

# **DUNSTER PARISH COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2009**

**PRESENT** B Bryan, C Ell, M Ellis, G Lamacraft, C Nicholson, P Toogood, A Vicary.

**OTHERS** PCSO Hurley, PC Fitzpatrick, W Wake, 5 members of the public.

**APOLOGIES** A Bishop, L Griffiths, K Sully, P Webber, B Leaker.

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

**POLICE REPORT** This was given by PC Fitzpatrick. There had been 5 crimes reported since our last meeting, thefts and domestic violence. There had been several thefts from the Marsh area recently. The public are asked to be vigilant and report anything suspicious, this includes taking the registration number of any suspicious vehicles. The Youth Project at the Underpass will include a mural by children in the community. There will be some funding available. The PC were in favour of the project. Mr Vicary will liaise with the police on behalf of the PC and PCSO Hurley will be in touch.

### **MATTERS ARISING**

#### 1. NT SURVEY

Mr Wake reported on the Stakeholders Group meeting held last month. If anyone requires more information they can contact him.

#### 2. HIGHWAY MATTERS

Mr Vicary said Highways were thinking of changing the priority of traffic at the junction of Marsh St with Marsh Lane by changing the white lines here. Residents would prefer it left as it is but existing white lines need repainting. A slow sign will be put in Marsh St.

#### 3. BOUNDARY REVIEW

The clerk had passed on our views to Bruce Lang and the Boundary Commission.. Carhampton feel the same as Dunster, that we should stay as we are. Letter received from WSC to say our views will be reported to West Somerset councillors when they consider their response.

#### 4. NEW COMPUTER

This is still on order.

#### 5. DUNSTER SCOPING WORKSHOP

The clerk had ordered and given out more copies of the report. The matter will be discussed at the January meeting.

## 6. DOG CONTROL ORDERS

Letter from WSC to say all responses have been collected and analysed and a revised version of Orders will be presented to the Council Cabinet on 20<sup>th</sup> January. Another consultation process may then follow.

## 7. PC CURRAN

The clerk had received replies from the Chief Constable's Office and the PA to the Senior Leadership Team at Taunton. The matter is being passed to Inspector Carol Pearce. Other PCs have been asked to support us and clerk had received messages of support from Wootton Courtenay and Carhampton parish councils.

## **PLANNING**

8. 2A The Ball – Replacement of 21 timber single glazed windows with 21 timber double glazed. (Retrospective application). PC support this application.

9. 25 St Georges Street - Building of two storey extension. Site meeting will be held on 19<sup>th</sup> December at 10.00am.

10. The Old Manor, Lower Marsh - Removal of Partition Wall, Door and block up doorway. Replace cottage door and move electricity meter. WSC have granted planning permission and LB consent.

11. Locks Tea Rooms, 18C High Street - Demolition of existing building and erection of new timber cabin in rear garden. ENP have granted Conditional Permission.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

12. Letter from Dunster Beach Holidays asking for a meeting with the PC to discuss the Shoreline Management Plan. Mr Sully has already met with them and another meeting will be arranged. It was felt that the Sea Defences should be kept back where they are at present. All parish councils to be involved.

13. Email from Steve Shaw regarding the Empowering of Parish & Town Councils by getting the Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill adopted in Parliament. All parish and town councils are being asked to support this Bill by writing to the seven MPs elected to vote for this Bill and asking them to vote in favour of it. Clerk will contact them.

14. Letter from the clerk of the Association of Exmoor Parish Councils to say these meetings have been very poorly attended. To keep down costs they will meet at Exmoor House just before the next Consultative Forum meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> February. The future of the Association will then be discussed.

15. Email from Andy Player about the planting of trees. Mr Lamacraft said 295 trees (out of their 300 target) were planted on 5<sup>th</sup> December just above Nutcombe Bottom car park.

16. Letter from EH regarding the lights on the Yarn Market. They feel the lights are not up to safety standards and could cause a fire. These lights are nothing to do with the parish council but everyone felt they improved the look of the village. Clerk will write to EH asking them to liaise with Mr Wake about the matter and ask if we could have a permanent fixture of lights here.

