

## **DUNSTER PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 13<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 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, PCSO Williams, D Challoner, M Harborne.

**APOLOGIES:** PC Bruce Strachan.

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the last meeting, having been circulated, were signed as a correct record after amendment to No 11.

Before the meeting began Mr Lamacraft apologised to Mr Bishop for omitting his name from the list of councillors in the Parish Magazine.

#### **MATTERS ARISING**

1. RIVERSIDE PROJECT

Mr Toogood said he thought the project had made a lot of difference and will be enjoyed by many. Mr Sully said it is not quite finished and the gate needs to go in but the Bridge looks great. Mr Witherford thanked Mr Vicary and Mr Challoner for all their help.

2. BAGS IN RIVER

Mr Witherford had spoken to Mr Armstrong of WW. There are tree roots around the pipe but the Environment Agency will not allow them to be removed.

3. HIGHWAY MATTERS

Email received from Highways to say the grass by the bus shelter is cut by the WSC but funded by SCC. Grass cuttings were not removed due to the cost of disposal and funding for grass cutting has been reduced this year. Mr Sully said if the grass was cut earlier there would not be so many clippings .

The A39 cycle/footway is narrow by today's standards but was built in the 90s. Width at present is 0.9m but could be widened to 1.2m if funds were available. However revenue for siding work has been cut for this year. It will be added to the list but there is no guarantee any work will be carried out in the current financial year.

4. WILLOW TREE

This will be felled in the Autumn.

5. COUNCILLOR TRAINING

Mr Toogood attended the training session for new Chairmen and found it very informative and worthwhile.

6. WSC WISH LIST

Mr Toogood and Mr Webber will get together to complete it.

7. NEW DOCTOR'S SURGERY

Mr Toogood said the Project Manager wishes to hold a Public Meeting in July.

8. PARISH ROAD

The potholes have now been filled in.

9. ENP ELECTIONS

Mr Lamacraft had sent in his nomination paper in good time but Peter Lacey told Mr Toogood that SALC had not received it. Mrs Lawrence will speak to Nigel Stone about this. Dunster Parish Council voted for the four Somerset representatives.

10. PART NIGHT STREET LIGHTING

Dunster Parish Council decided not to go ahead with the scheme.

11. SUPERFAST BROADBAND

Mrs Lawrence said SCC had been successful in their bid and 51 million pounds are available for the scheme.

12. MEMORIAL HALL

It was decided that Mrs Bale would represent the parish council on the Memorial Hall Committee.

13. CHEQUE FOR DAVSCA

The £500 has now been forwarded to DAVSCA and Mr Fay wished to thank Mrs Lawrence and all concerned.

14. HANGING BASKETS

Mrs Ell said these have now been ordered. Letter received from Mrs Nicholson, Chairman of the Village Society, to say they will pay for the Hanging Baskets and the bill should be sent to the secretary Mr Hambrook.

#### **15. POLICE REPORT**

SC James said there had been three crimes reported this month, the crime figures for this area are low. Some villages who have opted for part night street lighting have not had any increase in crime. Mr Vicary reported that the ROC Bunker at Dunster Beach was in a very dangerous condition. PCSO Hurley already knows about this. Clerk will write to Crown Estate about this.

#### **16. MRS LAWRENCE'S REPORT**

Mrs Lawrence had attended a meeting at Williton to discuss possible diversion routes when road closures occur on the A39, pilot tests are to be carried out. SCC can bid for money for road upgrades. Withycombe Straight is to have better signage.

#### **17. MR CHICK'S REPORT**

A site meeting had been held at Hinkley but preliminary works yet to be passed. The Devolution Paper is being discussed and WSC will need to speak to parish councils as they may have to take on some services. We will be told in time to set our precept.

#### **18. ALLOTMENT INSPECTION**

An Inspection Meeting was held on 24<sup>th</sup> May. The allotments were in good condition generally but No 8 had encroached on to the path making access to the hedge very difficult. Clerk will write to the allotment holder concerned.

#### **19. CEMETERIES INSPECTION**

This Inspection Meeting was also carried out on 24<sup>th</sup> May. The Garden of Rest needs attention and graves should be levelled to make mowing easier. In future all headstones should be 20" and under as these do not need safety testing. This was proposed by Mrs Bale, seconded by Mr Sully and all were in favour. Another bin is needed in the top cemetery and the Dog Bin in West Close needs moving to the top of the steps. Clerk will write to WSC.

#### **20. REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS, RISK ASSESSMENT ETC**

Standing Orders, Risk Assessment and Financial Regulations were all revised and agreed. Copies of these will be passed to all councillors at next meeting. Copies of the Code of Conduct have already been distributed. List of Assets was discussed and clerk will contact our Insurance to change the value of the Notice Board to £385. Clerk will also write to the WI about the dangerous state of the seat on The Green. The seat comes under our insurance and needs to be moved for safety reasons.

