

DUNSTER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 13TH JULY 2009

PRESENT A Bishop, B Bryan, C Ell, M Ellis, L Griffiths, G Lamacraft, C Nicholson, K Sully, P Toogood, A Vicary.

OTHERS A Player, Crown, B Leaker, WSC, C Lawrence, SCC, W Wake, NT, and 6 members of the public.

APOLOGIES P Webber

MINUTES The minutes of the last meeting, having been circulated, were signed as a correct record after amendment to Item 3.

MATTERS ARISING

1. ALLOTMENTS

Mr Sully reported that the solicitors had said we should give 12 months notice to vacate allotments even if our agreement had been broken. Our agreement will be amended. The top of Mrs Corbett's allotment has been cleared and she can continue to work the bottom half. This is a gesture of goodwill on behalf of the parish council and we advise she should accept. This was proposed by Mr Lamacraft, seconded by Mr Toogood and all were in favour.

2. CHURCH STREET

Mrs Ell said the potholes had been filled in temporarily. Clerk asked to write again to Mr Owen asking Highways to please complete the work out of season.

3. BANNERS

Two posts are needed so PC can put up their own banners at bottom of the Steep. Permission may not be necessary for temporary signs. NT are happy to display two banners at a time.

4. FENCING ON STEEP

Email from Mr Wake to say the Garden Team will check and carry out emergency repairs. Fence around car park is WSC.

5. TREE AT UNDERPASS

Mr Sully will meet with Magna next week.

6. ALLOTMENT CUP COMPETITION

Mrs Ell will arrange judging again this year and all allotments will be judged.. Mr Keal, Mr Edgell and Mr Mote will be asked to return cups before Show in August.

7. PARISH BOUNDARIES

Mr Leaker said there would be a Boundary Review in June 2010 and the question of moving the parish boundaries and joining together three parishes may arise again. PC are against the idea and will write to Bruce Lang and Adrian Dyer to tell them our views. This was proposed by Mr Lamacraft, seconded by Mr Nicholson and all were in favour.

8. DUNSTER WORKING GROUP

Mr Lamacraft said 3 quotes for CCTV had been obtained. These were very expensive, the lowest being £3640 + vat for 3 cameras in the top half of the Steep car park. The monitor will be in the Wearhouse Shop and it will offer security to residents parking there Funds are available from ENP but PC must instigate the matter. Clerk will write initially to Mr Toogood as Chairman of the Working Group. Mr Lamacraft also reported that work was progressing on the Luttrell Arms corner.

9. NATIONAL TRUST REPORT

Mr Wake said the main issue at present was the proposed café at the Castle and the NT were trying to work things out with the village. They had commissioned an Independent Research and would liaise with the Dunster Action Group.

Mr Leaker said a balance was needed between the NT and business needs of the village and offered to help in any way he could. The PC, DAG, Mr Leaker and Mr Wake should work together to resolve the issue. Mr Lamacraft offered to be the PC representative on this group.

Mrs Lawrence said she understood both sides are under pressure and a copy of the Local Development Framework was needed for our input. Clerk will contact Mr Wyborn for a copy of the Draft.

Dunster Action Group had commissioned their own survey and would discuss results with the NT.

10 CROWN REPORT

Mr Player said a new website was on the way and also a Newsletter. The felling has been done in Conygar Wood and a bench will go in at the viewpoint. Crown are working with the Scouts to develop a potential Orchard scheme and the Tall Trees Trail at Nutcombe is almost finished. The Crown are considering a Parking Meter at Nutcombe Bottom to generate income. The PC are strongly opposed to this.

PLANNING

- 11 Walnut Cottage, Marsh St - Erection of replacement shed. WSC have granted planning permission.
- 12 Street Trading Licence, Yarn Market & High Street. WSC Licencing Committee have refused permission.
- 13 Rowe Farm, Ellicombe - Change of Use of Barn to provide accommodation. ENP have granted Conditional Permission for Full & LB consent.

