

# **DUNSTER PARISH COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 12<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2009**

**PRESENT** C Ell, M Ellis, L Griffiths, G Lamacraft, C Nicholson, K.Sully, P Toogood, A Vicary, P Webber.

**OTHERS** W Wake, NT, 6 members of the public.

**APOLOGIES** A Bishop, B Bryan, B Leaker.

**MINUTES** Minutes of the last meeting, having been circulated, were signed as a correct record after amendments to Nos 12 & 35.

### **MATTERS ARISING**

#### 1. NATIONAL TRUST SURVEY

Invitation from Sally Twiss to stakeholders to meet on 24<sup>th</sup> November. Also an Open Debate will be held on 26<sup>th</sup> November in the Memorial Hall. Mr Lamacraft mentioned a letter which had recently appeared in the Free Press complaining that the DAG's Posters, Banners and Petition are bad publicity for the village and affecting other businesses. Parish Council to write to DAG asking for the removal of these with immediate effect. This was proposed by Mr Lamacraft, seconded by Mr Ellis and the majority were in favour.

#### 2. WEST STREET GATE

New NT signs will be introduced to direct traffic for the Castle through the village. PC were in favour of the new signs. The gate will be removable by lifting off the hinges if necessary. All emergency services have been issued with the gate code.

#### 3. HIGHWAY MATTERS

Email from Richard Newby. He was doubtful if installation of double white lines on the A39 would meet the necessary criteria. Removal of the bus stops would be a matter for the Transport Department.

He agreed a barrier on the cycle path would prevent cyclists overshooting the junction but this would cost much more than a painted sign. SCC cannot justify the expenditure in the absence of an accident record. Clerk will ask Highways to plough out and widen the cycle path as it is very narrow (only 2 feet wide in places.).

#### 4. WEED SPRAYING

Complete Weed Control had sprayed the village ( High St, Church St, West St, from the Green to the school and Hangers Way). The cost was £170 plus vat. We will get another quote from Mr Storey.

#### 5. HEDGE, CONYGAR VIEW

The hedge and bank have been cleared by the Crown but the drain is still covered in vegetation. Clerk will report to Highways.

#### 6. DUNSTER WORKING GROUP

The next meeting will be held on 19<sup>th</sup> October with Inspector Pearce to discuss CCTV cameras. Ben Hamilton-Baillie & Associates have completed their initial research into Pedestrian/Vehicle conflict in the village and will give a presentation to the Dunster Action Plan Working Group later this month. There will also be a Public Presentation & Display on 27<sup>th</sup> October in the Tithe Barn.

#### 7. BOUNDARY REVIEW

A Boundary Review meeting will be held in the Council Offices, Williton, on 21<sup>st</sup> October. Mr Toogood and Mrs Ell will go.

#### 8. CAR PARK/SPORTSFIELD

Mrs Ell had contacted Thorne Segar about the Lease and was told the case had been passed to someone else. Clerk will write to the senior partner about the delays.

A letter of thanks had been sent to Viridor for the donation of a free Topper.

#### 9. CEMETERY MEETING

A report on the recent cemetery meeting was given by Mr Toogood. The top cemetery was a bit of a mess and it was agreed that levelling the grass around graves would make it easier for the contractor. The hedge is the responsibility of the neighbouring property and they are happy to deal with it. Mr Griffiths said he thought the Ash trees needed felling. Immediate repair work is needed on the grave of Prebendary Hancock as this is an important grave.

#### 10. ALLOTMENT MEETING

A report on the allotment meeting was given by Mr Sully. Most of the allotments were in fairly good condition but there were three bad ones These were 29A, 29B & 43B. clerk will write asking them to clear them up immediately. If nothing done they will be given one months notice to quit. Mrs Corbett was given one years notice to quit which is due to expire next April. Nothing has been done with her allotment recently.

#### 11. TREE WORKS

Robin Andrews, NT Head Gardener, gave us the reasons why permission for the felling of a large Sycamore and a Blue Cedar had been refused by the ENP.

#### 12. 34B WEST STREET

Mr Wyborn had written to say that ENP were keeping an eye on this property now it had changed hands.

#### 13. LAND BEHIND CONYGAR VIEW

Letter from Magna to say Mr Murray will be in contact soon to discuss the matter of the possible transfer of this land to the parish council.

#### 14. RIVER BEHIND CONYGAR VIEW

Clerk had written about the fly tipping of rubbish in the river here. John Richards of the Environment Agency had written to say he will visit the site. Unless waste is likely to pass into the River Avill and pose a flood risk it will not be regulated under their Byelaws and will be passed to the Environment Management Team.

