

DUNSTER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD At DUNSTER TITHE BARN ON
12th June 2023 7.00pm

Attendees

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

Clerk: Mrs Sarah Towells

Other: Christine Lawrence (SC)

Apologies

Councillors:

Other: Marcus Kravis (SC)

23/30 To note apologies for absence: As noted above.

23/31 Any New Declarations of interest and dispensations: There were none.

23/32 Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 09th May 2023 for approval: It was resolved to approve the minutes.

23/33 Election of Vice Chairman: It was unanimously resolved Cllr Sully would be the Vice Chairman.

23/34 Somerset Councillor Report: Cllr Lawrence reported that bus users across the county could now travel on most routes for just £2.00 until October 31st. The Government have awarded Somerset Council an additional £5.4m to carry out essential repair works across the county's road network. Somerset Council have produced a new leaflet for cycle routes.

23/35 Accounts

23/35.1 Approval of expenditure: It was resolved to pay the payments on the attached list.

23/35.2 Current account expenditure analysis for April and May 2023: It was resolved to note the income and expenditure and Cllr Finney would sign these.

23/14.3 Bank reconciliation for April and May 2023: It was resolved to note the bank reconciliations and Cllr Finney would sign these.

23/14.4 Buttercross Orchard balance: The Clerk reported there was no change.

23/14.5 Budget Monitoring: It was resolved to note this and Cllr Finney would sign.

23/14.6 PAYE figures for May 2023: These were checked and signed by Cllr Meakes. It was resolved to note that nothing was being paid to HMRC.

23/35.7 To consider the findings of the internal audit review: It was resolved to note the findings. The Clerk had actioned the budget items but the policy regarding unpaid invoices would be added to the July agenda.

23/35.8 To approve the annual governance statement: It was resolved to approve the annual governance statement and this was signed by the Chairman.

23/35.9 To consider the accounting statements: The accounting statements were discussed.

23/35.10 To approve the accounting statements: It was resolved to approve the accounting statements.

23/35.11 Chairman to sign the accounting statements: It was resolved the Chairman would sign the accounting statements.

23/35.12 Dates of the period for the exercise of public rights: It was resolved to publish the dates from 3rd July 2023 to 11th August 2023.

23/36 Planning:

ENP	6/10/23/013	30 St Georges Street, Dunster, TA24 6RS	Proposed replacement conservatory and porch	It was resolved no objections
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23/37 Toilets: Chapel Roofing would look at the roof once it was raining as they could not see where the water was coming in. It was resolved to remove the sponsor sign outside the toilet block as it was out of date.

23/38 Cemetery: It was resolved that the cemetery committee would look at the area that Mrs Bromley is concerned about.

23/39 Allotments: The taps have all been replaced at the allotments.

23/40 Retail unit: Following the internal audit it was resolved to send a letter asking to clear the unpaid invoices by 31st August 2023.

23/41 Buttercross Orchard: It was resolved to change the bank statement address. This would be sent to the Clerk.

23/42 Correspondence: It was resolved to support the change, initiated by Chris Miller, to the large signage on the A39 and send a letter to Sarah Brown, Kelly Jones, Bill Revens and Mike Rigby. It was resolved to note the letter received in the post today from Wessex Water regarding work to sewage works.

It was resolved to respond to Somerset Council to state we would like the dog restrictions to stay in place in Dunster.

It was resolved to write to MAGNA to ask them to cut the hedge at Dunster Marsh Playing Field and also copy in Somerset Council.

23/42.1 Request from Parishioner to tidy up bus shelter: It was resolved Cllrs Sully and Vicary would look at the bus shelter and report back at the next meeting.

23/42.2 Request from Highways regarding Dunster Castle sign: It was resolved to allow the National Trust to use our post.

23/42.3 Thank you from Tithe Barn for grant: It was resolved to note the thank you card.

23/43 Risk Register: It was resolved to note there were no updates.

23/44 Highways:

23/44.1 Old A39- Gate and post and rail fence: Response from Highways - Currently no plans to provide a gate on the public highway along old A39, as looking into the enquiry and advice from the Highway Service Manager, uninterrupted vehicular access is required for businesses and land along route.

