

## **DURLEY PARISH COUNCIL MARCH MEETING REPORT**

Durley Parish Council held their Monthly Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 14th March, 2023 in the Ken Stainer Suite at Durley Memorial Hall.

Cllr Delmege (Chairman) chaired the Meeting. Also in attendance were Cllr Watts, Cllr Ellen, Cllr Rappini, Cllr Childs, Cllr Rutherford along with the Clerk (Mrs Anne Collins). Apologies were received from County Councillor Humby, District Councillor Mclean, District Councillor Miller, District Councillor Kurn and Cllr Pitter. Mike Miller the new Editor of the Parish Magazine was welcomed to the Meeting to introduce himself to Parish Councillors. One resident was also in attendance.

A Grant has been applied for to put 2 circular seats around the memorial trees on the Sawmills Green. Once the Grant is approved an order will be placed.

The Coronation is going to be celebrated in Durley with a Church Service in Durley Memorial Hall with tea/cake served after the service on Sunday 7th May. Residents who do not wish to attend the Church Service are welcome to come along for refreshments after the Service. More details will be published nearer the time.

A Public Meeting was held with Southern Water representatives on 22nd February. Around 60 residents attended and it was a positive Meeting. Many residents were able to ask questions to the representatives and these were taken back to SW. The fire hydrant which had been leaking in Parsonage Lane has now been repaired. However, since the Meeting there have been further issues and another suspected burst pipe. Larger tankers are being reported going to and from the Pumping Station again. The Clerk has written to SW again about these concerns and have asked for a follow-up Meeting with SW at the end of April. If this can be arranged then Notices of the Meeting will be put up on the village noticeboards and Parish Council website.

The Clerk has received more complaints about the loss of the bus services through Durley. HCC are still negotiating what funding is available and we have received no further communication to date. A suggestion is going to the next Southern Parishes Meeting that local Parish Councils pull together to make suggestions for a better bus service through our rural villages. The next Meeting is on 20th March and the Chairman and Clerk will be attending so it is hoped that this suggestion will be accepted by other Parish Councils at the Meeting.

The water leak along Wintershill has now been repaired by Portsmouth Water.

A written Report was sent by CC Humby. CC Humby was thanked for attending the Public Meeting with Southern Water representatives as his input was helpful during the Meeting.

Mike Miller introduced himself to Parish Councillors as he is now the Editor of the Parish Magazine. Some discussion took place about the delivery service – which is good and how it could be used to distribute leaflets etc. to every household in Durley. Costings were discussed as it would be good to be able to deliver to every property.

Clerk reminded Councillors that this year we have the WCC District Councillor Elections and the Durley Parish Councillor Elections. A Notice of Election will be put up on the village noticeboards and the Parish Council website once they are received from WCC. The Election will take place on Thursday 4th May, 2023. Voter ID will be required this year.

A resident attended the Meeting to discuss village services e.g. gas, water, electricity etc. as they are inadequate and he feels that Durley is being left behind. He explained that the water pressure is low, the road repairs are in a poor state, the lines to the gas services are near to the end of their lives and the electricity transformers are not big enough to cope. Councillors sympathised with his case, but this is a far larger project than a Parish Council would be able to resolve. It was agreed that the Clerk would ask CC Humby for any advice. As Durley residents do not want development and it would be developers who would pay for this additional infrastructure it would be a difficult balance.

Cllr Rutherford said that some properties did not have a name sign which could be easily seen from the road. Emergency services and delivery drivers have problems if they cannot see the names of houses when trying to reach them. Residents should make sure that they are able to be found – especially in an emergency situation.

Cllr Watts gave a Neighbourhood Watch Report and reported that there been 3 incidents over this month.

Cllr Watts said that everything was fine at Durley Recreation Ground and there were no issues to report.

Cllr Delmege confirmed that the School has been informed that there is no longer any parking available at Quob Stables. Councillors were disappointed at this as the money used for the School Crossing could have been used for another project within the village. Councillors agreed that it is now even more important to get the Hall car park upgraded and marked out to provide more parking spaces.

A Financial Report for March, 2023 was given by the Clerk.

Cllr Ellen gave a Hall Report. He said that the Committee were disappointed that our Hall Caretaker – Donna has resigned due to personal reasons. Donna has been with the Hall for many years and will be greatly missed. The Clerk has advertised for a new Caretaker – if anyone is interested then please do e-mail the clerk on [durleyparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:durleyparishcouncil@gmail.com) to find out more details, or telephone 01489 860236. Progression has been made on the Grant Applications for the Hall car park improvements and the Ceiling/LED lighting/insulation. There was damage caused to a light during a booking at the Hall and this is being followed up. The clothing bin in the car park has been refurbished and looks much better.

Cllr Rutherford reported that the play equipment at the Sawmills is fine, but a seat needs repairing or taken out. Councillors agreed that the gate should be repaired and the seat removed as it was not able to be repaired. The wild flower area was agreed and the Clerk will obtain some wild flower seeds to be scattered in this area.

Durley Parish Plan Update:

**Broadband** – Cllr Delmege had no further update.

**Mobile Phone Signal** – Cllr Childs had no further update.

**Greening Campaign** – Cllr Rutherford reported that the Durley Litter Pick went well along the main road. Many residents also picked up litter in their lanes/roads. Everyone was thanked for picking up the litter and helping to make Durley a better place to live.

**Flooding Risks** – Cllr Rappini leading. Cllr Rappini said that there were no further flooding issues other than those already reported.

All Parish Council information can be found on the Durley Parish Council website, this includes Agendas, Minutes and Reports.

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