

DUNSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held in Village Hall dressing rooms on Tuesday November 5th 2024

Present: Cllrs P French (Chairman), T Anderson, A Arnold, K Morris, R Squire, D Matthews, County Cllr Brook, District Cllr Swain and the Clerk Lynne Ogden

1 member of the Public attended.

1. a) Apologies – Cllrs C Heard, P Lewis and District Cllr Purser

b) Declaration of Interest/ Register of Interests: Cllr Morris declared an interest in item 11.

2. Minutes of the Council meeting held on October 1st 2024 had been distributed, were approved and signed.

3. Progress Reports

3.1 Action Points from last meeting- All actions completed except for skip hire which is ongoing – at present, the Clerk has only had 2 emails of support. **Action Clerk**

3.2 Clerk's report – had been sent to all Cllrs with the Highways report. The fact that a new laptop will be needed in the near future was discussed. This is due to the screen being broken but also this model will become obsolete as it will not work with Windows 11. It is usable at the moment but the Council agreed that the Clerk should start to research possible replacements. **Action Clerk**

3.3 Reports from other Councillors/representatives – District Cllr Swain reported that the Teignbridge Plan was working its way through the process. He confirmed that, when approved, this will be current until 2033. The fleet of recycling trucks have been named, appropriately, with Bruce Springclean being one of them. The others can be found on the website. The vans being used are electric but it is not possible to use electric lorries in Devon as they can't cope with the hills. County Cllr Brook reported that, with regard to the Dark Skies Project, the Council needs to be clear about what it wants to achieve because it means different things to different people. He also reported that the Government written off some of the SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) budget but that they are already overspent for this year. Additional money is to be given for this. A plan has been requested from the Government but it is difficult because it is demand lead. There is still some locality budget left if the Council wants to apply for some money. He asked if Dunsford was still interested in a 20mph speed limit. He was told Yes, as there are not many footpaths through the Village or to the school.

3.4 Housing Working Group – Nothing to report. The work of this group has been suspended whilst waiting for the detailed planning application for the site on Reedy Hill.

3.5 Dunsford Emergency Response Team (DERT) - Cllr Morris reported that she hasn't been able to complete the main task of the Emergency Plan yet, due to other commitments such as the Village Hall activities. She reported that the Team do

think it is important for them to have First Aid Kits and said she is willing to do a First Aid course for all of them, at no cost.

Action Cllr Morris/Clerk

3.6 The Dunsford Climate Initiative (DCI) – The main group is meeting next week but those interested in the Dark Skies Project have met and liaised with others at the Three Parish Meeting.

Action Cllr Squire

3.7 Reports from other meetings attended by Dunsford Cllrs –a) Seven of Dunsford's Cllrs attended the Three Parish Meeting at Bridford. It was a good, positive meeting and was useful to share ideas. Dunsford PC would like to thank Bridford for their hospitality.

Action Clerk

4. Correspondence: - List of correspondence received by email listed overleaf. a) Landmark tree – **see item 6** b) Email from James Wright about Devon Walking Trails and how they can be linked; a request on the thoughts of the Parish – Cllr French will reply to this on behalf of the Council.

5. Finance 5.1 C/A - £13,167.39 as at 15/10/2024 BBI/A - £1,859.94 as at 09/09/24

Income: 2nd half of the precept received - £8039

The Council resolved to pay the following invoices: -

5.2 Clerk's Salary – 5 weeks x 10 hours a week Gross pay £718 (new rate) Net pay to Clerk £574.40 + expenses £31.49 = **£605.89**

5.3 BG - Lengthsman's tasks for October – £100

5.4 DALC AGM and Conference - £60

5.5 Replacement chq for Devon Communities Together (lost in post) - £50

5.6 Q2 Reconciliation – this was approved and signed by RFO and Chairman

5.7 Budget 2025-2026 – there was further discussion and progress made but the proposed budget needs another update due to recent announcements from the Bank and Government.

6. Village Green a) Monthly Report – a) Cllr Matthews had sent a report to the Council.

Action needed this month includes replacing the clips on the goal post nets. This will be a maximum of £30. The Council agreed he could purchase them and they will reimburse him.

b) Work has begun on the Coronation benches. The materials have arrived and the Council confirmed that the emblems will include a daffodil, a bluebell, an acorn/oak leaf, church bells, along with the one to mark the King's coronation. c) Landmark tree for Dunsford - The Council agreed to apply for a free Landmark tree from the Devon Wildlife Trust. This is as part of the Saving Devon's Treescape Project. Over the 5 years of the project (which started in 2020), they plan to plant and nurture 250,000 trees outside of woodlands to help combat the devastating affect Ash Dieback is having on our landscape. One of their free tree offers is that of one Landmark Tree to every parish in Devon.

The Council agreed to choose a small leaf lime tree which will be planted in the Village Green.

Action Cllrs Matthews/Clerk

7. Planning: - Applications: 7.1 None

Decisions: 7.2 DNPA - Tree works approved for 2, Oak Cottages, Dunsford EX67DB **7.3 – Teignbridge – 24/01429/HOU** -Serenity Hill, Dunsford – Single storey rear extension, new decking and associated works – Grant of conditional planning permission.

8. Lengthsman – The following tasks were already listed a) Gullies and drain near Bigport Farm b) Gullies and drains in Crediton Lane c) If needed, further clearing at Butts and Thomas Cross. The Council requested that the signs in the Village be kept free of vegetation. Mainly the children’s signs at the moment. (x4) **Action Clerk**

9. Cllr Vacancy – Prior to the meeting, the Clerk informed the Council that she had received an application from Beth Webber. It was agreed to invite her to the December meeting to be co-opted on to the Council. **Action Clerk**

10. Transferring to a Gov.uk domain – This topic had been discussed at the Three parish Meeting. At present, the Council feels it should be put on hold but understands that it might become necessary in the future. **Action Clerk**

11. Village shop and tea rooms – A discussion took place about the situation so far and the Council is aware that a number of residents have concerns about losing a valuable asset and are willing to be involved. Various options/actions were brought up. It was agreed that Cllrs Matthews and Arnold will speak to residents with a view to forming a working group, with one of this group to liaise with the owner. The Council wishes to support the residents and the Owner to find a satisfactory way forward. **Action Cllrs Matthews/Arnold**

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 1. Street light in the Orchard not working 2. The Z bend sign has been knocked over (the concrete base is too small) 3. Manhole cover between Greenbridge and Sowton Mill is broken b) Policy reviews are suspended for this meeting

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

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.15pm.

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
- Devon Community Resilience Forum newsletter
- Various alterations to bus timetables due to road works
- Three parish meeting agenda and minutes
- Devon Wildlife Trust information on Free Landmark Tree
- Highways Liaison info on roadworks on B3212