

DUNSTER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD At DUNSTER TITHE BARN ON 13th May
2024 7.00pm

Attendees

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

Clerk: Mrs Sarah Towells

Other: Marcus Kravis (SC)

Apologies

Councillors: Jackie Meakes and Tessa Williams

Other: Christine Lawrence (SC)

Prior to the start of the meeting David Noad updated the Council on what was planned for the Winter Festival.

Colin McDonald from the Rural Housing Alliance addressed the Council on the lack of affordable and social housing in and around Dunster.

Meeting started at 7.23pm

24/01 Election of Chairman and receipt of acceptance of office: It was unanimously resolved Cllr Dibble should continue as Chairman and he duly signed the declaration of acceptance to office.

24/02 To note apologies for absence: As noted above.

24/03 Any New Declarations of interest and dispensations: There were none.

24/04 Election of Vice Chairman: It was unanimously resolved Cllr Sully should continue as Vice Chair.

24/05 Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 08th April 2024 for approval: It was resolved to approve the minutes.

24/06 Appointment of councillors to Committees/Groups and Representatives:

24/06.1 Finance Committee: Cllrs Morely, Williams, Dibble and Finney were voted onto the Finance Committee.

24/06.2 Allotment Group: Cllrs Ell, Sully, Meakes and Dibble were voted onto the Allotment Group.

24/06.3 Cemetery Group: Cllrs Oliver, Vicary, Sully and Meakes were voted onto the Cemetery Group.

24/06.4 Planning Group: Cllrs Vicary, Meakes, Oliver and Finney were voted onto the Planning Group.

24/06.5 Buttercross Orchard: Cllrs Vicary and Sully were voted as the representatives for the Buttercross Orchard.

24/06.6 Climate Group: Cllrs Finney, Williams and Meakes were voted onto the Climate Group.

24/06.7 Personnel Committee: Cllr Ell, Finney and Dibble were voted onto the Personnel Committee.

24/06.8 Grievance Committee: Cllrs Vicary, Meakes and Oliver were voted onto the Grievance Committee.

24/06.9 Disciplinary Committee: Cllrs Melnyk, Sully and Morley were voted onto the Disciplinary Committee.

24/06.10 Dunster Working Group: Cllr Oliver was voted as the representative on the working group.

24/07 Appointment of Councillors as representatives on outside bodies

24/07.1 Marsh Playing Field: Cllrs Finney, Vicary and Sully were voted as the representatives of the Marsh Playing Field.

24/07.2 Packhorse Playing Field: Cllrs Ell and Dibble were voted as the representatives of the Packhorse playing field.

- 24/07.3 Memorial Hall: Cllr Morley was voted as the representative of the Memorial Hall.
24/07.4 Tithe Barn: Cllr Finney was voted as the representative of the Tithe Barn.
24/07.5 Winter Festival Representative: Cllr Williams was voted as the representative on the Winter Festival Group.

24/08 Agreeing to subscribe to outside bodies: It was resolved to continue to subscribe to CPRE, SLCC, SALC and the Exmoor Society.

24/09 Review of Standing Orders: It was resolved to note no amendments were necessary and therefore the standing orders were adopted.

24/10 Code of Conduct: It was resolved to note no amendments were necessary and therefore the Code of Conduct were adopted.

24/11 Review of Financial Regulations: It was resolved to note no amendments were necessary and therefore the Financial Regulations were adopted.

24/12 Review of Risk Register: It was resolved to note no amendments were necessary, so it was resolved the Clerk and Chairman could sign the risk register.

24/13 Somerset Councillor Report: Cllr Kravis apologised for missing the Parish Assembly and went on to report that the restructuring of the Council would start with the directors reducing from 7 to 4. The 1.6 million pounds to make the cycle path from Dunster to Carhampton a foot wider looks like going ahead now. Cllr Sully requested if it was possible that Dunster Parish Council could see the plans prior to the works starting.

24/14 Accounts

24/14.1 Approval of expenditure: It was resolved to pay the payments on the attached list via internet banking except for PAYE which would be paid by cheque.

24/14.2 Current account expenditure analysis for April 2024: It was resolved to note the figures. These were signed by Cllr Finney. It was further resolved to transfer £20,000 to the reserve account.

24/14.3 Bank reconciliation for April 2024: It was resolved to note the bank reconciliation which was signed by Cllr Finney.

24/14.4 Budget Monitoring: It was resolved to note the budget monitoring which were signed by Cllr Finney.

24/14.5 PAYE figures for April: These were checked and signed by Cllr Finney.

24/14.6 To consider the findings of the internal audit review: It was resolved to note the findings. The Clerk would action the items.

24/14.7 To approve the annual governance statement: It was resolved to approve the annual governance statement and this was signed by the Chairman.

24/14.8 To consider the accounting statements: The accounting statements were discussed.

24/14.9 To approve the accounting statements: It was resolved to approve the accounting statements.

24/14.10 Chairman to sign the accounting statements: It was resolved the Chairman would sign the accounting statements.

24/14.11 Dates of the period for the exercise of public rights: It was resolved to publish the dates from 3rd June 2024 to 12th July 2024.

24/15 Planning: It was resolved to note there were no planning applications.

24/16 Toilets: The Clerk reported the mother and baby unit door lock had been vandalised again along with the collection money box. It was resolved to look at returning the toilets to a pay to use facility.

24/17 Cemetery: It was resolved to note the new gates had been fitted.

24/18 Allotments: It was resolved to get quotes to replace the rabbit fence along Hangers Way as there is a serious rabbit problem on the allotments. The Clerk would be sending out new tenancy agreements

over the next few weeks. Cllr Sully reported he would be putting signs on all the taps as there as been a few times they have been left on.

24/19 Buttercross Orchard: Somerset Day on 14th May 6pm start.

24/20 Riverside Walk: There was nothing to report.

24/21 Correspondence: A note had been received from a parishioner to say how lovely the new cemetery gates were.

24/21.1 Letter from Tithe Barn Committee: It was resolved to ask Exmoor National Park if up to half the money from the Dunster Working Group could be used for remedial works to keep the Tithe Barn open.

24/21.2 Email from Rights of Way team: It was resolved to defer this item to next month.

24/21.3 Insurance renewal: It was resolved to stay with BHIB.

24/22 Highways:

24/22.1 Quotes for Bollards on old A39: Three quotes had been received. One from Somerset Council for installing 2 bollards, not including the cost of the bollards £550.00, one from G A Sully and Sons for £1829.00 which includes purchasing 3 bollards and installing them, and one from C J Lunch for £1770.35 for purchasing and installing 2 bollards. It was resolved to ask G A Sully & sons Ltd to carry out the works as 3 bollards are required.

24/23 Dunster Parking Review: There was no update.

24/24 Bike Racks: An email from the owners of Rose cottage had been received asking us not to place the bike racks there. It was resolved to look at other locations.

24/25 Car Park by Tithe Barn: It was resolved the Clerk had ordered the sign.

24/26 Signs for Defibs: It was resolved the Clerk would order 3 signs.

24/27 Signs for High Street: It was resolved to re-use the Covid signs.

24/28 Bus Shelter: It was resolved to use the slats off the old bus shelter when it is replaced to repair the other bus shelter.

24/29 Biodiversity Policy: It was resolved to adopt the policy.

24/30 Items to Report and matters for the next meeting to be held on Monday 10th June 2024:

Dunster beach - Dirtiest beach in England

Defibs in Village

Spraying contract

Posts on Knowle Lane

Meeting closed 9.35 p.m.

Signed Date.....