

DUNSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held in Village Hall dressing rooms on Tuesday 1st March 2022

Present: Cllrs P French (chairman), K Morris (Vice chairman), C Heard, M Gordon, P Hayes, H Smith, D Matthews, A Smallridge, D Gardner and the Clerk Lynne Ogden.

No members of the public attended.

1a) Apologies – District Cllr Purser, County Cllr Brook

b) Declaration of Interest/ Register of Interests: None

2. Minutes of the Council meeting held on February 1st 2022 had been distributed, were approved and were signed.

3. Progress Reports

3.1 Action Points from last meeting- All actions have been completed or are ongoing.

3.2 Clerk's report – and meeting with Highways had been sent to all Cllrs.

3.3 District Cllr Purser sent the following report: - Please once again accept my apologies for your meeting as due to a recent hospital visit, I have been advised to isolate for a few days.

As you have probably seen all the various budget meetings have now been held and the council tax set for next year. The Teignbridge element sees an increase of £5 on a band D property with increases from the other precepting bodies as well leading to a 3.2% increase on average.

All band A to D properties will receive a £150 payment to offset some of the energy cost increases. Bizarrely in my mind rather than a straight discount from the bill it has to be paid separately which means if not a direct debit payer you will need to apply for the money giving your bank details. Tdc are working on the logistics of this.

At a long council meeting the High Street fund for Newton Abbot was passionately discussed. The proposal for the new cinema, market hall and performance space were discussed along with the potential £9.2 million of grant money. The proposals were in the end agreed.

The budget agreed that the grants to voluntary organisations would not change at this time and the Councillors community fund would increase to £1200 from April. My current years allocation of £1000 is now all spent.

The program of decarbonisation works at Forde house has slowed due to the sad demise of the contractor Midas although a new contractor is being sought.

There are a series of free online seminars to help parents and careers understand and support teenagers see Tdc website for more details.

From mon 28 feb to fri 4 March the planning dept are having a blitz on catching up with outstanding work so please be patient with any new issues.

Empty homes campaign is going well if you know of an empty home or have one you are struggling with to resolve contact Tdc empty homes officer for advice.

3.4 Housing & Infrastructure steering Group – Nothing to report except that the next meeting is in a couple of weeks' time. **Action Cllr French/Clerk**

3.5 Emergency Planning Steering Group – Cllr Heard reported that a meeting had taken place. The group members have suggested that they be known as the Dunsford Emergency Response Team (DERT) and asked the Council to approve this. Cllr Heard stated that they were very much at the start of the journey and each member had been given areas to research and report back on at the next meeting. It was also noted that the public phone box was very useful during Storm Eunice when the mobile signal went down as not all households have landlines now. Cllr French stated that TDC had contacted him to check up on the contact details for sandbags. He confirmed they were still correct. A query was raised about what happens to the sandbags when they were no longer usable. The Clerk will contact TDC to raise this question. It was also stated that it might be useful to have a network system so that Councils can liaise and help each other out, if necessary.

Action Cllrs Heard/Gordon/Matthews/Clerk

3.6 The Dunsford Climate Initiative (previously known as the Climate Emergency Steering Group) – Nothing to report except that a meeting will be taking place in the near future. **Cllrs French/Gordon and Alison Arnold**

3.7 Reports from other meetings attended by Cllrs –

1. Cllrs French and Gordon attended a meeting with the resident who sent a letter of complaint to the Council. Cllr French updated the Council and said that the complainant had been given all the relevant information to follow up the situation, if he so wished.

2. Cllr French had attended the Dartmoor National Park Forum about the future management of National Parks and areas of Outstanding Beauty. It was suggested that they should all be run centrally but DNPA does not agree. This is because Dartmoor, unlike other parks, consists of many landowners who all have individual rights.

4. Correspondence: - List of correspondence received by email listed overleaf.

5. Finance 5.1.C/A £7559.35 as at 08/02/2022 BBI/A £1825.60 as at 09/02/2022

The Council resolved to pay the following invoices: -

5.2. Clerk's Salary – 4 weeks x 10 hours a week - Gross pay £460

Net pay to Clerk £368 + expenses of £29.49 Total to Clerk - **£397.49 chq 1430**

5.3. Elliott Fairs – Lengthsman duties (January) - £125 chq 1431

5.4. Parish Online subscription - £81 chq 1432

5.5 DALC – Cllr training - £18 chq 1434 (cheque 1433 spoiled/not used)

5.6 The Council approved Mrs Penny Clapham as the internal Auditor for 2021 - 2022

6. Village Green Report –Cllr Matthews reported that the Village Green was in order but that the bins had been blown around in the storm so it would be good to get a shelter asap. Cllr Morris will address this as soon as the weather allows. **Action /Cllrs Matthews/Morris**