## **PLANNING**

21. 30a West Street – Proposed change of use of existing garage to one local affordable one bedroom dwelling. Site meeting held 17<sup>th</sup> May. Parish Council support the application.
22. 15 West Street – Householder/LB – Proposed alterations and improvements to existing single storey conservatory. Site meeting held previously. Parish Council support the application.
23. Ellicombe Manor – Proposed replacement of existing redundant septic tank and associated drainage. Conditional & LB Consent granted by ENP.
24. 25 West Street – Proposed formation of second floor bedroom to include alterations to work already commenced under planning permission granted 1988. Conditional & LB Consent granted by ENP.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

25. Letter from Mrs Joan Nicholson thanking Mr Sully for all his hard work over the years both as Chairman and her Vice Chairman.
26. Letter from SCC regarding Somerset Visitor Survey Research. This will be carried out in the High Street on 17<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> June. Clerk will write to say this is OK with us.
27. Letter from WSC about Williton Masterplan Consultation. Copies of the plan are available and consultation ends 22<sup>nd</sup> July. A Public Event will be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June at the Council Offices.
28. Letter from Community Council asking about any village projects that need funding. This was passed to Mr Witherford.

## **ITEMS ON REPORT**

29. Mr Webber said weed spraying was needed near the Packhorse Playing Field from the gate to the bridge. Mr Sully will ask Mr Storey to spray.
30. Work had been carried out on the windows at 20 Church Street. Mr Toogood will speak to ENP about this.
31. The post outside Chapel Crafts has still not been done. Clerk will report to Highways.

32. Mrs Ell was concerned about the future of the Doll Museum and felt they needed more space. It was suggested a Public Meeting should be held to discuss the future of the Memorial Hall and Doll Museum. Clerk will write to Mr Brunt, Chairman of the Memorial Hall Committee suggesting this and Mrs Bale will bring the matter up at the next Hall Committee meeting. This was proposed by Mr Sully, seconded by Mrs Ell and all were in favour.
33. Painting on the wall of the Underpass is very good but Mr Witherford reported graffiti on the other wall and suggested we paint this wall with anti graffiti paint. Mr Sully will get prices for the paint.
34. Picnic tables are needed in the Community Orchard. These can cost up to £200 each. Mrs Oliver proposed that the parish council pay for one, seconded by Mr Sully and all were in favour.
35. Mrs Webber said that the Village Society would be willing to pay for a board with a map of the village at the Marsh. Mr Sully suggested we wait as the Crown may wish to do something like this when the Riverside project is finished.
36. Mrs Webber said we needed a village cleaner. This had been discussed by the parish council some time ago but it was thought it would be very expensive and we would probably have to share one with Timberscombe.
37. Mr Webber reported the Flood Channel was overgrown and needed clearing. Clerk will report to the Environment Agency.
38. Mrs Bale reported ivy growing on the Arches in Priory Green needed clearing. Mr Toogood will speak to ENP and EH to find out who is responsible.

### 39. ACCOUNTS

Income	
VAT Refund	346.92
Burial	200.00

**Total** **546.92**

Expenditure	
Work to Parish Road	765.00
Weed Spraying	192.00
Cemetery Contract	250.40
Clerk's salary	313.60
Parish Magazine	50.00

**Total** **1571.00**

Petty cash expenditure 21.48

A meeting of the Finance Committee will be held on 30<sup>th</sup> June.

Meeting closed 9.30pm

## **JUNE CIRCULATIONS**

SCC 2011 Somerset Visitor Survey Research  
ENP Exmoor Consultative & Parish Forum Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> June Agenda & Minutes  
Community Council for Somerset Trustee/Director Recruitment  
ENP Planning Committee June 7<sup>th</sup> Agenda  
ENP Applications w/e 27/5/11  
Quarterly Property Forum 28<sup>th</sup> June – Localism  
Partnership Working-Research & Building Links with Fire & Rescue Service  
SCC Libraries & Mobile Libraries-Update on Opening Hours  
NALC Conference & Exhibition 15<sup>th</sup> June  
WSC Community Matters Newsletters 19/5/11, 26/5/11, 2/6/11 & 9/6/11  
Renewable Solutions Conference, Bristol, 5<sup>th</sup> July  
SCC Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2  
Hinkley Point C News from EDF June 2011  
Community Council for Somerset BBC Local Radio Invite  
Thatch Newsletter Spring 2011  
Society of Local Council Clerks Branch Executive Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> June Agenda & Notes  
Sustainable Government Newsletters 19/5/11, 26/5/11, 1/6/11 & 9/6/11  
Homefinder Property Newsletters 22/5/11, 29/5/11, 5/6/11 & 12/6/11  
Age UK Newsletters 27/5/11 & 9/6/11  
Journal of Local Planning – Neighbourhood Planning  
WSC Warm Streets Scheme  
Election of Parish Members to ENP Authority – Letters from candidates  
Parish Online Mapping  
SCC Guide to Buses Serving Wincanton