

DUNSTER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 11TH APRIL 2011

PRESENT A Bishop, L Griffiths, K Sully, P Toogood, A Vicary, A Webber, G Witherford.

OTHERS Laura Johns,SRYP, SC James, G Lamacraft, C Lawrence,SCC, B Leaker,WSC, D Challoner, C Oliver.

APOLOGIES B Bryan, C Ell, M Ellis.

MINUTES The minutes of the last meeting, having been circulated, were signed as a correct record.

MURAL AT UNDERPASS

Laura Johns from Rural Youth came to show us plans for the proposed mural at the Underpass. WSC and Crimebeat have given funds for the project. Murals will comprise pictures of local scenes to include both sides of Dunster. It was thought anti-graffiti paint would be needed on the other wall. It is hoped to start work at Half Term (May 29th).

MR LEAKER'S REPORT

Mr Leaker wished to give his final report before the meeting as he had to leave early. He said he would not be standing again for District Council but wished to come and thank the parish council for their support and wish them every success. He said Dunster Parish Council had an excellent record and the way they conducted themselves was a credit. Mr Sully thanked him for all his hard work on our behalf and for money he had given to the village.

MATTERS ARISING

1. RIVERSIDE PROJECT

Magna are ready to complete the Transfer of Land to the parish council. Mr Sully said three quotes had been received for the second phase of the work. These were from CJ Lynch, GA Sully & Sons and PD & GM Storey and were all exclusive of VAT. Chairman, Mr Sully, left the room while this was discussed and Mr Vicary took the Chair. It was decided to go with GA Sully & Sons at a price of £5998 as they were local and would do a good job. This was proposed by Mr Toogood, seconded by Mr Bishop and all were in favour. The Gate will cost £177 plus delivery charge of £87. SCC will pay for the gate but not the delivery.

2. BAGS IN RIVER

The clerk had contacted the Environment Agency about this and Vicky Durston had been in touch with Mr Witherford for further details. They will look into the matter for us.

3. COMMUNITY ORCHARD

A committee has now been formed. Gary Hall is Chairman and Andy Player Secretary. All the cages have now been finished off and look much better. Next meeting will be held 4th May.

4. WORKING GROUP REPORT

Mr Lamacraft had received three quotes for work to the cobbles in High Street. These were from S.D. Sherring & Sons, GA Sully & Sons and Sweetlands, all were exclusive of VAT. Mr Sully left the room and Mr Vicary took the Chair while this was discussed. It was decided to accept the lowest offer from Sherring's at a price of £45,102. Proposed by Mrs Webber, seconded by Mr Witherford and all were in favour. LARC will pay 75% of the cost and the

other 25% is held by the Working Group. LARC have said contract slippage was acceptable. The clerk will write to SD Sherring & Sons and confirm and Mr Lamacraft will let the others know our decision.

The NT had agreed to 8 extra days for Overflow Parking at the Steep this year. Mr Lamacraft said that the NT had met with WSC and there was a possibility the NT may consider making the arrangement permanent. The amount of usage will be monitored. Clerk will write to NT saying we are in favour of the idea.

5. HIGHWAY MATTERS

- a) Mr Sully will speak to Mr Matravers about the gullies. Highways have checked them but they are still not satisfactory.
- b) The matter of the Wall in West Close is still with the Structures Section in Taunton. Clerk will contact them again to say we had been promised the work would be done in January.
- c) Wall in Mill Lane. The Area Highways Superintendent will arrange for necessary repairs to capping to be carried out this financial year.
- d) A39 Footpath. Grass cutting will be carried out at the end of May. Clerk will ask Mr Matravers to contact Mr Sully about this and also the potholes in Station Road.

6. WHITE LINES A39

Letter from the Traffic Team Manager. They are in the process of considering the scheme to introduce white lines from Bilbrook to Withycombe Straight. They need to get permission from the Police and ensure funding is available. They will keep us informed.

7. MEMORIAL PLAQUE

This needs protecting from the birds. Mr Brunt will take this to the Hall Committee.

8. HIGHER MARSH FARM PLANS

Mr Taylor said the application would go to the WSC Planning Committee in March or April. He said no improvements to the junction were secured as part of the scheme when permission was originally granted.

