

Dunton Park Residents Association

Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, 16 February 2026

Time: 18:00

Attendance: Sharon, James, Sheila H, Sheila M, Lynda, Laurie, Mick, Harry

1. Staff and Office Update & Future Plans

James provided an in-depth briefing on the current position with Regency:

- **Financial Background:** Regency has assumed Royale's administrative debts and is coming up to the two year period when they are expected to sell sites to repay lenders. Currently sites are being prepared for sale.
- **Operational Shifts:** Potential buyers have expressed concerns regarding high overheads.
- **Staffing & Management:** Consequently, on-site staffing is being reduced to make the parks more financially attractive. Lisa is departing, and a single Site Supervisor will now be shared across multiple parks. Sharon (Area Manager) will serve as the primary backup. A new "office-open" rota will be published shortly.
- **Utility & Billing Changes:** Meter readings will continue as usual, but bills will be sent via email or Royal Mail; hand-posting by staff has ceased. While staff will continue to manage "green-box" electricity trips for now, a contractor-led model is being investigated.
- **Site Maintenance:** Grounds Control have set paid maintenance hours, though Regency retains the right to increase these if standards drop. The main gates, currently suffering from slow opening and faults, are scheduled for repair at the next service; a meeting regarding future gate usage is pending.

2. Hall, Events & Entertainment

Mick led a discussion on the current limitations caused by having access to the bar but not the main hall.

- **Summer Party:** Silver Haze has been officially booked for a street party on **15 August 2026**. This will be held outdoors, weather permitting.
- **Christmas Party:** Scheduled for **12 December 2026**. Following last year's success, this will be a Black Tie Ball. The committee opted to pivot from "swing" music to a pop duo for a change of pace.
- **Sunday Soirées:** Due to high resident demand, it was agreed to increase the frequency of these events. Mick is currently scouting for new acts.
- **Bar Initiatives:** Advertising for World Cup coverage in the bar will begin shortly. Mick also proposed exploring whether Regency would allow the removal of the bar area in the "small bar room" to create a dedicated stage area.

3. AGM Preparation (30 March 2026)

As the hall remains closed, the committee discussed alternative formats for the AGM.

- **Nominations:** Residents were notified of the 30 March date and anyone who wanted to join the committee had to advise the secretary. The deadline has passed; Gary (former Chair) was the only applicant along with current committee members who will all restand. Further discussions are required regarding Gary's specific role.
- **Paper Determination:** Because the hall is out of action, the committee agreed to proceed via **Paper Determination**, as permitted by the constitution in exceptional circumstances.
- **Action:** Information packs - including accounts, Chair/Secretary reports, and voting slips for the new committee - must be distributed to all residents seven days prior to the AGM date.

4. Committee Membership & Financial Records

The committee discussed Gary's potential return following his health leave.

- **Accountancy Issues:** Gary expressed concerns that the current system (managed by Sheila H) relies solely on paper records for records. Gary previously had to digitize these for formal accounting; since his departure, this has not been maintained, leaving the RA without acceptable digital accounts.
- **Resolution:** Gary is happy to return as Treasurer, and Sheila H agreed to the handover as she has sufficient other duties. James will consult with Gary regarding the practicalities of managing floats and digital transitions.

5. Resident Request: Monday Craft Session

The committee reviewed Alison's offer to host a Monday craft class.

- **Decision:** While the committee appreciated the offer, the request was declined. It was felt the session would conflict with the existing Thursday "Knit and Natter" group, which already handles diverse crafts (jewelry, leatherwork, etc.).
- **Capacity:** The committee cannot provide a member to be responsible for the building (opening, fire safety, cleaning, and locking up) for an additional day each week.
- **Alternative:** The committee suggested Alison host a "special feature" day within the Thursday group (tentatively **Thursday 26th**) and proposed a future table-sale day for residents to sell crafts, with a portion of proceeds going to charity.

6. Event Ticketing System

A debate was held regarding the current "clunky" ticketing process.

- **Centralization:** To resolve confusion, the majority voted to make **Sheila H the sole ticket seller**.
- **Format:** James suggested moving to a digital guest list or online tickets to reduce the administrative burden. However, the committee voted by majority to **retain physical paper tickets**.

- **Obtaining numbers:** To ensure all members remain informed as to how many tickets have been sold, Sheila H will post a photo of the updated paper attendee list to the WhatsApp group at least once a week.

7. Committee Leave & Cover

The following absences were noted for the upcoming months:

- **6–12 March:** James, and Sharon.
- **6-9 March** Sheila Mead
- **5–12 April:** James.

The remaining four committee members will coordinate to ensure full cover during the March overlap.

8. Any Other Business (AOB)

- **Clubhouse Inventory:** James presented a comprehensive inventory compiled by himself and Sheila Mead. This document lists every item within the clubhouse that belongs specifically to the Residents Association. This was deemed essential to protect RA assets and prevent any ownership confusion in the event of a future site