

DUNSTER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD At DUNSTER TITHE BARN ON
12th December 2022 7.00pm

Attendees

Councillors: Geoff Dibble (Chair), Carol Ell, Christine Oliver, James Morley, Alan Vicary, Kevin Sully, and Peter Finney

Clerk: Mrs Sarah Towells

Other: Steve Griffiths (SWaT)

Apologies

Councillors: Jackie Meakes and Tessa Williams

Other: Christine Lawrence (SCC) and Marcus Kravis (SWaT and SCC)

Prior to the start of the Meeting a representative from West Somerset Citizens Advice gave a short presentation on the increase of their services due to the cost-of-living crisis. 152 people from Dunster are currently receiving help from the service.

22/256 To note apologies for absence: As noted above.

22/257 Any New Declarations of interest and dispensations: There were none.

22/258 Elect a Vice Chair: Cllr Sully was elected as Vice Chairman and duly signed the Declaration of Office.

22/259 Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th November 2022 for approval: It was unanimously resolved to approve the minutes.

22/260 County Councillor Report: There was no report.

22/261 District Councillor Report: Cllr Griffiths gave a verbal report and reported that the District Council were going to look at the electric charge points for Dunster Steep Car Park again.

22/262 Risk Register: It was resolved to note there were no updates.

22/263 Accounts

22/263.1 Approval of expenditure: It was resolved to pay the payments on the attached list.

22/263.2 Current account expenditure analysis for November 2022: It was resolved to note the income and expenditure for November, and this was signed by Cllr Finney.

22/263.3 Bank reconciliation for November 2022: It was resolved Cllr Finney could sign the bank reconciliation for November.

22/263.4 Buttercross Orchard balance: The Clerk had not received any updated figures.

22/263.5 Budget Monitoring: It was resolved to note the budget monitoring. Cllr Finney would sign this.

22/263.6 PAYE figures for November 2022: These were checked and signed by Cllr Finney.

22/263.7 Report from Finance Group: The group had met prior to this meeting and reported that this year's budget is on target except for grants and toilet expenditure. The toilets have required a lot of maintenance this year and an increase in the cleaners' contract of £1.50 per day which has taken us over budget. It was resolved to recommend to Full Council to increase clerks' wages to £8400.00, Grants to £2000.00 and the toilets to £14,000.00. The Committee thought that due to yet another difficult year due to the cost-of-living crisis it would recommend to Full Council to keep the precept at £28,000.

22/263.8 Set Budget and precept: It was resolved to accept the budget set by The Finance Committee and keep the precept at £28,000.

22/264 Planning: It was resolved to note there were no objections to the planning application.

ENP	6/10/22/134	Grabbist House, West Street, Dunster, Minehead, TA24 6SN	Proposed erection of a detached storage shed
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22/265 Toilets: It was resolved to close the Ladies and Gents toilets from 2nd January and keep open the disabled and unisex cubicle until 31st March.

22/265.1 Cleaning contract Renewal: It was resolved to give a temporary contract to Oak Cleaning services until 31st March 2023. It was resolved to go out to tender again early March 2023.

22/266 Cemetery: The Committee would meet in the new year to look at the plan.

22/.266.1 Potholes: It was resolved that Cllr Sully would arrange for Lynch's to conduct the repairs to prevent damage to vehicles.

22/267 Allotments: All allotments are now let.

22/267.1 Hedges: All the hedges have now been cut.

22/268 Correspondence: An email had been received requesting a memorial bench be placed on area by Gallox Bridge. It was resolved to let them know that we do not own this and point them in the direction of Dunster Estate.

A letter from West Somerset Citizens Advice had been received requesting a grant: It was resolved to grant £200.00

22/269 Dunster Recovery Group: Cllr Finney reported that Anthony Brunt did not want the bike racks on his land. Cllrs Finney and Sully would look for alternative sites for the bike racks.

22/270 Dunster Working Group: There was no update.

22/271 Sea Lane Flooding: There was no update.

22/272 Steps at top of West Close: It was resolved to defer this item to the next meeting.

22/273 Ash Tree behind pavilion: This had now been done.

22/274 Old A39- Gate and post and rail fence: There was no update.

22/275 Leaking Leat: Cllr Sully reported that the leat is silted up and needs cleaning.

22/276 Sports Field fence blown down: The Clerk had contacted Nick Kelly about this but had received no response.

22/277 Drainage on High Street: There was no update, but Cllr Vicary reported that more holes had appeared.

22/278 Damaged posts and Rails on High Street: The rails have now been made and are ready to be fitted.

22/279 Bus Partnership: Looking at introducing a £2.00 charge for any single journey in the new year. More late-night buses are being introduced.

22/280 Marsh Lane Street Sign and The Ball Street Sign: There was no update.

22/281 Church Lynch Gate – Parking Bays: There was no update.

22/282 Additional Defibrillators: Cllr Ell had found a place for the location of one defibrillator on The Chapel on St Georges Street. It was resolved to look at costs for this to get one there ASAP. It was further resolved that Cllrs Vicary and Sully would sell the coming years daffodils in aid of this.

- 22/283 Dunster Parking Review:** There was no update. It was resolved the Clerk would contact Steve Deakin direct.
- 22/284 Marsh Bridge – Riverbank Overgrown:** There was no update.
- 22/285 Bridge at Knowle Lane:** There was no update.
- 22/286 Trees on the school hanging over St Georges Street:** The Trees had not been cut back. It was resolved the Clerk would contact the head of the school directly.
- 22/287 Blocked drains on West Street:** There was no update.
- 22/288 Yellow box on West Street Requires painting:** There was no update.
- 22/289 Blocked Gully opposite 19 St Georges Street:** There was no update.
- 22/290 Old Hanging Basket Brackets:** Arthur Ell was unable to do this. It was resolved Cllrs Vicary and Sully would look at them.
- 22/291 Defib Training:** It was resolved Cllr Oliver would book up a training session to be held in February.
- 22/292 Mill Lane/Mill Gardens – no parking zone:** The Clerk had reported this via the SCC website. It was resolved to remove this item from the agenda.
- 22/293 Riverbank need clearing by the Mill:** The Clerk had reported this to the Environment Agency.
- 22/294 Broken Gate near Northanger:** The Clerk had reported this to ENP.
- 22/295 Agenda in Notice boards:** It was resolved that Cllr Sully would put up an agenda down the Marsh and Cllr Dibble would do West Street and the Village Hall.
- 22/296 Representative for Village Hall:** It was resolved that Cllr Morley would be the Parish representative on the Village Hall committee.
- 22/297 Vacancies on Allotment, Finance, Cemetery and Buttercross Orchard committees:** It was resolved Cllr Meakes would join the Allotment Committee, Cllr Morley would join the Finance Committee and Cllr Sully would join the Cemetery Committee and the Buttercross Orchard Committee.
- 22/298 Village Hanging Baskets:** Cllr Vicary reported that Bristol City Council may not do small orders this year. It was resolved to note that Minehead Town Council could order thirty-five more baskets from Bristol City Council and then invoice us at a cost of £19.50.
- 22/299 Items to Report and matters for the next meeting to be held on 09th January 2023:**
 There is a loose slab outside the newsagents
 The trees on the steep need cutting back
 All road markings in Dunster need repainting
 Dogs on the football field

Meeting closed 8.49 p.m.

Signed Date.....