23/44.2 Drainage on High Street: Response from Highways - Gully cleaning was carried out 23rd – 24th March 2023 and no issues were found with the gullies in the High Street, if DPC has specific issues please advise.

23/44.3 Marsh Lane Street Sign and The Ball Street Sign: Response from highways - Street name plates reported to the Somerset Council officer Neil Corfield, who manages these types of signs, and he is proposing to inspect and determine if a repair or replacement is required.

23/44.4 Church Lynch Gate – Parking Bays: Response from Highways - The Traffic Engineer, Katherine Tyson has been advised of maintenance request and she will create a task order for the lining contractor to have these lines refreshed.

23/44.5 Bridge at Knowle Lane: Response from highways - DPC concerns about the condition of the bridge and the coping stones have been reported to our Bridges team to arrange an inspection and they will update DPC with the outcome of this inspection.

23/44.6 Blocked drains on West Street: Response from Highways- Gully cleaning was carried out 24th March 2023, of all the gullies along West Street, only one gully was identified as slow running, requiring further investigation.

23/44.7 Yellow box on West Street Requires painting: Response from Highways - The Traffic Engineer, Katherine Tyson has been advised of maintenance request and she will create a task order for the lining contractor to have these lines refreshed.

23/44.8 Blocked Gully opposite 19 St Georges Street: Response from highways - According to our records there is no drain opposite No 19, but a drain does exist higher up the road at the garage by No 21 and lower down by No 15, we will of course have these inspected for any problems.

23/44.9 Trees at Dunster Steep need cutting back: Response from highways - Somerset Council Arboriculture team will be asked to inspect these trees and consider their condition and what maintenance is required in the future.

23/44.10 Man fell outside cobblestones: Response from Highways - Along the High St there are several steps, gaps in handrails and the open water channel, like Alcombe, Minehead and High Street, Wells, these are considered transient hazards which pedestrians must be aware of and take the necessary precautions when encountering them. Currently there are no plans for Somerset Council to provide handrails.

23/44.11 Deep clean cobbles etc: Response from Highways - Not an action Highways would carry out, as an inherent risk of damaging the embedment of the cobbles. However, as you said light brushing of the cobbles by traders when wet would be more beneficial.

It was resolved to note the responses above from Kali Martin who is the Assistant Highway Service Manager for Somerset Council and therefore it was resolved to remove all existing Highway items from the agenda. It was resolved to accept Mr Martins offer to meet with him to discuss any further concerns.

23/45 Additional Defibrillators: The defibrillator should be fitted in West Street in the next few weeks.

23/46 Dunster Parking Review: It was resolved to ask Marcus Kravis to chase this.

23/47 Marsh Bridge – Riverbank Overgrown: It was resolved to remove this item from the agenda.

23/48 Riverbank need clearing by the Mill: It was resolved to remove this item from the agenda.

23/49 Village Hanging Baskets: It was resolved to Thank Cllr Vicary for organising the baskets which are now up and looking lovely.

23/50 Village Planters: It was resolved to note that these had been planted up.

23/51 20mph limits through Dunster: It was resolved to contact Highways to ask if this would be possible. It was further resolved to ask if Katherine Tyson could come to visit Dunster to see the need for the 20 mph limits. It was further resolved to invite ENP to come as well.

23/52 Road safety scheme during school drop off and pick up: It was resolved to note the scheme but ask for more information.

23/53 Pupil Parliament: It was resolved to note that this was a good idea in principle but more information on how this would work was required.

23/54 MUGA report: It was resolved Cllr Finney and Meakes would work together to fill the form in on a monthly basis and return to the Clerk.

23/55 LCN Rep: It was resolved Cllr Melnyk would attend the meeting on 6th July.

23/56 Items to Report and matters for the next meeting to be held on Monday 10th July 2023:

- Graffiti in the underpass
- Policy for unpaid invoices
- Bremis Road to Riverside Gardens footpath very overgrown
- Benches in Dunster Steep Car Park

Meeting closed 9.12 p.m.

Signed Date.....