

- This was originally closed off a number of years ago by Northampton Borough Council due to persistent anti-social behaviour.
- Since the fence was installed the anti-social behaviour has stopped.
- **RESOLVED:** To keep the fence as there is no need to reopen that walk way. The residents of Clipston Way and Hopping Hill want to keep it closed off.

EC44/24. Park Signage

- **RESOLVED:** The wording about vehicles on DPC parks was approved (APPENDIX D).

The meeting finished at 8:29pm