

The Parish Council of Dickens Heath

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday March 14th 2023

Present:

Dickens Heath Parish Councillors; Richard Small (Chair), Mark Connolly-Dowson, Diane Potter, Nargis Rashid, Doreen Wright, Mike Small, Trevor Eames.

2 members of the public

Clerk: Ms H Raithby

Minute 170 (2022/23) Apologies for Absence

No apologies were made.

Minute 171 (2022/23) Public Participation

Planning

A resident asked about the outcome of the BL1 discussions and was reassured that Solihull Local Plan has been paused for the time being, which includes site BL1.

Flooding

A resident raised the issue of flooding on Old Dickens Heath Road and it was agreed that the Clerk will contact Severn Trent Water to see if anything can be done.

Minute 172 (2022/23) Declarations of Interest/Requests for Dispensations

None

Minute 173 (2022/23) Minutes of the meeting held on 16th February 2023

Proposed by Councillor Trevor Eames, seconded by Councillor Nargis Rashid, it was **Resolved** that the minutes be approved as a true and accurate record.

Minute 174 (2022/23) Parish Council Decisions

Increase in Insurance to Include Village Green Assets

Approved - All agreed.

RFO Contract

Approved - All agreed.

Minute 175 (2022/23) Tesco Car Park

Land Registry have had our TP1 transfer form in a pile with queries and haven't dealt with it. We have been advised to put £1 for the purchase even though it was free as it won't go through otherwise. This should be resolved soon.

Kirstie Forrester who is the original solicitor who dealt with the purchase has been contacted, we are awaiting reply.

Minute 176 (2022/23) Councillors Action Log

Copperfield Court Island

Borough Councillor, Richard Holt has not responded to our emails, Councillor Richard Small to chase this.

Brixfield Island

Should have a proper update for next meeting.

Centrik-Car Parking Scheme

Waiting for them to agree the terms – Councillor Richard Small is consistently chasing this.

Minute 177 (2022/23) To Consider Village Areas of Interest

Tree Preservation Order

The application has been sent in with photographs, we have received an acknowledgement. Thank you to Hannah and Helen for this.

Hanging Baskets and Solar Christmas Trees

With regards to permission to use SMBC lamp posts being rescinded, Councillor Eames suggests that we should go back to Solihull Council informally to say that we're in a three-year agreement and appeal to them.

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Signature.....

Date.....

Defibrillator and Bleed Kit

This has been costed up by Councillor Mike Small at around £1270+VAT with fitting costing around £250. £250 of this is going to be donated by the Scouts. Permission is to be sought to put the Defibrillator box on the wall outside the Village Hall. Hannah Raithby to email. Vote to fund the defibrillator – Councillors Mike Small, Di Potter, Nargis Rashid, Richard Small and Mark Connolly-Dowson agreed. Councillors Doreen Wright and Trevor Eames did not agree.

- Approved

Graffiti and Vandalism

One of the residents has cleaned the graffiti off the welcome signs. Do a 'thank you' to this resident on the Facebook page.

CIL monies

Can this be spent on building the new website? Hannah Raithby to clarify.

Minute 178 (2022/23) Communications and EventsElection

Councillor Connolly-Dowson has been sharing posters on social media platforms, they are examples from the WALC website. As the cut off for Purdah is the 22nd he will continue to advertise until then.

Newsletter

There will be one more before Purdah.

Minute 179 (2022/23) Parish Council Committee Updates

Terms of reference has been circulated for the Policy and Resources committee. Suggested delegated amount is £500 – all agreed to this.

Committee meetings can go ahead

Need to have a Staffing and Resources meeting before Purdah if possible. Councillors appointed to this are: Councillor Di Potter, Nargis Rashid, Trevor Eames and Doreen Wright. All agreed.

Minute 180 (2022/23) To Consider Planning Applications

6 Wrens Nest Close and 5 Collier gardens – all agreed to Councillor Eames' comments to be forwarded to Solihull Council.

No comments on other planning applications.

Minute 181 (2022/23) Financial Matters

Proposed by Councillor Nargis Rashid, seconded by Councillor Mark Connolly-Dowson,

Resolved that the payments in Appendix I of the March 14th 2023 agenda be approved – 12 payments totalling £6625.31.

Library rent All agreed to paying the lower amount of £10,962 for the year to March 31st 2023 on the library rent until an agreement is reached.

Future CIL funds to be allocated to the new website – this needs to be checked by the Clerk.

External Audit payment of £932.50 plus VAT invoice from PKF Littlejohn LLP agreed by all.

Minute 182 (2022/23) Thank You

Councillor Richard Small wanted to officially thank Helen for her service and dedication over the last 12 years, all agreed there should be a celebration of some kind.

Meeting ended 8.40pm

Next Meeting : Thursday April 20th 2023: 6.30pm in the Library