

DUNSTER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT DUNSTER TITHE BARN ON
08th January 2024 7.00pm

Attendees

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

Clerk: Mrs Sarah Towells

Other: Marcus Kravis (SC)

Apologies

Councillors: Jackie Meakes

Other: Christine Lawrence (SC)

23/190 To note apologies for absence: As noted above.

23/191 Any New Declarations of interest and dispensations: There were none.

23/192 Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 11th December 2023 for approval: It was resolved to approve the minutes.

23/193 Somerset Councillor Report: Papers published ahead of Somerset Councils Executive meeting on 15th January give further details of plans and options to bridge the £100m funding gap for the next financial year.

Somerset Council say recycling and rubbish collection days will change for 120,000 households in western parts of the county in February.

23/194 Accounts

23/194.1 Approval of expenditure: It was resolved to pay the payments on the attached list via internet banking except for PAYE.

23/194.2 Current account expenditure analysis for December 2023: It was resolved to note the figures. These were signed by Cllr Finney.

23/194.3 Bank reconciliation for December 2023: It was resolved to note the bank reconciliation which was signed by Cllr Finney.

23/194.4 Buttercross Orchard balance: It was resolved to note the figures.

23/194.5 Dunster Working Group Balance: It was resolved to note the figures.

23/194.6 Budget Monitoring: It was resolved to note the budget monitoring which were signed by Cllr Finney.

23/194.7 PAYE figures for December: These were checked and signed by Cllr Finney.

23/195 Planning: It was resolved to note there were no planning applications and no other planning matters.

23/196 Toilets: The Clerk reported the roof was still leaking in the gents. The cash box in the gents had been replaced.

Discussions took place regarding rising running costs of the toilets, and it was resolved that the ladies and the gents would be closed, and the Council would keep open two individual toilets that would be unisex, disable friendly and baby change. Quotes to get the mother and baby unit onto mains would be discussed once the Clerk has received three quotes.

23/197 Cemetery: The Clerk had received one quote for the fence. It was resolved to accept the quote from G A Sully & Sons Ltd.

23/197.1 Old cemetery gates: Two quotes had been received. It was resolved to award the contract to G A Sully & Sons Ltd.

23/198 Allotments: Nothing to report.

23/199 Buttercross Orchard: Wassailing would be held on 17th January 2024.

23/200 Riverside Walk: There was no update.

23/201 Correspondence: SLCC renewal had been received by the Clerk. It was resolved to continue our subscription to them.

23/202 Risk Register: It was resolved to note there were no updates.

23/203 Highways: It was resolved to contact Highways to ask for a way forward with the three posts on the old A39. Dunster Parish Council are happy to pay for the posts.

23/203.1 Complaint about gullies on the High Street: The Clerk reported this following December's meeting, but no work had been done.

23/203.3 Marsh Lane Cycle Path: The Clerk reported this following December's meeting, but no work had been done.

23/203.3 Dunster Steep: The Clerk reported this following December's meeting and received an email to say the work had been done. However, it has not, so it was resolved to report to Highways again.

23/204 Additional Defibrillators: CLS Electrical had been asked to fit the additional defib we have on the Tithe Barn.

23/205 Dunster Parking Review: Cllr Kravis reported that it had been delayed of late due to the financial emergency.

23/206 Weed spraying map for the village: It was resolved to note Cllr Sully would try to get a map.

23/207 Bike Racks: It was resolved to email Highways and ask for area's that they think we could fit them.

23/208 Xmas Trees: Cllr Finney reported that there were very few volunteers this year to help put the trees up and take them down. It was also noted that some of the trees remained unlit throughout the festive season. It was resolved to ask residents and businesses in October via the Parish magazine if they would like one, they could collect, erect, and remove and return themselves.

23/209 Dunster by Candlelight: It was resolved to note that the event would no longer happen. Some of the businesses feel something should take its place and they are holding a meeting on Wednesday 10th January. The Parish Council resolved to support the event, but not to get involved.

23/210 Village Christmas Tree: As Dunster by Candlelight had provided the tree in the past it was resolved that the Parish Council would provide a Christmas tree for the village from this year onwards. It was further resolved that the Parish Council would also provide a Christmas tree for Dunster Marsh as the residents have organised this themselves in the past.

23/189 Items to Report and matters for the next meeting to be held on Monday 12th Feb 2024:

SID's

Meeting closed 8.30 p.m.

Signed Date.....