9. WILLOW TREE PARK STREET

ENP were thinking of putting a TPO on this tree. The parish council consider it dangerous and in need of felling as soon as possible. ENP have now agreed for it to be felled by SCC. Mr Sully is waiting for a report from the Tree Surgeon but said the funding is safe.

10. ST GEORGE'S DAY PARADE

People in the village are upset the Scouts will not be marching in Dunster this year and hope they come back next year.

11. ELECTIONS

17 Nominations had been received for Parish Council seats and 3 for District Council. Notices have been posted. Present council will stay in office until midnight on 9th May.

12. LITTER BIN AT MARSH

Mr Witherford had spoken to Steve Watts and Julie Lynch. A new bin has been placed by the river but still not one at Marsh Lane. Veolia say any bins damaged will not be replaced. Clerk will contact Julie Lynch and thank her for the new bin.

13. TOP FIVE PRIORITY LIST
Clerk will write to Angela Lamplough to say we will complete the list after the new council are elected in May.
14. CEMETERY CONTRACT
Clerk will write to Mr Williams asking him to cut the triangle of grass at the Ball as Mr Munson can no longer manage it. The cemeteries also need an extra cut in March.
15. NEW DOCTOR'S SURGERY
Proposals are going forward for a new surgery in West Street. Mr Toogood will meet the Doctors this week to discuss. SCC are working on the paperwork for the land.
16. POTHoles-PARISH ROAD
Mr Sully will chase up CJ Lynch for a price.

CORRESPONDENCE

17. Letter from Mrs Capel thanking parish council for the one off contribution of £100 for the Newsletter Fund and also for our annual contribution.
18. Email concerning Energy Supplies in Rural Communities – Group Buying and Fuel poverty. Details passed to Mr Brunt and Mrs Oliver.
19. Letter from Intelligent Sport regarding the UK Challenge 15-19th June. Runners will be using Dunster Castle and Dunster Park for the Challenge and will also be using Mill Lane for a short while. They request permission from the parish council for the use of Mill Lane and say Mill Lane residents will be informed. Clerk will write to say they support this.
20. Certificate for Membership of Community Council for Somerset received.
21. Letter from ENP to say elections for parish members on the National Park Authority will take place after District and Parish elections. Nomination papers will be sent during April and must be returned by 25th May.
22. Email from SCC about converting lighting units in Dunster to part night operation. External funding is available for this. This involves switching off the lights from 12 midnight to 5.30am to save energy and light pollution. A meeting at County Hall will be arranged. Clerk will reply saying we will leave the decision to the new council.
23. Email from SCC regarding plans to bring Superfast Broadband to Somerset and Devon. 10million has been set aside to underpin the bid for this which will be submitted in April. Decision expected in May.
24. SCC Minerals & Waste Policy Team have launched a Consultation on Waste Planning Issues & Options. This will run until 11th May and is available online.

25. Small Business Rate Relief will now continue for a further year until September 2012. Revised bills will be sent. Parish Council rates have been reduced from £353.58 to £77.07.
26. Message from Mary Lewis to say visitors from Dunster in Canada are visiting Dunster w/c 18th April and would like someone to meet them and show them around. Mr Toogood offered to do this.

27. ACCOUNTS

Income

Allotment Rents	450.00
Memorial	20.00

Total **470.00**

Expenditure

Allotment Water	15.18
Clerk	313.60
Allotment refund	25.00

Total **353.78**

28. POLICE REPORT

This was given by SC James who said he will take back any issues. Mr Bishop said there had been a lot of rural crime and break- ins to out buildings. SC James said Teams are dealing with this. It is important to secure out buildings and let Police know of any suspect vans, giving Registration No if possible to 0845 4567000. This is a 24 hour line. Mr Sully said there had been damage to the field gates at Buttercross. Mr Witherford complained of speeding in Marsh Lane. PC James said this will be put out on the Police System and he will check with PCSO Hurley. He will also report back about part night lighting.

29. MRS LAWRENCE'S REPORT

Mrs Lawrence did not have much to report but said the Working Group were doing a good Job.

ITEMS ON REPORT

30. Mr Sully said the allotments were in good condition and there was no waiting list.
31. Mr Bishop asked if Paul Storey could spray the cobbles before Easter. Mr Sully will do this.
32. Mr Vicary said the wall at the Farm needs spraying. Mr Sully will speak to Mr Matravers.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm.