

DENMEAD PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Highways & General Purposes Committee Meeting Held on Wednesday 8th November 2023 at 7.30pm At the Old School

<u>Members:</u>	Cllr I Brown (Chairman)	(P)	Cllr M Clay	
	Cllr K Andreoli	(P)	Cllr B Gibbs	
	Cllr A Berry	(P)	Cllr P Langford-Smith	(P)
	Cllr A Boccini		Cllr K Scholey	(P)
	Cllr C Caine		Cllr D Stallard	
			Cllr G West (Vice-Chairman)	

Also present: Jo Hollingshead (Committee Clerk)

049/24H Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Boccini, Caine, and West.

050/24H Declarations of Interest

Cllr Scholey declared a personal interest at Minute Ref 060/24H (3.1) and took no part in discussions.

051/24H Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 27th September 2023 were submitted for approval. **It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting be accepted as an accurate record and were duly signed by the Chairman at the meeting.**

052/24H Highways & General Purposes Committee Project Report

The project report was received from the Committee Clerk.

053/24H Public Participation (S.0.3 e)

There was no requirement for a public participation session.

054/24H Denmead Involvement with District Policing Team

Minute Ref 043/24H (10.2) – Hampshire Highways have advised that they will not permit larger Autospeedwatch warning signs to be placed on or next to the 30mph speed signs. **It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to include an article in the next edition of the Denmead Scene to make residents aware that there is a device in the village.**

**Action:
CC2**

055/24H Entrance to Village Sign

Newlands Parish now have 3 new signs at the entrances to their parish and it has been agreed to keep the existing Denmead Parish Council logo. After discussion, **it was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED not to pursue this idea.**

**Action:
CC2**

056/24H Bins

The following points were discussed:

1. There is a change in contractor for the dog waste bins collection to prevent a break in service at a cost saving of approximately £5k per year. It was noted that the bin locations are to be added to Parish Online, and that Norse had given very short notice to cancel the previous contract. **It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to accept the change in contractor.**
2. The costs have been updated for the Pavilion bins collection at a cost saving of approximately £1k per year. The Committee Clerk was asked to investigate a possible refund, and **it was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to remain with the Pavilion bins contract.** **Action: CC2**
3. There is a disparity in bin services around the village. It was noted that the Parish Council would like to replace all dog bins with dual-purpose bins. **It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that councillors will check all bin locations in the village and make a priority list for replacements.** **Action: Members**

057/24H Budget 2024-2025

The following points were discussed:

1. The budget allocation for final post refurbishment is £9,308.03; however, all 16 posts are in good order. The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) has suggested that Council might be minded to authorise her to undertake a virement to reduce the precept and consequently council tax for residents. It was noted that the Forest Gate final post is missing. After discussion, **it was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to obtain a quote for a new post (similar to the Pipers Hill post) with a budget of £3,000 and to authorise the RFO to undertake a virement for the remaining funds.** **Action: CC2**
2. Denmead in Bloom (DiB) have requested that the Parish Council take over the maintenance of three flowerbeds (village green, Ashling Park Road corner and entranceway to the village), and the planters. The RFO has advised that funding of £2k can be taken from the grant normally awarded to DiB (Sage Code 8751) and funding of £2.5k can be taken from General Planting (Sage Code 6089). After discussion, **it was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to take on the three flowerbeds, and for Cllr Langford-Smith to continue to plant up the 6 green planters in the village and the 2 round planters at Heath Field.**
3. The Christmas tree lights for the village green flagpole are damaged beyond repair. The RFO has advised that funding is available (Sage Code 3011 and 7130). **It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to purchase a new set of flagpole tree lights at an approximate cost of £612.** **Action: CC2**
4. The new cost of £1,026 in total was received in respect of the village Christmas trees project. The RFO has advised that funding is available (Sage Code 7130). **It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to accept the stated cost.**
5. Members considered exchanging the current dog bins for dual-purpose bins in the next financial year. The RFO has advised that funding of £2,770.40 is available (Sage Code 3011) as per the previous resolution to purchase two bins per financial year. It was noted that single Glasdon bins are required in the village and Broxap fire-resistant bins for the parks. After discussion, **it was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to purchase as many dual-purpose bins as possible within the existing budget, and to set aside £1,000 in the budget for the next financial year.** **Action: CC2**

058/24H Road Repairs

Members discussed the criteria for road repairs in reference to the poor state of Denmead roads and the recent extensive repairs in Southwick. **It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Committee Clerk will write to Hampshire Highways to establish the criteria for resurfacing Denmead roads.**

**Action:
CC2**

059/24H Sponsorship of Flowerbeds

The following points were discussed:

1. A sponsor has requested to sponsor a roundabout for the next 5 years at the current price of £385 per year. After discussion, **it was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to continue the sponsorship scheme on an annual basis.**
2. Another sponsor is keen to sponsor an additional site as he has been very impressed with how his roundabout has been looked after. It was noted that there are no further sites available for sponsorship. **It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to thank the sponsor and to create a waiting list.**

**Action:
CC2**

**Action:
CC2**

060/24H Burial Ground

The following items were discussed:

1. The list of applications since the last committee meeting was **noted.**
2. It was agreed to defer this item to a later meeting.
3. Members considered the following points:
 - 3.1 To contract Benlee Construction Ltd to dig double-depth plots at a cost of £1800 per plot. Cllr Scholey declared a personal interest in this item and abstained from discussion and voting. **All other Members RESOLVED to accept the cost.**
 - 3.2 To continue to contract C&P Curran Ltd to dig single-depth plots at an increased cost of £800 and cremation plots at a cost of £120. **It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to accept the costs.**
 - 3.3 To pass on the above gravedigging costs in full when a booking is received. **It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to pass on costs in full.**
4. Members considered amendments regarding the availability of plots, sizes of images on memorials, and payment of fees. It was agreed to look at over-size coffins and plots when the issue arises. After further discussion, **it was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to accept all amendments.**
5. Members considered amendments regarding increased costs for the digging of all plots. **It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to accept all amendments.**

**Action:
CC2**

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**Action:
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The meeting closed at 8.23pm

The next scheduled meeting of the Highways & General Purposes Committee will take place at the Old School at 7.30pm on Wednesday 20th December 2023

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Please note minutes of meetings are published in draft form as soon as possible on the website to help residents. However, they do not become the formal record of the meeting until agreed or otherwise at the next meeting. Therefore, you should always check to see whether any amendments have been made.