

DUNSTER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD At DUNSTER TITHE BARN ON
09th May 2022 7.00pm

Attendees

Councillors: Doug Challoner (Chair), Christine Oliver, Alan Vicary, Carol Ell, Jackie Meakes, Tessa Williams, Peter Finney and James Morley (Left meeting after item 22/04)

Clerk: Mrs Sarah Towells

Other: Christine Lawrence (SCC) Marcus Kravis

Apologies

Councillors: Kevin Sully and Geoff Dibble

Other: None

22/01 Election of Chairman and receipt of acceptance of office: Cllr Challoner was elected as Chairman and duly signed the Declaration of Office.

22/02 Declaration of acceptance of Members: All members signed the Declaration of Office.

22/03 To note apologies for absence: As noted above.

22/04 Co-option of new members: It was unanimously resolved to Co-opt James Morley onto Dunster Parish Council who duly signed the Declaration of Office. Cllr Morley left the meeting at this point as he had other commitments but would attend future meetings.

22/05 Declarations of interest and dispensations: The Clerk circulated the forms and instructed councillors they had 28 days to submit them.

22/06 Election of Vice Chairman and receipt of Declaration of Office: Cllr Dibble was elected as Vice Chairman and he would sign his declaration at the next meeting.

22/07 Appointment of Councillors to committees: It was resolved to note the staffing committee, Grievance panel, Appeal panel and Disciplinary panel would go on the June agenda.

22/07.1 Finance Committee: It was resolved Cllrs Challoner, Williams, Dibble and Finney would be on the Finance Committee.

22/07.2 Allotment Committee: It was resolved Cllrs Ell, Sully, Challoner and Dibble would be on the allotment committee.

22/07.3 Cemetery Committee: It was resolved Cllrs Oliver, Vicary, Challoner and Meakes would be the cemetery committee.

22/07.4 Planning Committee: It was resolved Cllrs Vicary, Meakes, Oliver and Finney would be on the planning committee.

22/07.5 Climate Group: It was resolved Cllrs Williams, Finney and Meakes would be the Climate group.

22/07.6 Marsh Playing Field: It was resolved Cllrs Vicary,,Finney and Meakes would be the Council representatives

22/07.7 Buttercross Orchard: Cllr Vicary and Challoner would be the Council representatives.

22/07.8 Packhorse Playing Field: It was resolved Cllrs Ell and Dibble would be the representatives. This left one vacancy which would go on next month's agenda.

22/07.9 Dunster Recovery Group: It was resolved Cllrs Finney and Williams would be the councillors on this group.

22/08 Agreeing to subscribe to Outside Bodies: It was resolved the Council would subscribe to SLCC, SALC, CPRE and the Exmoor Society.

22/09 Review of Risk Management: It was resolved to update the register with the new fireproof cabinet for archiving minutes and other documents.

22/10 Review of Standing Orders: It was unanimously resolved to adopt the NALC version.

22/11 Review of Financial regulations: It was unanimously resolved to re-adopt our existing Financial Regulations.

22/12 Review of Code of Conduct: It was unanimously resolved to adopt the Code of Conduct issued by the District Council.

22/13 Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th April 2022 for approval: It was resolved to approve the minutes.

22/14 Accounts

22/14.1 Approval of expenditure: It was resolved to pay the payments on the attached list.

22/14.2 Current account expenditure analysis for April 2022: It was resolved to note the income and expenditure for April, and this was signed by Cllr Finney.

22/14.3 Bank reconciliation for April 2022: It was resolved Cllr Finney could sign the bank reconciliation for April.

22/14.4 Buttercross Orchard balance: The Clerk had been notified there was no change.

22/14.5 Budget Monitoring: It was resolved to note the budget monitoring. Cllr Finney would sign this.

22/14.6 PAYE figures for April 2022: These were checked and signed by Cllr Meakes.

22/14.7 Grant for the Community Orchard; It was resolved to grant the orchard £250.00 for fuel for mowers and strimmers, also for use in the Riverside walk strimmers.

22/15 Planning:

22/15.1 To consider the following planning applications:

ENP	6/10/22/110LB	Listed building consent for installation of wooden dado panelling at 6 Church Street, Dunster, TA24 6SG Retrospective	It was resolved to note there were no objections.
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22/16 Toilets: Donation boxes had received £714.00 since July 2021. The correct toilets have now arrived and waiting for the plumber to start work.

22/17 Cemetery: The cemetery group met, and it was resolved the Clerk would submit a planning application for change of use of the small field next to the existing cemetery.

