

**Minutes of the Valley Park Parish Council Meeting
held on Monday 4 October 2021 at 7.00pm
Location: Valley Park Community Centre**

Present:

Cllr Mr A Dowden (Chairman)
Cllr Mr R Bryan
Cllr Mrs K Woods-Townsend
Cllr Mrs D Green
Cllr Mrs C Dowden
Cllr Mr C Anderson

Apologies for absence: Cllr Mr S Cross, Cllr Mr C Thom

Councillors were informed that Cllr S Bates resigned and that there is currently a Parish Councillor vacancy.

Action

18 Declarations of Interest

19 Minutes of the meeting held 5 July 2021

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 5th July 2021, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed electronically by the Chairman.

20 Matters Arising

Cllr Dowden informed that the outcome of the CIL bid for the community orchards will be communicated in January 2022.

21 To receive and consider correspondence

The Clerk informed that a request for grant funding was received from Knightwood BMX and she read the letter to all councillors.

Councillors unanimously agreed to offer £500 towards the fence renovation and purchase of new bikes for the beginners. County and Borough Councillors will also support the club with other grants.

Resolved:

That the grant is approved and Clerk to contact the club and arrange funds transfer.

22 Public questions

None received.

23 Accounts

The Clerk informed councillors of the accounts received since the last meeting.

Resolved:

That the accounts be approved for payment.

24 Borough and County Councillor Reports

Cllr Dowden approved £1,000 from his Community Councillor grant towards the floral display next year.

Councillors were informed that the poppies for the lamp posts have arrived and would be displayed 10 days prior to the Remembrance Day.

Cllr Dowden informed that following complaints from residents about the state of the muddy, slippery pathways caused by fallen wet leaves, he urged Test Valley to address the issue by hiring small sweeper machines to sweep the footpaths throughout Valley Park. This was confirmed at the September Council meeting. If residents see any area of pathway needing cleaning, they can notify Test Valley Environment Services.

Cllr were informed that a motion to back the Climate Bill, which would bind the government by law to seriously act on the climate crisis, was put forward by councillor N Gwynne and seconded by Cllr C Dowden. A decision in supporting the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill was postponed and Test Valley councillors suggested to be passed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Bill is set for its second reading in the House of Parliament.

Cllr Dowden informed about the event on Recycling Education at Romsey Community School on 6th November, 10am-4pm and encouraged all councillors to attend.

Councillors were informed that due to lack of policing of fishing in the balancing pond at Knightwood, a few recent incidents with dogs getting injured have occurred. As a result, a decision was taken for the pond to be cleared of fish.

Cllr Dowden informed that Government has asked for expression of interest for County Deals, which aim to bring decision and powers closer to people and places. The County will discuss with borough and district partners their priorities.

Cllr Dowden informed that services would be cut drastically in the next year.

25 Planning Applications

Planning applications were reviewed by the Planning Committee.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____