7. Planning: -

Applications 7.1 – Teignbridge 22/00103 – Field to North of Reedy Hill – Agricultural shed, associated access track and hardstanding and creation of devon hedgebank **7.2 Decisions – DNPA – 0628/21 – Roundhill Farm** – Erection of agricultural barn – General Permitted Development Approved. **7.3 Teignbridge 21/02844/NPA** – Ford Cottage – Change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling -Grant of request for Prior Approval

8. Platinum Jubilee Celebrations (June 2nd – 5th 2022) –Cllr Morris reported that there had been a meeting of 5 people and a programme for all four days had been discussed. Thursday and Friday 2nd/3rd June – there will be an exhibition of photos and memorabilia of the Queen’s reign. On the Friday evening, the Church will have a service followed by cheese and wine. Saturday 4th June – there will be a BBQ and dance in the Village Hall in the evening. Sunday 5th – There will be a street party from 3pm. Arrangements had begun to seek permission for a road closure to allow this to happen. A member of the Council will need to do some training to facilitate this. Cllr Morris volunteered and it was agreed that this should be linked in with the Snow Warden role training. There was a discussion on whether the Council would support the funding for a band on the Sunday. Cllr Matthews proposed that they should up to a limit of £500. Cllr Heard seconded this. Vote: Unanimous. **Cllr Morris/Clerk/ Cllr Heard**

9. Policy Review- The Council discussed and agreed the wording for sections 1 – 3 which the Clerk had sent to all Cllrs previously. Another section will be prepared by the Clerk, sent to all Cllrs and will be addressed at the next meeting. **Action Clerk**

10. Lengthsman – The Clerk continues to send the Lengthsman’s and monthly Highways reports to everyone concerned. This is helping in the planning of the Lengthsman’s tasks each month. A report needs to be sent to Highways by March 22nd to show how the grant money has been spent. The Clerk will do this. It was also noted that a contract for the Lengthsman needs to be produced. The Clerk will liaise with Cllrs Matthews, Smallridge and Gardner to produce this. The Council agreed that they would like to continue having a lengthsman and that the Clerk should apply for the grant again for the next tax year.

Action Clerk

11. Annual Parish Meeting – The Clerk reported that she had only had positive replies from three representatives. The Council discussed the practicality of hosting a meeting this year and decided to cancel again until next year when, hopefully, it will be more appropriate. The Platinum Jubilee will provide an opportunity for the Community to get together this year. The Clerk will inform those concerned. **Action Clerk**

12. Three Parish Meeting – A discussion took place and it was proposed to have a BBQ as part of the meeting. Two dates were agreed provisionally and the Clerk will contact the Clerks from the other Parishes to see if this was acceptable to their Councillors. **Action Clerk**

13. Matters Brought Forward by the Chairman –

a) Cllr Heard informed the Council that she was unable to continue in the role of Council representative on the Village Hall MC. The Council will need another representative. Cllr French asked for this to be put on the next agenda and thanked Cllr Heard for her past contribution. **Action Clerk**

b) Cllr Smith asked if the Council Parish Magazine entry could be more exciting. The Clerk will do her best! **Action Clerk**

c) Cllr Morris reported the pothole/depression outside the Village Hall. The Clerk said this had already been reported to Highways and was on the list waiting to be filled.

d) It was reported that another cyclist had been injured coming down the hill, by Coombe Farm, into Dunsford.

e) The defibrillators had been taken out twice in the last month. It was noted that a young person who had been sent to fetch it had struggled to open the casing. This will be addressed by Cllr Morris. **Action Cllr Morris**

f) It was reported that a resident had been shouted at by cyclists using the bridlepath, in the nature reserve at Clifford Bridge end which left her unnerved. The Council discussed the possibility of signage being used to warn cyclists that there will be pedestrians on the bridlepath and that they should be considerate. The Clerk will liaise with Devon Wildlife Trust about this. **Action Clerk**

14. Date of next meeting Tuesday April 5th 2022 in the Village Hall Dressing rooms.
There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40 pm

Signed as a true record..... Cllr P French (Chairman)

Date

Email circulation during the past month

- Planning applications and decisions from DNPA and Teignbridge
- Rural Services Network Bulletin plus Funding Digests
- DALC newsletters
- Continued Corona Virus Updates from Devon County Council, DALC, Devon Community Trust, and DNPA.
- Devon Climate Emergency newsletter
- Request from Bishopsteignton PC re liaising over Climate Emergency
- Nation Park Forum meeting
- Local Business training info.
- Play Safety – notification of Playground Inspection in March
- TDC Climate Change Briefing Information