- 14 Dunster Castle - Tree works in Garden & Park in Conservation Area. The PC support this application but hope the NT will replace the trees felled.
- 15 Old Chapel Cottage, Ellicombe Manor - LB Consent to replace door & windows. PC support the application.
- 16 NT Shop, The Stables, Dunster Castle - LB Consent for internal glass door in shop entrance. PC support this application.
- 17 Spears Cross, West St -LB Consent for various internal alterations. PC support the application.

CORRESPONDENCE

18. WSC Corporate Priorities & Budget for 2010/2011. Consultation Questionnaire received and given out.
19. SW Energy Bulletin-Summer 2009. Available online.
20. Forum 21 are offering free energy surveys with a grant from WSC. Parishes are invited to set up an Energy Team.
21. Community Council for Somerset- Certificate of Membership received, valid until 31st March 2010, this should be displayed on Notice Board.
22. WSC new Planning Manager will be Andrew Goodchild. He would like to attend a meeting to meet with us.
23. WSC Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment. Passed to Mr Sully.
24. WSC Core Strategy. Passed to Miss Bryan.

25. MRS LAWRENCE'S REPORT

Mrs Lawrence said charities can now get money back for planning applications. The SCC are working out ways not to increase Council Tax levels next year.

26. ACCOUNTS

| Expenses | | Income | |
|------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| Advert-Free Press | 23.00 | Allotment rent | 20.00 |
| Allotment work | 85.68 | VAT Refund | 172.46 |
| Cemetery contract | 234.92 | Burial | 50.00 |
| Clerk's salary | 313.60 | | |
| Petty Cash | 50.00 | | |
| Total | 657.20 | Total | 242.46 |
| Petty Cash expenditure | 58.34 | | |

ITEMS ON REPORT

27. Mr Sully told us that the Porlock Surgery (Dr Kelham) had got the contract to run the Dunster Practice. There will be a chance to meet him in the Tithe Barn on 29th July.
28. Some allotments are in a bad state. Clerk will write to M Le Grand asking him to clear up his allotment urgently.
29. Gate to Grabbist is missing, by top cemetery. Clerk will report to Richard Eales.
30. Since the death of Mrs Dore the Doll Museum is only opening 3 days a week. The income on the Dolls Museum is dropping and the Hall relies on this money to keep going. A solution would be to turn the Hall into a Museum. Eileen Zoers could give us more information on this.
31. Miss Bryan warned there are Adders on Grabbist.
32. Post on the footpath by the Old Police Station are missing. Clerk will report to Highways.
33. The face of Grabbist is overgrown and needs clearing. Clerk will write to NT saying the paths are not walkable and the sign near Giants Chair has been vandalised.
34. The Information Board in the Steep car park is very dirty. Clerk will ask WSC to clean it.
35. Cars are parking illegally in West St and by the Yarn Market. Clerk will report to the Police.
36. House on the old Rifle Range in Priory Green- shrubs need cutting back from the road. Clerk will write to owner.
37. Hedge in West Close needs cutting back. Report to Highways.
38. The tree in Park St is breaking up the Bridge and road , Highways have been advised but nothing done. Mrs Lawrence will try to get something done about it.
39. Signs are needed at the Marsh to direct visitors to the village. Mr Toogood will ask the Village Society about this.
40. Mr Sully announced he would be standing down as Chairman for a few months due to a very heavy workload, but will stay on parish council. Mrs Ell did not wish to take over so a new chairman will be nominated at next meeting. Everyone wished him well.

CIRCULATIONS

North Devon & Somerset Shoreline Management Plan –Stakeholders’ Event 15th July
ACRE Briefings – Licencing Procedures
Somerset West Energy Bulletin now available online
Funding Update Village & Community Halls 2009
Community Council for Somerset - Village & Community Halls Newsletter
NALC Annual Conference & Exhibition 4/5th September
Somerset Local Access Forum Newsletter 07/08 & 08/09
SCC Public Rights of Way Newsletter 08/09
ENP Planning Committee Agenda 7th July
Clerks & Councils Direct July 09
WSC Free Home Energy Survey
SW Counties Allotment Association Membership details
Parker’s Seed Catalogue Autumn 09
NALC Leadership Academy event for parish councils- Warwick University 15/18th
September 2009.