

# DUNSTER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14<sup>th</sup> October 2019 7.30pm  
TITHE BARN, DUNSTER

## Attendees

**Councillors:** D Challoner (Chair), A Vicary, G Lamacraft, C Oliver, C Eil,  
S Ashton, G Dibble and P Finney

**Clerk:** Mrs Sarah Towells

**Other:** 28 members of public & Seamus Rogers (NT)

## Apologies

**Councillors:** J Meakes & T Williams

**Other:** Marcus Kravis (SWaT), Peter Pilkington (SWaT) and Craig Dixon

**19/90 To note apologies for absence:** As noted above.

**19/91 Declarations of interest and dispensations:** There were none.

**19/92 Co-option of Councillor:** An application had been received from Craig Dixon for the casual vacancy on the council. After a proposal from Cllr Eil and seconded by Cllr Oliver it was unanimously resolved to Co-opt Mr Dixon onto the Council. As Mr Dixon was not in attendance, he would sign the Declaration of Acceptance on his return to UK.

**19/93 Minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2019:** It was unanimously resolved to approve the minutes after an amendment to item 19/79.8 to read Michael Hintze and not Martin Hinzle.

**19/94 Public Participation:** There were none.

**19/95 Report from West Somerset Councillor:** There was no report.

**19/96 Report from Somerset County Councillor:** Cllr Lawrence reported a grant of £500 should be awarded to the packhorse playing field. Steve Deakin will be speaking to the Parish Council on 11<sup>th</sup> November prior to the start of the meeting, this will not be open to members of the public. The work on Dunster Marsh pavement finished today.

**19/97 Any other reports:** The Police reported there had been 2 potential crimes in the Parish of Dunster in September. There were approximately 104 police calls in the whole of the Exmoor area, of which 11 were in the Dunster Parish.

Cllr Finney attended the Dunster area panel on 1<sup>st</sup> October and gave the following report: *A New group called Wessex Resolution are offering cash up to £15k at a rate of 4%, aimed at people who cannot get credit but need cash for replacement heating or a new cooker as some examples. The Police report mirrored the one above. Highways have a tree stockpile of 21400 trees. Marsh Lane road and pavement improvements. Pavement once completed will signal for the road to be done. Salt bins need to be checked and if topping up is required, SCC need to be informed by the end of October. Also available are 1 tonne dumpy bags and smaller bags- notification required.*

19/97.1 Candlelight meeting: Cllr Challoner attended this meeting and the parking at Dunster Marsh will be the same as last year.

## **19/98 Matters arising:**

19/98.1 Defibrillators: It was resolved to accept the quote from Mike Williams to fit the defibrillators. Cllr Oliver will contact the ambulance service to arrange delivery.

19/98.2 Trees in Riverside Walk: Three trees were removed in total. Cllr Challoner has contacted Mr Holloway to say one tree stump could be a trip hazard.

19/98.3 Cobblestones in Council Yard: Cllr Lamacraft had spoken to Melvyn Sully and asked him to send the account to SKANSA. Melvyn Sully will arrange for the cobblestones to be moved to the side of the Tithe Barn.

19/98.4 Slabs outside Ashley Bishop Gallery: The slabs were still loose outside the gallery. The Clerk would contact Highways again.

19/98.5 Blocked gullies in West Street: Emails had been passing between SWaT and SCC, but the work has not yet been done. Cllr Dibble would contact Highways.

19/98.6 Blocked holes in kerbs on old A39: Orange lines had appeared on the roadside, but the holes are still blocked. The Clerk would write again.

19/98.7 Fence outside retail unit: The clerk reported SwaT had this on their list of work to be done.

19/98.8 Cancellation of bus shelter cleaning contract: It was resolved to note the contract had been cancelled.

### 19/99 Accounts Report:

19/99.1 Approval of expenditure: It was unanimously resolved to pay the payments on the attached list.

19/99.2 Current account expenditure analysis for September: It was resolved to note the current account expenditure analysis and to note the bank balance on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019 was £16252.60

19/99.3 Bank reconciliation for September 2019: It was resolved to note that Cllr Challoner had signed the bank reconciliation for the month of September.

19/99.4 Buttercross and Riverside Walk balance: Cllr Lamacraft had sent updated account balances to the Clerk.

19/99.5 Grant application for EV charge points: Cllr Dibble reported this had been sent to SWaT.

19/99.6 Conclusion of Audit: It was resolved to note the external auditor's report and comments.

