



**DURRINGTON TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>  
September 2023 at 7 p.m. in the Robinson Room, Village Hall, Durrington,  
SP4 8AD.**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Cllr G Wright Cllr S Paines Cllr D Healing Cllr S Rennie Cllr P Galan-Bamfield Cllr P Paul Cllr S Smith Cllr C Butler Cllr M Wardell Cllr S Botham</b>  <b>Jo Tudor</b>	<b>Chairman Vice Chairman</b>        <b>Clerk</b>
<b>Public Question time</b>	<p>Prior to the meeting Cllr Healing provided members of the council with training on planning issues.</p> <p>There were three members of the public present. They wanted to speak about the triangular patch of grass at the end of Kingfisher Drive. It was suggested that this grass should be maintained as a wildflower meadow and when it had been believed to belong to Wiltshire Council, the council had no say over what happened to the land, however it subsequently transpired this land belongs to the council and the residents attending wished to speak for and against having a wildflower meadow on this plot of land. All three residents explained their positions and the council agreed to debate the item as the first matter of business.</p>	
<b>Report from Unitary Councillor</b>	<p>Wiltshire Councillor Graham Wright advised the council that he was going to run two meetings in the Pavilion on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> October to consider the housing total given to Durrington by Wiltshire Council contained in the new Local Plan. He said the figures for the proposed housing are based on the previously built Avon Fields estate and as such looked to be unobtainable. He invited the councillors to attend the meetings if they were</p>	

	interested in reducing the housing allotment for Durrington.	
<b>Minute No.</b>	<b>Minute</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>59/23</b>	<b>ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES</b> – apologies were received from Cllrs Silk and Stafford and were accepted.	
<b>60/23</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> – There were no declarations of interest.	
<b>61/23</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b> – The council approved the minutes of the meeting on the 25 <sup>th</sup> of July 2023.	Clerk to put on website.
<b>66/23 d</b>	<p><b>PROPOSAL –</b></p> <p>The Chairman proposed to move item 66/23d to the start of the meeting. This was agreed by the council. The issue of the land at the end of Kingfisher Drive was then debated. Given that the land belongs to the council it was felt that allowing residents to cut and look after plots of land posed many issues including one of public liability. There are many places locally which have wildflowers including the river park and Salisbury Plain. The council <b>RESOLVED</b> not to agree to wildflower plans for this plot of land and will look at taking the land into the current grounds’ maintenance contract.</p>	Clerk to arrange grounds maintenance
<b>62/23</b>	<b>CHAIRMAN'S REPORT</b> – the chairman advised he had been busy over the summer months but was now ready to get back to council business, and to arrange moving the planters along Bulford Road back to their original positions. The entrance to the Recreation Ground at the Fishing gate needs some attention possibly scalping’s to stop the dip from getting deeper.	
<b>63/23</b>	<p><b>REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS –</b></p> <p>Cllr Wardell Reported rubbish being left in the undergrowth at Avon Fields.</p> <p>Cllr Rennie confirmed there was part of a tree down at the cemetery, it has been taped off and should be out of the way from visitors and not an immediate issue. There is a big Youth event on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October at the Recreation Ground.</p>	<p>Council staff to investigate.</p> <p>Clerk to arrange tree removal.</p>

