

DAMERHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Monday 21st November 2022 in Damerham Village Hall

Councillors present: David Crane (Chairman), Glyn Ruth, Cathy Godber, Ann Bellows, Phil Tandy, Pete Doherty and Phil Stephens.

Public Participation: A resident asked if the war memorial could be cleaned before the next Remembrance Day.

1.22/23.60: Apologies and Declaration of Quorum

Apologies received: Apologies received from Cllr Anderson, Mandy Wilkinson (Clerk)

The chairman declared a quorum

2.22/23.61: Declaration of Interests – Cllr Bellows declared an interest on planning applications

3.22/23.62: To approve and sign the minutes of Parish Council Meeting 26th September 2022: It was proposed, seconded and resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 26th September 2022 to be signed and dated by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

Approved unanimously.

4.22/23.63: To receive Officer reports

4.1 – Parish Footpaths Officer – Footpath officer reported that Footpath 1 has been blocked by an obstruction which has now been cleared by the landowner.

5. 22/23.64: To Consider Planning Applications

5.1 To receive and comment on applications received: No new planning applications to consider.

5.2 To review decisions received from the NFDC Planning Authority:

NFDC 22/10720 – Land at Woodpecker Wood, Court Hill, Damerham, SP6 3HL

Description: Conversion of the existing building to form a single residential dwelling, associated access, parking and landscaping.

Decision: Withdrawn by applicant

5.3 Other Planning Matters:

NFDC 22/10968 - Manor Farm Cottage, Cornpits Lane, Damerham, SP6 3HT

Description: Stand-alone solar array in curtilage for microgeneration.

Decision: Still pending

6.22/23.65: Matters arising from previous minutes not appearing as agenda items:

6.1 Telephone Box: Discussions relating to the cost of power for the phone box are ongoing. Cllr Tandy indicated that he had been quoted £500 per year for power plus a one off £200 switch over fee. Cllr Doherty is in discussion with NFDC (Folio) regarding Arts Council funding and is hopeful the power costs can be reduced; this will be conditional on some community involvement. The form of involvement will need to be discussed and agreed. A Grant covering the cost of refurbishment of the phone box has been received. Cllr Tandy to progress with the contractor

6.2 Swift Boxes: Cllr Heron has given Damerham Parish Council a grant to fund three Swift Boxes to be sited on the Sports field pavilion. Further possible sites are Manor Farm House and the School. Cllr Bellows is also in discussions with the Housing Association regarding boxes

7.22/23.66: Parish Council Matters:

7.1 – Budget and Precept: Budget 2023-24 Following discussion at the Parish Council meeting the members of the council proposed, seconded and resolved to adopt the budget (7). The following motion was then proposed Damerham Parish Council should increase the precept requested by £307 to £10541 to meet future expenditure. This motion was proposed, seconded and Resolved (7).

7.2 – Standing Orders – After review of the Standing Orders, it was agreed by the members of Parish Council to accept them as presented.

7.3 – Community right to bid – It was agreed that The Compasses Inn was a village asset and should Stonegate decide to put the businesses up for sale that the Parish Council would like the opportunity for the right to bid. Cllr Tandy will complete the necessary forms that would give the Parish Council the “Community Right to Bid”.

7.4 – Parish Clerk – The Parish Clerk has informed the council that she intends to resign on the 1st December 2022 giving three months’ notice. Local Parish Clerks have been contacted to see if they are interested in the role of Damerham Parish Clerk. If none are then the position will be advertised.

7.5 War Memorial: A quote of £1500 has been received to steam clean the war memorial, however following a discussion at the meeting it was decided there is no budget for this sum. Therefore, a working party will be organised and potentially hiring a steam cleaner. This proposed, seconded and resolved (7).

7.6 Dark Skies: A draft policy statement has been published in the Parish Pump and placed on the village notice board. Cllr Bellows is attending a Dark Skies Custodian training course.

7.7 Damerham Parish Council YouTube: Cllr Doherty has set up a Damerham Parish Council YouTube account and uploaded some historic Damerham videos.

8.22/23.67 Finance - To review current balances and financial position:

8.1 Treasurers account £10,721.72 – Business Bank account £8952.03

8.2 Expenditure – Bank transfers approved (7)

9. 22/23.68: Community Matters:

9.1 West Park Meadow: The gate at the north end of the park is rotten and need repairing. Cllr Crane to organise.

9.2 Speed Watch: Martin Parish Council have requested use of the speed watch equipment but do not currently own a share in the equipment. They will discuss at their next Parish meeting

9.3 Road Signs: The road name sign to the entrance of Cornpits Lane has been replaced. A discussion took place as to whether to pursue a road name sign for Lower Daggons Lane but it was decided not to pursue this course of action.

10. 22/23.69: Environmental Matters:

10.1 Lengthsman: The Lengthsman’s next visit to the village will be the 13th January 2023.

Villagers are reminded that suggestions of tasks can be forwarded to clerk at clerk@damerham.net

11. 22/23.70: Correspondence: All correspondence has been forwarded to Councillors prior to meeting by the Clerk.

12.22/23.71: To receive Reports from members who have attended meeting from outside bodies:
No attended meetings.

13.22/23.72: Date of next meeting:

Monday 16th January 2023 at 7.30pm at Damerham Village Hall.

Monday 19th December 2022 (if needed for planning applications)

These are draft minutes until approved at the next meeting

Mandy Wilkinson – Damerham Parish Council Clerk

clerk@damerham.net Meeting closed at 9.15pm