### 19/100 Planning

19/100.1 To consider the following planning applications:

ENP	6/10/19/112	The Barns, Ellicombe Lane Alcombe	Lawful development certificate for the proposed replacement rear conservatory	It was <b>resolved</b> the Council had no objections.
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19/100.2 To note the following decisions:

ENP	6/10/19/110LB	23 West Street Dunster	Listed Building consent for proposed installation of suspended ceilings and installation of wood burner to replace open fire	<b>Approved</b>
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It was resolved to note the planning decisions.

### 19/101 Correspondence:

19/101.1 To note the correspondence log: It was resolved to note the correspondence log.

19/101.2 Any other correspondence:

Email from Mr Redman regarding developments on Dunster Playing Field: It was resolved to send the email onto Somerset County Council as they own the land. Mr Redman agreed this could be done.

Email from Craig Dixon regarding parking in Dunster: It was resolved to give these to Steve Deakin on 11<sup>th</sup> November for the parking review.

Letter from Denise Merry: It was resolved to give the letter to Steve Deakin for the parking review.

### 19/102 Dunster Steep Toilets:

19/102.1 Sponsorship notice board: Cllr Challoner circulated a draft of what the board would look like, which had been done by Jenni Fender. It was resolved to include the following: *“Dunster Parish Council would like to thank the residents of Dunster together with the following businesses -----”*.

**19/103 Allotments:**

19/103.1 Statutory Declaration: The Clerk had received the Statutory Declaration from Mrs Taylor but felt it should be looked at by a solicitor. It was resolved to do this.

19/103.2 Review of allotment agreement: It was resolved to keep the wording the same on the agreement for 2020/21.

**19/104 Road bumps – The Green:** It was resolved to ask for a sleeping policeman to go between the Ball and The Green to try to reduce the speed of traffic.

**19/105 Bonfires in the village:** It was resolved Cllr Lamacraft would put an item in the local magazine regarding bonfires in the village.

**19/106 Exmoor Bike Park:** A stakeholder Briefing on a Mountain Bike Centre was held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September. Since that briefing no information had come to the Parish Council, it would be very likely the Parish Council would give a negative response to this if a proposal if it becomes official. Concerns from the public were reported to the Parish Council.

**19/107 Christmas Dinner:** Cllr Ell had booked the Stags Head, and this would be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Cllr Ell would circulate the menu as soon as she has it.

**19/108 Risk Register:**

19/108.1 To form a Personnel Committee: It was resolved Cllrs Finney, Ashton and Ell would form the personnel committee.

19/108.2 Adopt Grievance and Disciplinary policy. It was resolved to adopt the policy.

19/108.3 Purchase of a metal box: The Clerk confirmed she had purchased a lockable metal box.

19/108.4 Clerks risk assessment: It was resolved to note the assessment which would be discussed by the personnel committee in more detail.

It was resolved to update the risk register with all the above items.

**10/109 Councillor training:** The clerk had booked Cllrs Williams and Ashton onto the course. The Clerk would ask Mr Dixon and Cllr Meakes if they would like to attend.

**19/110 Items on Report:**

Cllr's Challoner, Finney and Vicary would attend the West Somerset Flood Group meeting at Samford Brett on 22<sup>nd</sup> October.

Cllr Lamacraft would put a reminder in the parish magazine regarding the one-hour parking outside five quarters.

Cllr Challoner reported Road Closed signs were in place instead of Business as Usual signs while the work on Church Street was taking place.

The SALC West area meeting was taking place in Williton on 17<sup>th</sup> October at 5pm.

Cllr Dibble reported one of the gardening magazines would be doing a feature on Dunster allotments next year.

Cllr Lamacraft reported the unused Frackford Bridge was disappearing under bramble and ivy. A plan would be bought to the next parish Council meeting.

Cllr Vicary reported the drain by Dunster Station is blocked and needs jetting as the road was under 12 inches of water after all the rain last Thursday and the ditch a Bonniton Lane needs clearing out to prevent it coming out on to the main road out of Dunster into Timberscombe.

**19/111 Matters for the next meeting to be held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019:**

Hanging baskets

At this point in the meeting Seamus Rogers asked if he could speak. He stated he had not received an agenda and was sorry he did not make the last meeting where the Dunster Castle application (6/10/19/111) was discussed.

He went on to say he was disappointed the Parish Council refused the application and requested the Council to withdraw their comments sent to ENP regarding planning application. The Council stood by their original comments and stated they would not withdraw them.

Going forward The Clerk would send agendas to Mr Rogers.

Meeting closed 9.30 p.m.

Signed ..... Date.....