	<p>Cllr Paines reported that the feedback from Hall users about the Hall floor was very complimentary, because the floor looks so much better after being sanded and sealed in the summer.</p> <p>Cllrs Rennie and Wright advised the Allotments are not all in good order and an Allotment meeting on site should be held on site in October.</p> <p>Speedwatch will have a handover meeting and Cllr Wright will take on recruitment.</p> <p>Cllr Wardell reported that during the period between July 2020 and August 2023 Speedwatch in Durrington undertook 77 watches and from these 1029 first letters were written to speeding motorists, 48 second letters, 10 excessive speed letters and 83 tractors were also caught acceding the speed limit. Overall, 1170 letters were written.</p>	Clerk to organise.
<b>64/23</b>	<p><b>REPORT FROM THE CLERK –</b></p> <p>The Clerk advised that the Asbestos surveys were carried out last month, she had attended two training sessions last month and will be ordering a VAT guide for local councils. The tennis courts are being cleaned next week and the Circus is coming to the Recreation Ground next week. A five aside football pitch will be marked out next to the usual pitch to see if any children use it. The orange fence at the riverbank has now been removed after more than 18 months it is hoped the bank is now stable and the undergrowth is now established.</p>	
<b>65/23</b>	<p><b>ACCOUNTS -</b></p> <p>The Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the bank reconciliation and cheques and debits for July and August 2023</p>	
<b>66/23</b>	<p><b>PROPOSALS –</b></p> <p>The Council <b>RESOLVED to approve</b> the following: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. To progress the Solar panel project for the Village Hall and the Pavilion.</li> <li>b. To obtain a structural survey for both buildings.</li> <li>c. To Acknowledge the Asbestos Surveys and management plans for the Village Hall and Pavilion.</li> <li>d. (See resolution 66/23 d above)</li> </ol>	<p>Clerk to research and provide a specification for the work involved.</p> <p>Clerk to arrange surveys.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e. To approve the appointment of Auditing Solutions Limited as the Council's internal auditors for 2023/24.</li> <li>f. To note the response from the External Auditor following the completion of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2022/23 that no matters came to their attention.</li> <li>g. To note the receipt of CIL in the sum of £3028.22.</li> <li>h. To approve the purchase of wreaths and poppies from the Royal British Legion for £300 using the power from S137 of the Local Government Act 1972, and top agree a budget of £450 from general reserves for the purchase of two unknown soldiers and tommy lamp post signs from the Royal British Legion.</li> <li>i. To note the interest of £1700.09 from the Redwood Bank one year investment bond.</li> <li>j. To note the new Deposit Account and interest received.</li> <li>k. To approve no ad hoc bookings be taken from the Village Hall or the Pavilion from the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December 2023 until the 2<sup>nd</sup> of January 2024.</li> <li>l. To defer the building hire charges to the Finance Committee for consideration at the next meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October 2023.</li> </ul>	<p>Clerk to transfer to ear marked reserves. Clerk to arrange purchase.</p>
<p><b>67/23</b></p>	<p><b>PLANNING -</b></p> <p>There were no planning items to discuss.</p>	
<p><b>68/23</b></p>	<p><b>DISCUSSION –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The discussion on the new SIDs was deferred until Cllr Silks return.</li> <li>b. Setting the Agenda was discussed, and it was observed that anyone delivering a talk to the council should have a time limit on the talk and this should be adhered to.</li> <li>c. The discussion on keys and security was deferred to the next meeting.</li> <li>d. The Skatepark, its current condition and planning how to proceed with the project were discussed. Cllr Smith will approach the schools for the local children's involvement, the clerk will look at obtaining proposals and costings for the council to consider.</li> <li>e. The councillors were reminded to consider what projects they want to pursue next years, and the costs involved.</li> </ul>	<p>Cllr Smith to contact the junior school.</p> <p>Councillors to consider the future vision for Durrington.</p>

	<p>f. The Health and Safety of the electricity used by Hirers of the Recreation round was discussed and the council was advised that a hirer had not covered a cable running from the Pavilion which caused a risk, and this should be avoided with all future hirings.</p> <p>g. Millenium Park development and planning was discussed, and the council are looking into what form an agreement with the owners can take and how it can be worded.</p> <p>h. The Library site was deferred until the next meeting.</p> <p>i. Any service at the war memorial for remembrance is not a council run event and the Clerk will ask the church for its health and safety arrangements. The schools have been invited to place crosses at the cemetery on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November and as this is a council event the clerk will prepare a risk assessment prior to the visit.</p> <p>j. The proposed shed for the village Hall is not progressing at this time.</p> <p>k. The request for a new bench at the cemetery was agreed subject to the usual caveats, that the council choose the bench and that it will become a council asset upon placement at the cemetery and is available for all cemetery users to sit on.</p> <p>l. Fargo Road play park was discussed, and it was decided to put this on the Agenda next month with a view to a resolution over the future of the playpark and whether it should be decommissioned.</p> <p>m. Discussion about office 365 was deferred.</p> <p>n. A community litter pick was discussed, and the consensus was for this to be arranged and publicised for next month.</p> <p>o. The 20mph zone discussion was deferred until the next meeting.</p>	<p>Facilities supervisor to assess and advise hirers of any and all issues.</p> <p>Clerk to seek advice.</p> <p>Clerk to liaise with the church and undertake cemetery risk assessment.</p> <p>Clerk to arrange.</p> <p>Clerk to prepare leaflet for the residents of Fargo Road.</p> <p>Clerk to arrange.</p>
<b>69/23</b>	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE</b> The Clerk reported a grass cutting complaint, and a cemetery complaint had been received.</p>	Clerk had responded to both.
<b>70/23</b>	There was no confidential business to discuss.	
<b>71/23</b>	<b>THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023</b>	

**CHAIRMAN** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATED.** \_\_\_\_\_