

DUNSTER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT DUNSTER TITHE BARN ON 08th July
2024 7.00pm

Attendees

Councillors: Geoff Dibble (Chair), James Morley, Peter Finney, Chris Oliver, Kevin Sully, Tony Melnyk, Carol Ell, Tessa Williams and Alan Vicary

Clerk: Mrs Sarah Towells

Other: Christine Lawrence (SC) and one allotment holder

Apologies

Councillors: None

Other: Marcus Kravis (SC)

24/53 To note apologies for absence: As noted above.

24/54 Any New Declarations of interest and dispensations: There were none.

24/55 Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 10th June 2024 for approval: It was resolved to approve the minutes.

24/56 Somerset Councillor Report: Cllr Lawrence reported that she hoped that now there was a new government in place there may be more help for rural communities. There is no change in the finance situation at Somerset Council.

24/57 Accounts

24/57.1 Approval of expenditure: It was resolved to pay the payments on the attached list.

24/57.2 Current account expenditure analysis for June 2024: It was resolved to note the figures. These were signed by Cllr Finney.

24/57.3 Bank reconciliation for June 2024: It was resolved to note the bank reconciliation which was signed by Cllr Finney.

24/57.4 Budget Monitoring: It was resolved to note the budget monitoring which were signed by Cllr Finney.

24/57.5 PAYE figures for June: These were checked and signed by Cllr Finney.

24/57.6 Adopt new financial regulations: It was resolved to adopt the financial regulations.

24/58 Planning:

ENP	6/10/24/005LB	Listed building consent for the proposed installation of shower room/WC to include new door opening at ground level in rear annex (retrospective). At 25 West Street, Dunster, TA24 6SN	It was resolved no objections
ENP	6/10/24/006LB	Listed building consent for the proposed replacement the existing Oak wheelshaft with a decay resistant Greenheart timber axle of the same dimensions. At DUNSTER WORKING WATER MILL, 7, MILL LANE, DUNSTER, MINEHEAD, TA24 6SW	It was resolved no objections

24/59 Toilets: It was resolved to change the gents into another single cubicle and create a storage space from the ladies and the rest of the gents' area. It was further resolved to refurb the existing two cubicles in line with the newly created one in the gents area. The Clerk would get 3 quotes. A Letter had been received from a resident offering to help to clean the toilets on a voluntary basis to help keep them open. It was resolved to write and thank him and update on the plans for the toilets.

24/59.1 Return to a pay to use facility: It was resolved to defer this until the quotes had been received for the above works.

24/60 Cemetery: It was resolved to note the grave diggers are leaving stone in the hedgerow and filling in pot holes around the cemetery, the contractor has damaged his blades again on his mower. It was resolved the Clerk would contact the funeral directors to ask that this doesn't happen again and could result in an invoice being sent for the repair of the mower.

24/61 Allotments: There was one plot to re-let. Cllr Sully would sort out new plot holder this week.
24/61.1 Request from Plot holder to plant fruit trees: A request had come in from a plot holder to plant fruit trees on his plot. His plot already has 2 on it. The Council agreed he could have 2 cordon rows of 5 fruit trees as stipulated within our allotment tenancy agreement, but the plot holder was not happy with this. It was resolved the allotment committee would arrange to meet him and report back to the next council meeting.

24/62 Buttercross Orchard: The Clerk reported she had still not received any bank statements.

24/63 Riverside Walk: The Clerk had reported the state of the River to the EA who assured her they would visit to assess the situation. The weed was taken out on Friday, but not sure who had done this, and was left on the river bank. The EA were out clearing the river today and would be back again tomorrow. Cllr Dibble would contact them to thank them and continue to work with them to keep the river running clear of weed and debris. He would also ask if it was them that cleared the river on Friday. The Clerk had contacted 4 companies to spray Riverside Walk and the river but the only quote to date was from G A Sully & Sons at a cost of £148.00 to spray Riverside Walk and £568 to spray the river. It was resolved to accept both quotes as the weed growth was getting out of hand and could not be left for a further month.

24/64 Correspondence:

24/64.1 Letter from Tithe Barn Committee: Quotes had now been received by the Tithe Barn Committee and it was resolved to grant £2000 towards the base for the new shed.

24/64.2 Response from Packhorse Playing Field regarding request for additional funding: It was resolved to grant them a further £900 to ensure the play park could remain open safely.

24/64.3 Letter from Wessex Water: It was resolved to write to Wessex Water to say they could access our land to do repair work to the sewer.

24/64.4 Request from Knitter and Natter for funding: It was resolved to grant them £200.00

24/65 Risk Register: It was resolved to note there were no updates.

24/66 Highways: It was resolved to note the Clerk had reported the wall being down in St Georges Street but no repair work had yet been done. It was resolved the Clerk would contact them again as it was a health and safety concern.

Dunster Steep drains are blocked causing the water to go into the subway. It was resolved the Clerk would report this to Highways.

Discussions took place regarding the keep clear space near the Yarn Market. Cllr Williams would take some photos and we could then report to Highways and the Police.

24/67 Weed spraying Contract: The Clerk had contacted 4 companies. Four Seasons in Minehead were unable to quote, the Clerk was still in contact with Complete Weed Control, G A Sully & Sons Ltd and Greenslades to secure quotes for the next meeting.

24/68 Items to Report and matters for the next meeting to be held on Monday 08th July 2024:

Tractors speeding through the village

Coming out of Castle Hill vehicles are still turning left when there is a clear NO LEFT TURN sign

Meeting closed 9.14 p.m.

Signed Date.....