

Minutes of Dingley Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 5th March 2025

in the Village Hall, Dingley at 7.00 pm.

Members of the Parish Council Present	Cllr B Jones (Chair) Cllr S Dudson Cllr L Jones
Others in Attendance	Mrs Justina Medwell (Clerk) NNC Cllr D Howes Two members of the public

		Action
1497	<p>To receive and approve apologies:</p> <p>Cllr E Lomer-Wood - approved J Ingham (Village Hall) and PC M Ryan</p>	
1498	<p>Member's declaration of interest in items on the agenda and any changes to the Members Register of Interests:</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest in items on this agenda. There were no changes to the Register of Member's Interests.</p>	
1499	<p>To approve and sign the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting:</p> <p>The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8th January 2025 were agreed as a true record of these meetings and were duly signed by the Chair. Proposed Cllr Dudson Seconded Cllr L Jones</p>	
1500	<p>Matters Arising from the last Parish Council meeting:</p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p>	
1501	<p>Open Forum and Representations from members of the public – Members of the public and press are invited to address the Council:</p> <p>The Council was asked about its position on Friends of Dingley Park (FODP) in relation to the biodiversity net gain (BNG) application submitted by the land agent and whether it would consider objecting to this. Concerns were raised that wilding the area was inappropriate for such a fine country house park and would impact the Grade 1 listed hall.</p> <p>Councillor Dudson informed that access through the scheme has been suspended by the land agent while this application is in progress. It was suggested that a potential compromise could involve NNC, as part of the BNG, include access for members of Friends of Dingley Park as a condition of the agreement.</p> <p>The Parish Council discussed the administration of the FODP scheme. It was decided that this matter would be revisited once the future access arrangements to the park were determined.</p> <p>(Meeting closed to the public)</p>	
1502	<p>Planning:</p> <p>There were no planning applications to consider.</p>	

		Action
1503	<p>(i) Safety Review of Parish Assets:</p> <p>It was noted that all assets including the defibrillator were in order.</p>	
	<p>(ii) Local Government Update:</p> <p>NNC Cllr Howes referred to the upcoming elections and the ward initiative funding. The Council will submit an application to the NNC Empowerment Fund requesting a contribution towards the fencing of the Phase 1 of the proposed missing link safe cycle / foot path.</p>	
	<p>(iii) Review of Risk Assessment:</p> <p>The Risk Assessment was circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting. This was approved with no changes.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr L Jones Seconded Cllr Dudson All in favour</p>	
	<p>(iv) May 1st Parish Council Elections:</p> <p>The Council referred to the upcoming elections. Nomination papers for those wishing to stand have been circulated and must be submitted in person to the Returning Officer at Municipal Offices, Bowling Green Road, Kettering, NN15 7QX by 4pm on April 2, 2025.</p>	
	<p>(v) Neighbourhood Plan:</p> <p>The Council deliberated on the potential formation of a neighbourhood plan, considering both the benefits for Dingley and the necessary workload, as well as any possible changes to government legislation regarding housing growth. It also discussed gauging the support of residents and determining if there is interest within the village to participate in this initiative. It was suggested that this topic might be raised at the Annual Village Meeting.</p>	
	<p>(vi) Annual Village Meeting:</p> <p>The Council provisionally set the date for 9th May and will coordinate with the village hall committee.</p>	
1504	<p>(v) MP Visit:</p> <p>It was noted that Rosie Wrighting, the newly elected Member of Parliament, will be visiting the village on Friday, 7th March, from 6 to 7 pm, prior to the pub evening. The visit will feature an introduction followed by a question-and-answer session concentrating on local issues.</p>	
	<p>Parish Highways and Rights of Way:</p> <p>Highways Update</p> <p>The Council observed that NNC had undertaken repairs on some of the potholes on Braybrooke Road; however, it appears that the fundamental issues related to flooding and road collapse have yet to be resolved.</p> <p>The Council raised concerns regarding the functionality of the vehicle-activated speed signs within the village. It will inspect these signs and report to Highways if necessary.</p> <p>Proposed Cycleway:</p> <p>Councillor Dudson provided an update on the current status of the project. After a recent meeting, it was concluded that a link footpath is necessary, joining the existing pavement in the village with the previously proposed route and that this should be prioritized as phase one. Several potential routes for this link have been identified.</p> <p>Cllrs L Jones and S Dusdon will obtain quotations for each of the proposed route options and secure the required permissions from the relevant landowners.</p>	SD/LJ

		Action																		
1505	<p>Financial Matters: (i) Payments There were no payments to approve.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Payee</th> <th>Details</th> <th>Amount</th> <th>VAT element</th> <th>Legal Authority</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Skinner Construction</td> <td>Groundworks for Cycle Path</td> <td>£16,440.00</td> <td>£2,740.00</td> <td>Highways Act 1980 ss 43 and 50</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(ii) Financial Statement and Bank Reconciliation</p> <table> <tbody> <tr> <td>Current Account</td> <td>£3,224.84</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Savings Account</td> <td>£2,405.95</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ringfenced – Cycle Path</td> <td>£2,934.81</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Balance of Reserves</td> <td>£2,695.98</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>All matters pertaining to finance are displayed on the website on dingley-pc.gov.uk</p>	Payee	Details	Amount	VAT element	Legal Authority	Skinner Construction	Groundworks for Cycle Path	£16,440.00	£2,740.00	Highways Act 1980 ss 43 and 50	Current Account	£3,224.84	Savings Account	£2,405.95	Ringfenced – Cycle Path	£2,934.81	Total Balance of Reserves	£2,695.98	
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1506	<p>Exchange of Information, Crime Report and Village Hall: Following report from Village Hall was received ahead of the meeting. “Upcoming events include an open mike night on the 7th March and an auction of promises on 4th April. Donations for the auction welcome. There are plans for a village summer ball in early July. This is not being organised by the Village Hall as it is being run for charity. There is an open invitation to NNC Councillors to attend” The date of the litter pick has been arranged for 22nd March</p>																			
1507	<p>Correspondence: There was no further correspondence to discuss.</p>																			
1508	<p>New items for inclusion on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting: Annual Parish Council Meeting End of Year Accounts</p>																			
1509	<p>Date of next meeting: Wednesday 7th May 2025 The Meeting Closed at 8.49 pm.</p>																			

Signed (Chair)

Dated