

DUNSTER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2018 7.00 P.M.
TITHE BARN, DUNSTER

PRESENT: D Challoner (Chair), C Oliver, C Ell, A Bevan, G Lamacraft, A Vicary, G Witherford, G Dibble, D Stanyon (Clerk)

C Lawrence (SCC) to 7.20 p.m., P Pilkington (WSDC) to 7.30 p.m.

2 members of the public

APOLOGIES: A Webber

MINUTES: There was one amendment to the January 2018 minutes. Marsh Farmhouse has also been affected by the sewerage flooding problems. The Minutes were agreed as a correct record. Proposed G Dibble, seconded C Oliver.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None

DISPENSATIONS: None

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: Mr and Mrs Westlake wished to comment on the Pill Box at Castle Fields Estate but contributed to Cllr Pilkington's report.

REPORTS: Cllr Lawrence asked if DPC were aware that ENP had approved the installation of electric gates at Dunster Castle. D Challoner confirmed that DPC was aware.

Cllr Lawrence is involved with the caravans parked on the old A39. These are causing environmental health issues and as the caravans are not connected to a vehicle they are not licensed to be on a public highway. Clerk to write to highways. Cllr Pilkington and Cllr Lawrence are also dealing with this matter.

Cllr Lawrence has met with Alan Jones regarding repairs to the cobbles on East side of West Street. Skanska are being approached to provide a quotation. This is to explore costings only and not an agreement for the work to be done.

Cllr Lawrence suggested inviting Seamus Rogers from Dunster Castle to a meeting so that he can inform DPC of the future plans. Clerk to write to S Rogers.

Cllr Pilkington informed DPC that there is still Hinkley Point funding available through WSDC. All applications can be submitted to him.

Cllr Pilkington has reported the problems with the cobbles outside Five Quarters in the High Street.

Cllr Pilkington attended a meeting with Strongvox and the residents from Castle Fields Estate regarding the Pill Box. The Pill Box did not sell at Auction and has now been placed with an estate agent in Exeter. Mr and Mrs Westlake explained that a Residents Committee is being formed in the hope that they will be permitted to take over the open spaces at Castle Fields, including the Pill Box. Cllr Pilkington will keep DPC informed of any progress.

MATTERS ARISING:

01/218 Dunster Steep Toilets Update

The Clerk has checked the emergency phone is charged, working and topped up with credit. D Challoner will talk to Cliff at The Lunch Box and check that he is happy to keep it switched on and charged and take any incoming emergency calls.

Clerk to chase the repairs to the broken fence.

D Challoner has purchased and replaced 2 new toilet seats in the ladies toilet.

D Challoner will be installing one narrow shelf in the Ladies.

The ivy and cleaning the gutters will be done in March.

02/218 Electric Lighting outside the Gents toilets.

D Challoner proposed, seconded A Bevan accepting Chris Webber's quotation (£713.00) to carry out all of the works as quoted at the toilets, including the light outside the gents toilet. Clerk to do.

03/218 Retail Unit

The Minutes of the Retail and Finance meeting were circulated in advance on the meeting.

A Vicary proposed, seconded by G Lamacraft that the revised quotation from G A Sully and Sons (£10,000 plus VAT) be accepted to carry out the works to prepare the unit for rent. And that £4,500 money is used from the ring-

fenced funds for the West Street Cobbles. RESOLVED. The work will take 4 weeks to complete and 4-6 weeks for a start date, due to the windows being made. Clerk to advise G A Sully & Sons.

Higher Marsh Farm

04/218 The matter is now closed regarding the demolition of the walls.

05/218 Pavement to A39. Matter ongoing.

06/218 There are potholes and the faded white line markings on the junction from Marsh Lane and Station Road are causing a health and safety problem. It is believed that Strongvox will be resurfacing the road outside the entrance to Marsh Gardens. Clerk to request a meeting with Jo Sharp to explore the possibility of yellow lines around the junction with Station Road and also to request the white junction lines are redone as a matter of urgency. A Vicary will speak to Strongvox and David Peake (SCC) regarding the resurfacing of the road.

Adoption of Land at The Ball

07/218. Matter ongoing.

West Street Pavement

08/218 It was agreed that £4500.00 of the ring-fenced money towards the Cobbles project is used for the development of the retail unit. This will leave £500.00 available. Clerk to advise Cllr Lawrence and WSDC.

NT Sign, Dunster Station

08/218 The additional sign has now been added.