22/18 Allotments:

22/18.1 Allotment paths; It was resolved to arrange for quotes to create a 3-year contract for the cutting of allotment paths.

22/18.2 Allotment plots: It was resolved Kevin Sully could spray any plots that are left in a mess prior to re-letting them.

22/18.3 Notice board: It was resolved to ask A Ell for a quote.

22/19 Correspondence:

22/19.1 Email from SALC regarding Cllr Training: It was resolved no one wished to do the training.

22/20 Dunster Recovery Group: It was resolved to note a further £5000 funding had now been received and the group would meet on Wednesday.

22/21 Welcome Back Fund: There was no update.

22/22 Report from County Councillor: Cllr Lawrence reported that she had been re-elected and would serve one year on the Somerset County Council and 4 years on the new unitary Council. Cllr Kravis reported that he would continue to serve for one year as a district Councillor along side being a County Councillor.

22/23 Report from District Councillor: Cllr Kravis thanked Cllr Griffiths for all his hard work up to the election and congratulated Cllr Lawrence on her re-election. He went on to say, new parking machines had

been fitted in Dunster. Press releases are always posted on the SWaT website to keep the public updated and Hinkley Point would be opening a new training centre.

Cllr Griffiths reported that this was his first annual report to DPC, having been elected last June and it would be the last from a SWaT councillor. The Council will most likely not exist by next May, having been replaced by the new Somerset Unitary Authority. In January this year SWaT was ranked as the top performing District Council in analysis by the campaign Group Climate Emergency UK, (a not-for-profit cooperative formed to share best practice about what councils can do to tackle the climate & ecological emergency and encourage effective action. The Council has begun a programme of electrical charge point installations in public car parks throughout the district. During last year SWaT allocated £100,000 for tree planting in the district. It is hoped that this initiative will continue into the councils last year of existence.

Sites for the first new council houses with the district have been allocated. The two sites are in Minehead and Taunton. Clearance has already begun at the Minehead site.

Following earlier storm damage repairs to watchet Harbour and additional £850,000 was spent on repairs to the East Quay section of the harbour wall. The change of management of the harbour has resulted in long needed programme to dredge the harbour of its accumulated mud. At Blue Anchor Sea defence works against coastal erosion to protect the B3191 and buildings have begun, and a second phase of more substantial works will commence later in the Summer.

New employment sites have been created in Minehead at Seaward way and town centres in West Somerset have benefitted from 3210,000 allocated by SWaT to re-open after Covid.

22/24 Dunster Working Group: The Agreements had been signed and the money should be transferred to DPC soon.

22/25 Packhorse Playing Field: No update.

22/26 Sea Lane Flooding: The Clerk had logged this on the SCC site.

22/27 Queens Jubilee 2022: A flyer had gone out with the Parish magazine and posters would be going up in the next week.

22/28 Stone Wall on cemetery side of allotment: It was resolved the Clerk would ask for a start date.

22/29 Steps at top of West Close: The Clerk had contacted the District Council but had no response to date.

22/30 Ash Tree behind pavilion: Philip Farmer would apply for planning to fell the tree.

22/31 Caravans on old A39: It was noted there was one less caravan.

22/32 Leaking Leat: Dunster Estate had been contacted to carry out the work.

22/33 Dunster Marsh Street Lights: The lights are still on all day and night. The Clerk will report this again.

22/34 Sports Field fence blown down: It was resolved to contact Dunster Estate again to request repair.

22/35 Hedge at Sea Lane: The Clerk had reported this on the SCC site.

22/36 Broken Fence post at Dunster Steep: This had still not been repaired.

22/37 Step outside 6 High Street: It was resolved to note this had been repaired.

22/38 Traffic in West Close: It was resolved to note the response from Dunster First School.

22/39 Covid Street Signs: It was resolved that these are now the responsibility of the Parish Council. It was resolved to leave them out for now due to the high cases in the village and then store them at The Tithe Barn for the Council to re-use.

22/40 Tree down in River Avil: It was resolved to note that this had been cleared.

22/41 Items to Report: Post missing by the first thatched cottage past the school also large stone in Gully.
The verges were looking in a bad way and needed cutting urgently.
The hedge between the allotment and cemetery is very overgrown.
More cars parking down Sea Lane to use the beach.
Bus manifesto is still proceeding.

21/327 Matters for the next meeting: There were none.

Meeting closed 9.00 p.m.

Signed Date.....