

DUNSTER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF AGM HELD 16TH MAY 2011

PRESENT B Bale, A Bishop, C Ell, G Lamacraft, C Oliver, K Sully, P Toogood, A Vicary, A Webber, P Webber, G Witherford.

OTHERS A Chick, WSC, C Lawrence, SCC, SC James, D Challoner, L Griffiths, M Harborne.

APOLOGIES Mrs Lawrence had said she would be late.

Chairman, Mr Sully, welcomed the new members and everyone was asked to sign their Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Register of Interest Forms.

1. ELECTIONS

Chairman: Mr Sully vacated the chair and nominations were sought for a new chairman. Mr Sully proposed Mr Toogood, seconded by Mrs Ell and all were in favour. No other nominations were received.

Vice Chairman: No nominations were received for office of vice chairman and Mrs Ell no longer wished to stand.

Mr Lamacraft proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Sully for his role as chairman for the last eleven years. He had served both the parish and the parish council well over that time. Everyone agreed with this.

Finance Committee: Nominations were- Mr Toogood, Mr Sully, Mr Bishop, Mr Witherford and clerk Mrs Demirtges. Proposed Mrs Ell, seconded Mrs Webber and all were in favour.

Cemetery Committee: Nominations were-Mr Toogood, Mr Vicary, Mr Bishop, Mrs Webber, Mr Webber, Mr Witherford.

Allotment Committee: Nominations were-Mr Lamacraft, Mrs Ell, Mr Sully, Mrs Bale, Mrs Oliver. Proposed Mr Bishop, seconded Mrs Webber, all in favour.

Annual Safety Checks for both Cemetery and Allotments will be held 24th May.

Press Officer: No nominations received but Mr Lamacraft agreed to do it for the time being.

2. MINUTES The minutes of the last meeting, having been circulated, were signed as a correct record after amendment to No 4.

MATTERS ARISING

3. RIVERSIDE PROJECT

Letter from SCC regarding the location of a seat. They considered the chosen location was not suitable. This will now be placed elsewhere by the river.

4. BAGS IN RIVER

Mr Witherford had spoken to Mr Humphreys at WW. They have agreed to put a liner in the sewer pipe and then remove the bags. They are waiting for permission from the NT.

5. COMMUNITY ORCHARD

At their last meeting it was agreed to appoint their own treasurer and not have to go through the parish council.

6. WORKING GROUP REPORT

Mr Lamacraft gave an update on the progress of the Working Group. The parish council are now registered for payments with the Rural Payments Agency.

7. HIGHWAY MATTERS

Letter from Highways to say the A39 footpath will be cut in the next few weeks as part of the Main Road verge cutting operation. They cannot agree at present to a siding operation along the footway/cycleway as funding has been reduced. Clerk will write and ask if there is a legal width for these paths.

Potholes in Station Road have been marked for repair.

8. MEMORIAL PLAQUE

The Hall Committee are looking into this. Their next meeting will be held in June.

9. WILLOW TREE-PARK STREET

This is being dealt with.

10. COUNCILLOR TRAINING

There will be training sessions for new councillors on June 15th at Wheddon Cross and for new Chairmen at West Monkton on 2nd June. All councillors and the clerk will attend these training sessions. The cost will be £225.

11. WISH LIST

It was decided the two playing fields could be added to this list. Forms were passed to Mr Toogood for more details.

12. CEMETERY CONTRACT

Mr Toogood said some complaints had been received about grass cutting at the weekends.

13. NEW DOCTORS' SURGERY

Mr Toogood said two meetings had been held recently. There is an issue over financing.

14. POTHoles ON PARISH ROAD

A quote had been received from CJ Lynch for £637.50 plus vat. The Parish Council had agreed to this and the clerk had written asking him to go ahead.

15. ENP ELECTIONS

Forms had been received and passed to Mr Lamacraft who wishes to stand.

16. PART NIGHT STREET LIGHTING

The parish council were not in favour of the idea, mainly because of the risk of increased crime. A meeting will be held at County Hall on 17th May to give Councils more details of the scheme. Mr Webber will try to attend.

17. SUPERFAST BROADBAND

More information received from SCC. This was passed to Mrs Oliver.

18. WASTE PLANNING ISSUES & OPTIONS

Two copies of the Consultation received. These were passed to Mr Sully and Mrs Ell.

19. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Copies of the end of year accounts and balances were passed to every councillor. After some discussion these were accepted and signed. Balance at 31st March 2011 was £27,980.

20. **POLICE REPORT**

SC James said it had not been a great year so far for crime figures. Burglary to out buildings is still a problem, in spite of Rural Watch, and police will continue to carry out stop and checks on vehicles. He thought street lighting was important in the prevention of crime.

21. **MRS LAWRENCE'S REPORT**

The new County Plan will be available on the website soon. Improved Broadband and Hinkley C are important topics at present but one of her main concerns is care of the vulnerable in the community. She stressed that savings still need to be made.

22. **MR CHICK'S REPORT**

Mr Toogood welcomed Mr Chick, our new District Councillor, to the meeting. Mr Chick said he was delighted to represent this ward and has been appointed to serve on several committees at WSC.

