

DUNSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held in Village Hall dressing rooms on Tuesday August 6th 2024

Present: Cllrs P French (Chairman), T Anderson, H Smith, R Squire, P Lewis, D Matthews and the Clerk Lynne Ogden

1 member of the Public attended.

1. a) Apologies – Cllrs Morris, Heard, Arnold, County Cllr Brook and District Cllrs Purser and Swain

b) Declaration of Interest/ Register of Interests: None

2. Minutes of the Council meeting held on July 2nd 2024 had been distributed, were approved and signed.

3. Progress Reports

3.1 Action Points from last meeting- All actions completed except for a) investigating moving to a gov.uk domain b) waiting for reply re a skip for Dunsford which are ongoing **Action Clerk**

3.2 Clerk's report – had been sent to all Cllrs with the Highways report

3.3 Reports from other Councillors/representatives – None

3.4 Housing Working Group – There is no written report this month but Cllr French updated the Council with the following: - the Terms of reference for this group was agreed, with no changes; An email has been sent to the Agent for the Land at Reedy Hill, offering to help facilitate a public meeting between himself, the landowners and other residents. The agent has replied saying he will have a think of some possible dates and get back to the Council. **Action Cllr French**

3.5 Dunsford Emergency Response Team (DERT) – Nothing to report. Next meeting is on Monday 12th August. **Action Cllr Smith**

3.6 The Dunsford Climate Initiative (DCI) – Nothing to report. Next meeting is on September 4th **Action Cllr Squire**

3.7 Reports from other meetings attended by Dunsford Cllrs – The Clerk attended a Highways/DALC forum – this group has been formed, by DALC, to help improve communication between Town/Parish Councils and Devon County Council about Highway matters. A good first meeting with all concerned sharing information that was important to them. The Highways website has recently been updated and should be more useful to Clerks. Ideas were discussed and everyone is keen to meet again.

4. Correspondence: - List of correspondence received by email listed overleaf, including the following to be discussed a) **Planning forum update from Teignbridge Planning Support manager – questions asked of the Council** a) How often? – twice a year b) How long? – 2hrs is acceptable c) No suggestions for a different set-up. d) ideas of subjects – Training on

Teignbridge procedures and their own constraints and difficulties may help Town/Parish Councils understand things more fully.

5. Finance

5.1 C/A - £9796.10 as at 13/06/2024 BBI/A - £1,854.60 as at 10/06/24

Income - £110 from sales of photobooks held in Dunsford Stores

The Council resolved to pay the following invoices: -

5.2 Clerk's Salary – 5 weeks x 10 hours a week Gross pay £686.50

Net pay to Clerk £549.30 + expenses £70.48 = **£619.78 chq 1566**

5.3 B. G. - Lengthsman's tasks for July - £100 chq 1567

5.4 Village Hall management committee - Room Hire - £41 chq 1568

5.5 Vision ICT Ltd. Website support - £210 chq 1569

6. Village Green a) Monthly Report – Cllr Matthews had sent a report to all Cllrs. No issues found, apart from the padlock on the external gate. (Clerk will look into this. Matting could do with weeds being tackled. (Cllr French) Gate has been greased and now shuts properly. (thanks to Simon Green for doing this) b) replacement benches - Delay due to other works. Confirmation from Tony he will start our benches after the Christow Show. A further discussion took place about emblem designs for each bench. Cllr Matthews will approach the Art Clubs in Dunsford.

Action Cllrs Matthews/French /Clerk

7. Planning: - Applications: 7.1 Dartmoor National Park – 0313/24 – Dunsmead House, Browning's Mead, EX6 7JJ – Removal of condition 3 of approved planning reference 0168/24

The Council had no objection to this application

Decisions: 7.2 – Dartmoor National Park – 24/0035 – Lewishill, Dunsford, EX6 7AA – Tree works – No objection to proposal/Conditions attached **7.3 Teignbridge – 24/01086/AGR** – Langley Farm, Tedburn St Mary - General Storage – Prior Approval not required.

8. Lengthsman – a discussion took place about the management of overgrowth on private property affecting pathways and roads. Generally, all residents are responsible for any vegetation on or just outside their property and should keep it under control, so other residents are able to use the pathways and roads. In the past, the Council has been prepared to help, if needed, in certain situations. It will continue to discuss each circumstance as it arises. An article, written by the Highways Officer, will appear in the Parish magazine in September and be posted around the Village. The Lengthsman was present and a discussion took place about work done and work to be carried out in September. He will watch the raised path area and work to keep it clear. **Action Clerk**

9. Code of Conduct training – The main thought was that it was good, clear training that made you think. It was decided that the Council should wait till the other Cllrs had done the training in September before reviewing Dunsford's Code of Conduct. **Action Clerk**

10. Street lighting in Dunsford – It was reported that Cllrs Arnold and Squire had met with RS to move the topic of dark skies forward. RS is buying a light meter to get a base level of the brightness of the lights in the Village. They will meet again at the end of August. County Cllr Brook was not at the meeting so there was no feedback about Dartmoor National Park’s policy on dark skies. It was suggested that it was a topic for discussion at the 3 Parish meeting, if held in October. A discussion then took place about the timings of lights coming on and going off in Dunsford. With the present set up, all lamps should go off around midnight except the one outside the Village Hall which stays on all night for safety reasons. This is not always the case, with other lights staying on and others not coming on at all.

Action Clerk/members of DCI group

11. Transferring to a Gov.uk domain – The Clerk updated the Council on costs/ options. The Council agreed not to rush into any decisions. The Clerk will explore further. **Action Clerk**

12. Matters brought forward by the Chairman (for. information only /possible addition to next month’s agenda including: - a) Any pressing **Highways issues** for Clerk to pass on to Highways’ contact – a concern has been raised about the scaffolding obstructing the pathway near the school b) Cllr French reported that a resident has been preparing the grass in the Orchard ready for rewilding strips in the Autumn c) The campsite at the old Barn has been active and some concerns have been raised. This will be monitored and the Clerk will contact the owners, if necessary. d) The footpath near Strawberry Hill is impassable and needs cutting. **Action Clerk**

13. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 3rd September 2024 at 7:45 pm in the Village Hall dressing rooms.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9pm.

Signed as a true record..... Cllr 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
- Devon Communities Together – various newsletters
- Teignbridge District Council newsletter
- Devon County Council newsletter
- Safety on Lithium-ion batteries information
- Invitation to a meeting in North Devon re the Regional emergency Response to Declared Climate Crisis.
- Parish Planning Forum dates
- TDC Citizens advice Q1 report
- Resources from the Code of Conduct Training
- Flood risk Management newsletter
- DNPA Authority Meeting information 26/7
- Road closure information