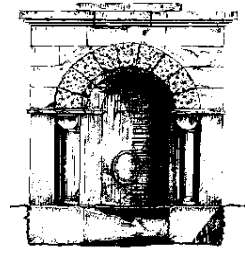


Dowdeswell Parish Council



**The Full Meeting of Dowdeswell Parish Council held on the 19th June
2025 at 19.30 at Allington House**

Present:

C. Smyth - Chairman Parish Council

P. Evans – Councillor

K. Graves – Councillor

Sue Green (Clerk)

Parishioners present: 1 member of the public.

Apologies for absence – P. Banyard – Councillor, N. Jones - Councillor

Declaration of interest on items on the agenda – None

It was proposed to postpone the AGM due to a number of Councillors being unable to attend this meeting and to use this meeting to discuss the AGAR and any urgent matters arising. This was agreed.

1. Minutes from the last full meetings

Cllr Smyth signed the minutes dated 26th November 2024 as a true record of the meeting.

2. Presentation of Accounts from 2024/2025 Annual Return

The Parish Council were asked to agree the Annual Return and for it to be signed off in the minutes. The Clerk presented the account for 2024/2025 and updated the Council on the internal audit report; there was an issue with a cheque which was presented but the payees name was not written correctly onto the cheque. The Bank took it but bounced it and did not return the cheque to the Parish Council and then the bank destroyed it. TSB sent a statement to show the cheque was banked. It was only picked up in the year end accounts. It was agreed to raise this cheque again. The Council went through the Annual Return agreeing the expenditure and signing the document. This was discussed and agreed by the Cllrs at the meeting. The Chairman signed the documentation.

It was therefore recorded that the Council approves the certificate of exception from the external review.

Action 1 19/06/2025 The clerk updated that she will return the signed annual return to the external auditors and a copy will be placed on the website.

Signed by

Date

There was a discussion on the Defibrillator which is owned by the Village Hall and was bought from a donation from the last of the trust fund money held by the Parish Council. It is therefore not an asset of the Parish Council.

Action 2 19/06/2025 It was agreed to make a note of who owns the Defibrillator and for this to be added into next year's AGAR.

3. Matters Arising from the minutes –

24/03380/FUL – Heylens Barn Dowdeswell - This has been permitted – They took notice of the Parish Councils comments on the colour of the weatherboards.

26/11/2024 Works to Andoversford burial ground – postponed due to weather, they updated that it will be revisited in spring/summer.

26/11/2024 Community Levy money from Andoversford - The Clerk to ask Andoversford for some money from their community levy fund to refurb their water fountain. They responded that they do not have any levy money at the moment.

Banking – charging from March – It was updated that some Treasury banking with a low turnover do get some free banking. Agreed to speak to Lloyds bank to see if we have the right sort of account.

26/11/2024 Action 4 for Cllr Smyth to speak to Mike Payton about the website cost increases. Cllr Smyth has done this, and we can change the provider, but they are all reasonably expensive and it is not worth the hassle. However it was suggested that if Dowdeswell Parish Council were invoiced we could reclaim the VAT. Cllr Smyth will speak to Mike Payton about doing this.

4. Planning and related matters

There were no planning matters to discuss but the future of planning from CDC was discussed as an invitation had been received to attend a meeting. Plans for development in our area.

Action 3 19/06/2025 For the clerk to attend the meeting on the 9th July.

Update on the Kilkeny Inn – Nothing further has been communicated on this. It is currently not trading.

5. Finance – Insurance, Clerks Salary

Cheques were raised for the following.

Clerk £263.13

Old Cheque to Clerk £270.60

M. Payton £39.93

HMRC £

Insurance 3rd of a 3-year plan - £176.55

6. Any Other Business

Agreed to increase the Clerks hourly rate from £12.30 - £13.00 from 1st April 2025

7. Dates for next meeting

To be organised at a date in November 2025.

The meeting closed at 20.30.

Signed by

Date