23. **REVIEW FEES & CHARGES**

It was agreed to keep the Allotment and Cemetery fees as they are with no increases. It was suggested we try to keep the height of headstones below 2 feet to avoid the necessity of topple testing. This was proposed by Mr Lamacraft, seconded by Mrs Bale and all were in favour.

PLANNING

24. 6 Priory Green, Dunster. Proposed installation of 15 photovoltaic panels on the south facing roof. Mrs Oliver left the room while this was discussed. The parish council agreed to support the application.

25. 30A West Street, Dunster. Proposed change of use of existing garage to one local affordable one bedroom dwelling. Mr Harborne left the room while this was discussed. It was decided to hold a site meeting on 17th May.

26. 21 High Street, Dunster. LB Consent to replace modern door at rear of property with handmade Oak door. The parish council support this application.

27. The Courtyard, Dunster Castle. LB Consent for repairs to lincay and garages. ENP have granted LB/Conservation Area consent.

28. Dunster F.C. West Street, Dunster. Proposed installation of 16 solar photovoltaic panels (Full). ENP have granted Conditional Permission.

29. 4 St Georges Street, Dunster. Proposed conversion of 2 stores as part of dwelling & small extension. This application has been withdrawn.

30. 2 Priory court, Dunster. Work to trees in Conservation Area. ENP do not object to the proposals and will not be serving a TPO.

31. Plans for Higher Marsh Farm will be discussed by WSC at their June Planning Meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

32. Letter from SCC to say they will be surface dressing the A396, Dunster to Timberscombe, in mid May.

33. Invitation from Western Power to a Stakeholders Workshop on Future Investment Plans on 18th May at Clifton. No one wished to attend.

ITEMS ON REPORT

34. Mr Sully reported that locks on gates at Buttercross had been damaged again and wire removed at Northanger. He has also suffered another break in at Station Yard.

35. Mr Vicary said the grass needed cutting on the bank by the bus shelter (North side of A39). Clerk will report to WSC.

36. Mr Witherford asked what had happened about our request to the Memorial Hall for an outside ash tray and work on the guttering. Mrs Bale will bring this up at the next Hall Committee meeting.

37. Mr Witherford brought a copy of the notice put up in the Kiwi Shop about cobbles being the responsibility of the Highways. Clerk will send the copy to David Peake.

38. Mr Witherford said there was a lot of rubbish in the river at the back of Conygar View. Clerk will ask Magna for a skip and Mr Witherford will arrange a working party to clear the rubbish.

39. Mr Bishop said he thought we needed a NT representative at our meetings. Clerk will contact Mr Rogers and ask if he will come along to meet the new council. He also thought the police should be more visible. Clerk will also invite PC Strachan to meet the new council.

40. Mr Webber asked about the £500 that the parish council were holding in trust for DAVSCA. This was a gift from Mrs Lawrence. Clerk will look into this.

41. Mrs Ell said the street name signs had still not been painted or the yellow/white lines in the village. Clerk will remind Highways.

42. Mrs Ell will order the Hanging Baskets again and the Village Society will be asked if they will contribute to the cost.

44. ACCOUNTS

Income

Allotment Rents & Deposits	145.00
Burial	50.00
Precept	8060.00
	<u>8255.00</u>

Expenditure

Fit Notice Board	39.00
New Notice Board	385.00
Internal Audit	234.40
Insurance	654.32
Burial Receipts Book	23.82
Press advert	24.00
Allotment refund	25.00
Clerk's salary	313.60
Petty cash	75.00
Cemetery contract	250.40
DAVSCA	500.00
Training	225.00
	<u>2749.54</u>

Petty cash expenditure 91.85

Orchard Account Balance 471.00
Less weed spraying costs 28.93
442.07

MAY CIRCULATIONS

ENP Planning Applications w/e 22/4/11 & 29/4/11
ENP Planning Committee Meeting – Agenda 3rd May
ENP Exmoor Consultative & Parish Forum Meeting 7th June
SALC Future of Local Public Audit – Headlines
SALC West Area Meeting – Agenda & Minutes 9th June
WSC Community Matters Newsletter 14/4/11, 21/4/11, 5/5/11, 12/5/11
Connecting Devon & Somerset – Superfast Broadband
Wootton Ridge Deer Management Group – Minutes of Meeting 20th January
NALC Communities in Action-Conference & Exhibition 15th June
Hinkley Point C - News from EDF Energy April/May 2011
Age UK Email Update 14/4/11, 28/4/11, 13/5/11
Homefinder Somerset- Properties Available 17/4/11, 1/5/11, 8/5/11, 15/5/11
Sustainable Government – public Service Efficiency Update
SCC Surface Dressing Information
Clerks & Councils Direct May 2011 Issue 75 & Subscription Form
Somerset Rural Youth – National Citizen Service Leaflets
NALC Standing Orders Book
Rooting Community Food in an Enterprising Future – Conference 12th May
SMP Playgrounds – Parish & Community News
Wicksteed Playscapes Leaflet
Queensbury Shelters Leaflet