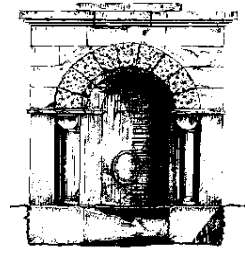


Dowdeswell Parish Council



The Annual General Meeting of Dowdeswell Parish Council held on the 28th November 2025 at 17.30 pm at The Old School Dowdeswell

Dowdeswell Annual General Meeting

Present:

C. Smyth - Chairman Parish Council

P. Evans – Councillor

K. Graves – Councillors

N. Jones – Councillors

Sue Green (Clerk)

Parishioners present: 1 members of the public.

Apologies for absence – P. Banyard – Councillor

1. Election of Chairman

Nomination of Cllr K Graves by Cllr Smyth and seconded by Cllr Philip Evans

No other nominations received. Cllr Graves accepted the post and Cllr Smyth will help with the handover. It was agreed he would run this last meeting.

2. Election of Officers

Vice Chairman – Cllr Smyth was nominated in case Cllr Graves is away with his work. Some further thought is needed to bring someone else into the council.

Finance Officer - Cllr Smyth nominated Cllr Penny Banyard this was seconded by Cllr Evans. This will be reviewed

Minutes of the last AGM (to be signed)

Cllr Smyth asked if there were any amendments to the minutes of the last AGM. The papers were signed.

Signed by

Date

3. Chairman's report

Cllr Smyth reported that on the planning front, there had been four significant matters over the last 12 months. Two of these were relatively straightforward applications in relation to the Crow's Nest and to Heylens Barn; DPC comments on the latter were taken into account by CDC when granting consent.

More controversially, the owners of The Kilkeney had applied for consent for change of use of the pub to residential and to build additional housing on the site. DPC submitted a lengthy response in opposition and, in the event, the application was refused and the property is now for sale.

After the pub closed it became clear that its future was in doubt so a public meeting was held to consider what action, if any, could or should be taken. Following that meeting, the Parish Council considered whether to apply for an order declaring the Kilkeney an Asset of Community Value but considered such a move to be inappropriate.

The fourth matter related to a proposal to move the entrance to a field on the road through the village. The Parish Council had made a number of representations to the proposal.

In relation to Highways, we have seen the welcome arrival of average speed cameras on the A436 between Seven Springs and the traffic lights at Shipton Oliffe. This should lead to safer driving conditions on that stretch of road.

GCC Highways has also carried out some remedial work to drainage at the crossroads by Harvesters Barn and Heylens Barn with more substantial work to follow.

Finally Cllr Smyth thanked the Clerk and his fellow councillors for their work.

Reports from Councillors – Nothing to update.

4. Presentation of Accounts from 2024/2025

Discussed at the meeting in June 2025

5. Annual Return

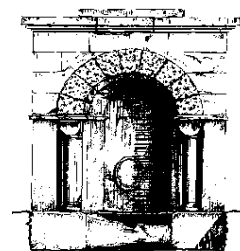
Discussed at the meeting in June 2025

Part one of the AGM meeting concludes.

Signed by

Date

Dowdeswell Parish Council



ORDINARY MEETING – 28th November 2025

Declaration of interest on items on the agenda – None

6. Minutes from the last full meetings

Cllr Smyth signed the minutes dated

7. Matters Arising from the minutes –

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. Actioned

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. To be actioned at in the next AGAR.

Action 3 19/06/2025 For the clerk to attend the meeting on the 9th July. Attended and sent on the recording of the meeting.

Action 4 26/11/2024 for Cllr Smyth to speak to Mike Payton about the website cost increases. Cllr Smyth has done this. However it was suggested that if Dowdeswell Parish Council were invoiced directly or that it was invoiced to DPC. The address does not need to change just the invoice name. We could then reclaim the VAT. Cllr Smyth will speak to Mike Payton about doing this. This may be an administrative burden on the clerk but Cllr Smyth will discuss this with him.

8. The Kilkeney Pub –

It was updated that although the Pub sits in the Parish of Dowdeswell the planners at CDC have sent the recent application to Andoversford Parish Council. This was an application to turn the pub into housing and has been refused, Dowdeswell Parish Council submitted their comments to the planning application. Next steps were discussed. The Parish Council discussed how this could be communicated to the village to update them of the situation and if any parties were interested in the pub. It was agreed that Cllr Graves will draft something for the village website

Action 1 28/11/2025 Cllr Graves will draft some information for the village website on the latest information on the Kilkeney pub and other related pubs.

Action 2 28/11/2025 For the Clerk to forward onto Cllr Graves the notes from the meeting held with the village on the Kilkeney pub.

9. Planning and related matters

Cllr Graves asked if Cllrs had received the notice from CDC about Government plans including the changes proposed to County Councils. The leaflet also included proposed border changes and Government housing targets. Signposting ways to get involved this was discussed. CDC have said there will be more pressure at every level to approve planning. Cllr Graves will scan it in and sent it out via the Village What's app. It was agreed we need to learn at the earliest opportunity

Signed by

Date

what this will mean to Dowdeswell. The Clerk was asked to invite Cllr Theyer and Cllr Hodgkinson to the next meeting.

Discussion on the County Councils borders and the future of them. The three options were discussed.

Action 3 28/11/2025 for Cllr Graves to scan in the leaflet from CDC and post it in the village What's app group.

Action 4 28/11/2025 For the Clerk to invite Cllr Theyer and Cllr Hodgkinson to the next meeting.

10. Finance

Approved payment - Cheques raised for the Clerks salary £265.00. Mike Payton for the website

Finance handout was discussed. All precept has been received, A draft forecast/budget for next year was proposed, with agreement to take it forward at the January meeting.

Things to note:

GAPTC payment to be made,

Burial ground - Despite not having heard from Andoversford PC it was agreed that we will continue to make a payment as before.

Village Hall - It was agreed to make a grant payment in respect of 24/25 and 25/26 of £200, even though the Village Hall Trust appears to have significant reserves.

It was noted that DPC has reserves of £900.00 in the accounts. We have sufficient resources to make the payments and include payment to the burial ground.

It was agreed, for an Action for Cllr Graves to be added as an additional signatory. Cllr Smyth will look into the addition.

Action 5 28/11/202 Cllr Smyth will arrange with Lloyds Bank to add Cllr Graves on the account as an additional signature.

Action 6 28/11/2025 Meeting required early Jan to bring back figures for agreement and set Precept for next year. (before 30th Jan)

11. Dates for next meeting

Proposed dates for meetings

13th January or,

20th January 2026 as both the District and County Councillor can attend.

Signed by

Date