#### 15. SIGN IN STEEP CAR PARK

WSC have tried cleaning the sign but due to its age it is beyond repair. The Parking Manager has arranged for the sign to be replaced next Spring.

### **PLANNING**

16. DUNSTER CASTLE – Erection of Greenhouse & Timber Potting Shed. Conditional Permission has been granted by ENP.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

17. Email from Mr Wake regarding work by Wessex Water to repair erosion of the river bank. This could breach the Inspection Chamber in the Sewer Pipe crossing the Castle Parkland. PC were invited to a site visit with the Head Gardener. Unfortunately this had to be cancelled but PC had no objection to these works. Permission had been given for the removal of two mature Chestnut Trees which are diseased and planting of the Winter Garden would be starting soon.

18. Letter from SCC regarding Transport Priorities in the parish. Details passed to Mr Lamacraft.

19. North Devon & Somerset Shoreline Management Plan – Consultation Events will be held.

20. Letter from the Environment Agency about Footbridge Package B Works to be done on the Avill Flood Relief Channel.

21. Invitation to Magna West Somerset Stakeholders Conference on 23<sup>rd</sup> October at Halsway Manor. Someone will try to attend.

### **22. ACCOUNTS**

Expenditure		Income	
Audit Fees	184.00	Precept	7750.00
Cemetery Contract	234.92	Memorial	40.00
Clerk's salary	313.60		
Weed Spraying	195.50		
Wessex water	82.03		
Dunster action Plan	500.00		
Total	1510.05	Total	7790.00
Petty cash expend.	3.50	Balance held	17,000.

## **ITEMS ON REPORT**

23. A Finance Meeting will be arranged for later in the month.
24. The clerk will look into getting a new computer for the PC. A top figure of £1000 all in was proposed by Mr Webber, seconded by Mr Sully and all were in favour.
25. The gate to Grabbist leading from the allotments is still broken. Clerk will report again to Richard Eales.
26. Mr Lamacraft said the Inter Parish Quiz will be held in Dunster Tithe Barn this year on 23<sup>rd</sup> October.
27. Traffic Lights in Church St are still not right. Clerk will report again to SCC.
28. Mr Sully said he is trying to get something done about the Chestnut Tree near the Old Police House at the Marsh.
29. Mr Ellis said we need warning signs for traffic in Marsh Street as there are more children living and playing there now. Clerk will ask Highways for a Caution sign for traffic entering Marsh St.

Meeting closed 8.50pm.

## **OCTOBER CIRCULATIONS**

SCC Exmoor Clouds Classic Trial 18<sup>th</sup> October  
SCC Temporary Road Closure A39 Bircham Road 25<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> October  
SCC Temporary Road Closure Church St & Combeland Rd 2<sup>nd</sup> November  
SCC Temporary Road Closure Tregonwell & Ponsford Rd 4<sup>th</sup> November  
SCC Temporary Road Closure A39 Minehead Without 12<sup>th</sup> November  
WSC Temporary Road Closure Dunster By Candlelight 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> December  
N. Devon & Somerset Shoreline Management Plan. Consultation Event 14<sup>th</sup> Oct.  
Dunster Action Plan Working Group. Agenda for meeting 19<sup>th</sup> October  
NT Dunster Village Visitors Questionnaire  
NT Dunster Castle Brief for Economic Impact Research  
Dunster Tithe Barn AGM 21<sup>st</sup> October – Agenda & Minutes  
WSC Climate Energy & Ecological Exmoor – Solar Heating  
WSC Community Matters October 09  
Somerset Waste Partnership Campaign 2009  
SW. RDA Press Release on Bristol's Economy  
SW RDA Press Release Low Carbon Homes - Portland  
ENP Low Carbon Festival 12<sup>th</sup> October  
Society of Local Council Clerks – Membership Details  
NALC Quality Councils – Free Learning Seminars 30<sup>th</sup> October  
ENP Planning Committee Agenda for 6<sup>th</sup> October  
Somerset Rural Life Museum Exhibition on 16<sup>th</sup> October  
Wine Tasting in Tithe Barn 6<sup>th</sup> November in aid of DAVSCA  
WSC Somerset West Energy Bulletin Issue 2 Autumn 09  
NHS Mental Health Matters September 09

Society of Local Clubs Regional Conference (SW) 3<sup>rd</sup> December  
Wicksteed & Komplan – Play Furniture