Mill Gardens Barrier

09/218 ENP will be widening the barrier. They will not be installing a padlock. It was agreed that a replacement padlock will be fitted after the new barrier is erected. Matter closed

Sewerage Problems – Station Works

10/218 Wessex Water have attempted to jet the sewers. They have discovered that a large outlet from Blue Anchor runs into the junction. This needs to be cleared and they will investigate further. Matter ongoing

Riverside Walk

11/218 Glenn Martin has walked the path and cleared it of brambles etc. He considers that the path is acceptable for this time of year. The path will be looked at later in the year to see if improvements are needed on the path. Costings etc will be needed.

SID's

12/218 Matter ongoing. Waiting for further information from SCC regarding possible rental of the units in the future.

Ownership of Land at Gallox Bridge

13/218 It has been confirmed that MHPF (UK) Ltd own the land. Savills are the managing agents.

Spraying Contract

14/218 A Vicary will meet with Paul Storey and go through the areas which need spraying. A quote will be required from P Storey and Clerk will issue a three year contract.

Pill Box, Castle Gardens

15/218. See earlier report Cllr Pilkington

AGENDA ITEMS

16/218 Marsh Street Traffic

A letter has been received from a resident regarding the volume of traffic using Marsh Street. The matter was discussed in depth and Councillors who live in Dunster Marsh know that the majority of vehicles using Marsh Street are local residents and families. There is signage from Station Road pointing traffic to turn right and use the main junction with the A39 and it was also felt that traffic from the Castle Fields estate would also turn right to use the main junction. DPC will monitor the situation. Clerk will reply to the resident

17/218 WSDC/ TD Meeting 20th February 2018. D Challoner and the Clerk will be attending.

18/218 SALC Councillor Training 7th March 2018. A Bevan may be attending. The cost for this is £25.00 Proposed for approval by G Dibble, seconded C Ell. RESOLVED. A Bevan will let the Clerk know.

ACCOUNTS REPORT

The accounts to end of January 2018 were circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

Bank balance £20,616.10 Reserve Account N S & I £ 23187.38

Approval of expenditure

Chq 2000 D Stanyon £ 662.48 January Salary and home working all

Chq 2001 J & W Cleaning £ 585.90 January cleaning DST

Chq 2002 C J Lynch £462.00 Repairs to road Allotments

Chq 2003 SALC £75.00 Councillor training October 2017

SLCC Membership £120.00 approx

CCS Subscriptions £40.00

G Witherford proposed, seconded C Ell approval of the above expenditure.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Wild Trout organization are carrying out work on the 2 weirs on the River Avill. D Challoner will be attending a meeting to provide information, on 15.02.2018.

Dunster Tourism Forum have reported that EE are carrying out works on the mobile masts to improve poor mobile phone signal in Dunster.

The official opening of the Dunster Museum will take place on 21st April 2018.

A letter has been received from the resident at 7, The Ball regarding adopting part of the highway for official resident's parking. DPC does not own this piece of land and the Clerk will advise her accordingly. The Clerk will write to SCC to obtain clarification to ownership of the land for DPC information only.

ITEMS ON REPORT

G Witherford reported excessive noise can be heard from Butlins. The Clerk reported that this needs to be reported directly to environmental health WSDC.

A flag needs to be purchased for the flag pole at Dunster Steep. It was agreed to erect a St George's flag. Clerk will get prices.

A Vicary requested clarification on the number of new houses at Castle Fields and how this will affect the precept. This could mean an increase in the precept but without significant impact to residents. To be looked at for 19-20 financial year.

G Lamacraft reported that he attended the Exmoor Consultative Forum and the focus was on farming on Exmoor in the future and providing cheaper housing on Exmoor.

C Ell requested further clarification on the number of allocated spaces of parking for staff at St George's School. There are problems with allotments holders being unable to park. The Clerk has spoken with K Sully and he is monitoring the situation. Clerk will write to St George's School asking for more information.

D Foster will be organizing for someone to tidy up his mother's grave.

There is an abandoned horsebox and 4 x 4 vehicle parked in the field beyond Gallox Bridge. She will contact Lucy Back at Savills regarding whether these can be moved.

C Oliver attended the Dunster Panel Meeting and reported that the slipway at blue Anchor and signage at Blue Anchor was discussed in details.

The Clerk will be taking one week's annual leave from 26th February 2018.

Meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

Signed

Dated.....

