

DUNSTER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD At DUNSTER TITHE BARN ON
11th December 2023 7.00pm

Attendees

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

Clerk: Mrs Sarah Towells

Other: None

Apologies

Councillors: Jackie Meakes and Carol Ell

Other: Christine Lawrence (SC) and Marcus Kravis (SC)

23/169 To note apologies for absence: As noted above.

23/170 Any New Declarations of interest and dispensations: There were none.

23/171 Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 13th November 2023 for approval: It was resolved to approve the minutes.

23/172 Somerset Councillor Report: It was resolved to note there was no report.

23/173 Accounts

23/173.1 Approval of expenditure: It was resolved to pay the payments on the attached list via internet banking except for PAYE.

23/173.2 Current account expenditure analysis for November 2023: It was resolved to note the figures. These were signed by Cllr Finney.

23/173.3 Bank reconciliation for November 2023: It was resolved to note the bank reconciliation which was signed by Cllr Finney.

23/173.4 Buttercross Orchard balance: It was resolved to note the updated figures.

23/173.5 Dunster Working Group Balance: It was resolved to note the figures and the first interest payment for 3 weeks of £9.56.

23/173.6 Budget Monitoring: It was resolved to note the budget monitoring which were signed by Cllr Finney.

23/173.7 PAYE figures for November: These were checked and signed by Cllr Finney.

23/173.8 Report from Finance Committee: Cllr Dibble reported on the finance committee meeting.

23/173.9 Agree Budget and set precept: It was resolved to accept the attached draft budget and increase the precept to £38,000.00.

23/173.10 Funding church clock: It was resolved to grant the Church £1000 towards repairs to the church clock. It was further resolved to grant £1000 out of the Dunster Working group account. The money would be granted once the Church had received enough to repair the clock.

23/174 Planning:

SC	3/10/23/002	Replacement of storage shed, workshop, Dunster Beach, Dunster	It was resolved NO OBJECTIONS
ENP	WTCA 23/14	Work to 16 trees in a conservation area as tree work 2023 plan at Dunster castle	It was resolved NO OBJECTIONS

23/175 Toilets: The Clerk reported some vandalism had taken place during Dunster by Candlelight. The toilet roll holder in the mother and baby unit had been wrenched off the wall and stolen and in the Gent's the donation box had been broken into and left unusable. It was resolved to replace the donation box in the gent's toilets and note a new toilet roll holder had been put in the mother and baby unit.

23/175.1 Business Sponsorship for toilets: Due to lack of interest from local business's discussions took place regarding closing some of the toilets. This would be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

23/176 Cemetery: The Clerk would chase the quotes for replacing the fence.
23/176.1 Old cemetery gates: Following requests from Parishioners and Exmoor National Park it was resolved to repair or replace like for like the existing gates. The Clerk would chase any outstanding requests for quotes.

23/177 Allotments: Nothing to report.
23/177.1 Hedge from Hangers Way into Allotment: It was resolved to note this had been cut.

23/178 Buttercross Orchard: Apple Day made £198.51 profit. Wassailing would be held on 17th January 2024.

23/179 Riverside Walk: There was no update.

23/180 Correspondence: A letter was readout by Cllr Vicary from G A Sully and Sons Ltd stating they were a little upset with the report from the Parish Council in last months' magazine. Apologies were given at the meeting by the Chairman. The Chairman would personally write to G A Sully and Sons Ltd.
23/180.1 Request from parishioner to keep existing cemetery gates: As agreed in item 23/176.1 above.

23/181 Risk Register: It was resolved to note there were no updates.

23/182 Highways: An email had been received today from highways regarding the request from Paula Herron for a post outside her property. The Council still support Paula with this request but are not willing to apply for the licence or appoint a contractor to carry out the work.
West Close could now be cleaned by the Highways Street clearing team. The Clerk would let them know.
23/182.1 Complaint about gully being blocked on High Street and flooding chocolate shop: It was resolved to ask Highways to clean the gully.
23/182.2 More House damage caused by vehicles: It was resolved to note the damage.

23/183 Additional Defibrillators: The Clerk reported that the Chapel were not happy to have the defib on a post. It was resolved to place this defib by the Tithe Barn. The contract for the defibs at Riverside Gardens and Luttrell arms had been renewed. The new one at the Timber shed down Dunster marsh and one on the Outside of the doctor's surgery would be done sometime in the new year.

23/184 Dunster Parking Review: There was no update.

23/185 Weed spraying map for the village: It was resolved to note Cllrs Sully and Vicary had both looked and could not find a map. Cllr Vicary would ask Paul Storey if he had one.

23/186 Bike Racks: There was no update.

23/187 Tithe Barn Representative: It was resolved Cllr Finney would do this.

23/188 Succession Planning for Riverside Walk and Buttercross Orchard: It was resolved to note that hopefully new volunteers would come forward. If no volunteers do come forward then we would pay a contractor to do the work.

23/189 Items to Report and matters for the next meeting to be held on Monday 08th January 2024:
River Avil needs clearing before it floods.
Marsh Lane cycle path needs clearing.
Dunster steep need the mud and leaves removing so all kerbs and drains are visible as it is in danger of flooding.

Meeting closed 8.20 p.m.

Signed Date.....