17. Letter from the Ministry of Justice regarding the maintenance, repair and protection of War Memorials. Local Authorities (including parish councils) have long standing powers available to them for maintenance etc and the War Memorials Act 1923 provides for councils to incur reasonable expenditure in maintenance, repair and protection.

18. Letter from Chairman of the Village Society regarding two Boundary Stones in Bonniton Lane. They had checked with Roads Records and been told this was correct. Crown Estates and Highways said these did not belong to them and the Conservation Dept in Taunton say they are not listed. The Village Society would like to repair these pillars and would like permission from the PC to do so. PC have no objection to this but cannot give any money towards the project as there is some doubt as to whether these are in fact Boundary Stones. Clerk will write asking them to liaise with Mr Toogood.

19. Letter from Packhorse Playing Field asking PC for £100 towards the school's Mosaic Project (the last piece of which will be placed in the Playing Field). PC agreed to support this.

20. Letter from SCC asking us to help keep costs of Council Tax down. They will be freezing their Council Tax at last year's level. Our Precept figures should be in by 8<sup>th</sup> January but as we did not have a full council it was decided to postpone the decision. The clerk will ring and ask if we can have longer to decide. At a recent meeting of the Finance Committee it was decided we should increase our precept to cover work not undertaken by WSC.

## **21. ACCOUNTS**

<u>Expenditure</u>		<u>Income</u>	
Clerk	313.60	Burials	<b>140.00</b>
Packhorse PF	100.00		
Petty cash	50.00		
	<b>463.60</b>		
Petty cash expenditure	<b>19.01</b>		

## **22. DUNSTER WORKING GROUP REPORT**

Mr Lamacraft said a meeting was held recently regarding the Hamilton-Baillie survey. They are still waiting for a response from ENP on the result of public comments. They are collating information from Highways with a view to removing some cars from High St and a meeting will be set up with WSC about possible charging for parking in High Street. It is estimated that 300,000 people per year, above the 100,000 visiting the castle, visit the village. The Working Group are still waiting for the police report on CCTV in the Steep car park.

## **ITEMS ON REPORT**

23. Mr Vicary reported that the post holding the tap in the top cemetery has rotted and needs replacing.
24. Mrs Ell had received a letter from a local resident who is concerned about a firework display planned for New Year in the village gardens.

Meeting closed at 8.55pm

## **CIRCULATIONS**

Somerset Waste Partnership-Review of Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy- Baseline Document Nov 2009.  
Waste Management Strategy- Stakeholders' Workshops 20/22 Nov.  
Tithe Barn Agenda & Minutes 25<sup>th</sup> November  
Hinkley Point –News from EDF Energy Nov 2009  
EDF Plans for Nuclear Build Nov 09 - Initial Proposals & Option Summary Document Nov 09.  
Christmas & New Year Recycling & Refuse Collections  
ENP Annual Monitoring Report 2008/09  
ENP Planning Committee Agenda 1<sup>st</sup> Dec.  
WSC Dunster Area Panel Meetings for 2010.  
SALC Items of Interest to Councillors & Clerks Dec 09.  
SW Association of Parish Councils-Seminar 8<sup>th</sup> Feb 2010.  
SW RDA Hub Drilling Operation-Press Release  
Exmoor Association of PCs. Minutes of meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> May.  
Standards Committee Agenda for Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> Dec.  
WSC Economy & Climate Change – free training available.  
WSC Dunster Area Panel meeting Agenda for 18<sup>th</sup> January 2010.  
WSC Warm Streets Grant Scheme information.  
Somerset Rural Youth Project Newsletter Winter 09.  
Thatch Magazine Autumn 09.  
Slinky Bus information.  
SCC Highway Guide to Winter Services in Somerset 2009/10  
Avon & Somerset Police Authority Newsletter Winter 09.  
Clerks & Councils Direct Magazine Nov 09.  
ENP Park life No 22 November 09.  
SMP Playgrounds & Youth Shelters  
West Somerset Matters November 09.  
SCC Highway Wardens – Emergency Contact No.