

# DUNSTER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD At DUNSTER TITHE BARN ON 09<sup>th</sup> December 2024 7.00pm

## Attendees

**Councillors:** Geoff Dibble (Chair), Kevin Sully, Matt Griffiths, Chris Oliver, Peter Finney, James Morley and Alan Vicary

**Clerk:** Mrs Sarah Towells

**Other:** Martin Loat (parishioner)

## Apologies

**Councillors:** Steve Harris, Carol Ell, Tony Melnyk and Tessa Williams

**Other:** Christine Lawrence (SC)

**24/163 To note apologies for absence:** As noted above.

**24/164 Any New Declarations of interest and dispensations:** There were none.

**24/165 Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2024 for approval:** It was resolved to approve the minutes.

**24/166 Somerset Councillor Report:** It was resolved to note there was no report.

## **24/167 Accounts**

24/167.1 Approval of expenditure: It was resolved to pay the payments on the attached list.

24/167.2 Current account expenditure analysis for November 2024: It was resolved to note the figures and Cllr Finney signed these.

24/167.3 Bank reconciliation for November 2024: It was resolved to note the bank reconciliation which was signed by Cllr Finney.

24/167.4 Budget Monitoring: It was resolved to note the budget monitoring which was signed by Cllr Finney.

24/167.5 PAYE figures for November: These were checked and signed by Cllr Finney.

## **24/168 Planning:**

ENP	6/34/24/003	Proposed erection of replacement two storey rear extension (retrospective) at Burnells Estate, Knowle Lane, Dunster TA24 6TX	It was resolved there were no objections
ENP	WTCA 24/22	Works to trees in a conservation area: Tree A (Walnut) - remove 2 limbs from over driveway and crown reduce by up to 2m. Tree B (Bramley apple) – light pruning work and Tree C (Liquidambar) - pruning back damaged / broken limbs away from garage roof and crown lifting over adjacent highway. At 15 St Georges Street, Dunster, TA24 6RX	It was resolved there were no objections
ENP	6/10/24/017	Proposed variation of Condition 2 of approved application 6/10/23/002 at Grabist House, West street, Dunster, TA24 6SN	It was resolved there were no objections

**24/169 Toilets:** The Clerk reported the work had been completed to a very good standard in the ladies' toilets with the builder doing extra bits for free. He reported that the people using the toilets said they were in need of improvements, but they were clean. The electricity use had almost doubled during the last 30 days and the Clerk would keep an eye on it throughout December.

## **24/170 Cemetery:**

24/170.1 Wall by new gate in old cemetery: The Clerk had not received any quotes. Cllr Sully would chase.

24/170.2 Quotes for phase one works of new cemetery: Four quotes had been received, it was resolved to award the contract to David Greenslade.

**24/171 Allotments:** There was one new plot holder and only one person on the waiting list which Cllr Sully would try to contact to offer a vacant plot.

**24/172 Buttercross Orchard:** A dog bin had been requested. The Clerk would contact Somerset Council to see if it would be on the pick up route to be emptied and also request costing for the bin and emptying costs.

**24/173 Riverside Walk:**

24/173.1 Dead Tree on Riverside Wall – quotes: Four quotes had been received and although the tree had gone over in the recent storm taking another one with it clearance would still be needed as the river is now blocked. It was resolved to award the contract to A P farmer, although the costs would be greater than the original quote, as they have all the necessary equipment to clear and dispose of the trees and can carry out the work quickly to avoid any flooding caused by the blocked river

**24/174 Correspondence:** Boundary review: Cllr Dibble would do this.

24/174.1 Email from Forelle Estates regarding E V Charging Hub: It was resolved not to speak to them regarding their planning application until it has been submitted.

24/174.2 Somerset Validation Consultation: It was resolved Cllr Dibble would do this.

**24/175 Risk Register:** It was resolved to note there were no updates.

**24/176 Highways:** It was resolved to ask for prices for posts and signs for disabled bays so that the enforcement officers can ticket cars not showing a valid disabled badge.

**24/177 Retail Unit:** It was resolved to note the new tenants are paying invoices very promptly. They reported to the Clerk that they had heating on a lot to dry out the premises which is why the costs have gone up.

**24/178 Community/Neighbourhood plan:** Cllr Dibble would put something into the January Edition of the Parish Magazine.

**24/179 Top 5 Priorities:** As item 24/178.

**24/180 Winter Festival:** The Parish Council noted all the hard work of the Festival Committee and helpers in making the village look so festive for the festival and share their disappointment that Storm Darragh curtailed so many of the activities planned. It was resolved the Clerk would write to the Winter Festival Committee to formally acknowledge the work they had put in.

**24/181 Knit and Natter update:**

**24/182 Items to Report and matters for the next meeting to be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025:**

Dunster Estate area and forestry commission area maps

Hanging baskets for village

Meeting closed 20.00 p.m.

Signed ..... Date.....