**MINUTES OF THE MEETING of DUNFORD PARISH COUNCIL**

**held on THURSDAY 19th January 2023**

**at 6.30 p.m AT THE PARISH COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**PRESENT**: Councillors Pestell (Chair), Armitage (Vice-Chair), Smith and Whitehead together with 8 members of the public. Mrs E Barnard (Clerk) was present to take the minutes. Apologies were received from Councillor Singleton.

1. **Minutes of the meeting held on 17th November 2022**.

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record.

1. **Matters arising**

Following a discussion about the location of a defibrillator and the difficulties around a specific location, it was agreed that a defibrillator should be installed at the community centre, especially as it is now being used much more. Funding will be applied for to enable the installation of additional defibrillators at two other locations within the parish area.

Grant funding will be applied for to replace two bus shelters in the area. To enable this, grid references for locations and size of bases will be needed. Councillor Smith agreed to provide this.

1. **Dunford Residents Association**

Councillor Smith provided an update on recent activity. There are lots of plans in the pipeline, including refurbishment of the kitchen. Councillor Whitehead confirmed that she had responded to an email enquiry about grant funding for this project. An offer for grant funding should be received within 24 hours. It was highlighted that various items of paperwork relating to Dunford Parish Community Association had been removed by Barnsley Council.

1. **Playground inspection report** – nothing to report.
2. **Finance**

Councillors were provided with copies of recent expenditure and the amount of funding remaining in the bank account. Caution was expressed with regard to financial commitments, as a recent gas delivery amounted to almost £1700, which represents an increase of around £500 more than usual.

*Bank signatories*

The Cooperative Bank had recently returned a cheque for payment for the new boiler due to a signature mismatch. In order to resolve this, Councillors Pestell, Armitage and Smith, together with Mrs Barnard (Clerk) were asked to sign a change of signatories form to ensure that they are authorised signatories on the account, and to remove anyone else who was still listed as a signatory. The forms, along with an explanatory letter, were signed at the meeting and will be forwarded on by the Clerk to avoid this problem in the future.

*Precept for 2023/24*

It was agreed that although an increase in funding would be useful for the parish council, it was not appropriate to ask for an increase in the current cost of living increase climate.

1. **Planning Applications**

There were no objections to recent planning applications received, although disappointment was expressed at recent decisions.

1. **Any other business**

*Coronation of King Charles* - It was felt that there should be some celebration of the coronation of King Charles in the community. Costs of either a commemorative crown or mug for the children in the area are prohibitive. Councillor Smith agreed to speak to Diane and Marina Wood about a suitable celebration and way to mark.

*Streetlights -* The streetlights from Foxholes Grove/Middlecliffe Drive back to the old post office on Whams Road (including Sledbrook Crescent) are out of order and have been for some time. It was highlighted that work is being carried out on the electricity at the moment. The Clerk agreed to report this.

*Crowedge village sign -* Enquiries have been made to BMBC regarding a sign for Crowedge village. Once a response is received this will be shared. It was felt that it would be nice to have village signs for Carlecotes and Dunford Bridge too.

*Parish Council Elections* - These are to take place on Thursday 4th May 2023. Retirement date for current Councillors is 8th May 2023. Application forms for those wishing to apply to be local councillors will be available from early March and will have to be hand delivered to Barnsley Town Hall between 27th March and 4th April (4 p.m. deadline). Application packs can be obtained from the Elections Service at BMBC. Telephone number for enquiries is 01226 772343. After the deadline the Clerk will be notified of the nominees received and whether there will be an election.

*Bus shelters* – Michael Taylor kindly agreed to look at the bus shelters which need refurbishment/replacement and report back. If they need replacements, the size of exiting bases will need to be measured so that new shelters can be placed on the existing bases.

*Phone box at Carlecotes -* Neil Whitehead provided a list of supplies for refurbishment of the phone box, which has been funded by the Parish Council. It is envisaged that this could be a good community project later in the year. Unfortunately Neil was not at the meeting so was unable to provide an update. The list of supplies will be sent on to Councillors.

1. **Date and time of next meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 16th March 2023 at 6.30 p.m. at the Parish Community Centre and will be the Annual Assembly. The first meeting of the new Parish Council (and Annual General Meeting) will be on Thursday 18th May 2023, which is the third Thursday following the elections.