

# DUNSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of meeting held in Village Hall dressing rooms on Tuesday March 4th, 2025

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

0 Member of the Public attended but Niki Glew, Emergency Planning and Business Continuity Officer for Teignbridge, attended with regard to item 3.5

**1. a) Apologies** – Cllrs Heard and Webber sent apologies and these were approved.

**b) Declaration of Interest/ Register of Interests:** None

**2. Minutes of the Council meeting held on February 4th, 2025,** had been distributed, were approved and signed.

### **3. Progress Reports**

**3.1 Action Points from last meeting-** All actions completed from last meeting.

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

**3.3 Reports from other Councillors/representatives – District Cllr Swain reported** that the TDC budget had gone through and most of the public toilets had been saved. The Devolution process has slowed down a bit, but a final decision will be made in November. The districts are still working together to provide a better local representation. There is the big issue of what will happen to the funds. TDC has quite good reserves and it is likely to be added together to all other funds and debts and then redistributed when devolution has taken place.

**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 had previously sent the updated Emergency Plan to all Cllrs. The corrections have been done and the plan updated. Work is being done to improve the maps to go with the plan. Cllr Lewis offered to help, using Parish Online. They will have a meeting, later in March, and will invite Niki Glew to this. Cllr Morris gave a summary about DERT and the present situation. Niki asked that the final plan be sent to Devon Communities Trust and that she is informed to make sure it is on the database. She distributed some handouts which will help any residents dealing with an emergency (mainly spontaneous volunteers if the main group is unavailable) and asked that the group adopt the hubs. She also gave out a household Emergency Plan that can be given to all residents. This is a list of personal details to fill in which could be useful in an emergency situation. A discussion took place and Niki highlighted areas she could be of help. There was concern about the local public phone being removed, as this is included in the plan. The Clerk updated the Council that Teignbridge Planning Dept. is still waiting to receive notification from BT about this and that the 90 - day

consultation begins when we are notified by Teignbridge, not from the date on the phone box, as is stated on the poster. Niki said she is very concerned about the National Landline switch off. **Action Cllr Morris**

**3.6 The Dunsford Climate Initiative (DCI)** – There has been some discussion in the Village about the leylandii trees in the Village Green. The group has made a statement, for clarification of its thoughts, on this matter. A copy has been sent to the school for distribution to all parents. The matter will be taken forward by the group, but all decisions will be made by the full Council. The group is due to meet towards the end of April. **Action Cllr Squire**

**3.7 Reports from other meetings attended by Dunsford Cllrs – None**

**4. Correspondence:** - List of correspondence received by email listed overleaf. To discuss: - None

**5. Finance** 5.1 C/A - £8969.63 as at 18/02 /2025 BBI/A - £1866.16 as at 09/01/25

**The Council resolved to pay the following invoices: -**

5.2 Clerk's Salary – 4 weeks x 10 hours a week Gross pay £574.40

Net pay to Clerk £459.60 + expenses £31.49 = **£491.09 chq 1596**

5.3 BG - Lengthsman's tasks for December – **£112.50 chq 1597**

5.4 Village Hall MC - Room Hire (February) – include in next month's payment

5.5 Parish Online annual subscription - **£81 chq 1598**

**6. Village Green** a) The monthly report had been sent to all Cllrs. Molehills continue to be a problem and need to be addressed. There was no rubbish. b) The replacement benches are about to be galvanised and sprayed. It has been suggested that the benches are concreted in. The Council agreed for the Contractor to do it, but a working party will be needed to help with the installation. c) The ROSPA inspection is yet to take place. d) The Council has been made aware of some works that have taken place on the Village Green side of the stream. The Clerk was asked to contact the resident. **Cllr Matthews/Clerk**

**7. Planning: Applications: 7.1 Dartmoor National Park – 0056/25 – Westacombe Farm, Dunsford, EX67DJ** – General purpose agricultural building for machinery and fodder and bedding storage to replace existing buildings on same site.

**7.2 Dartmoor National Park Authority – 25/0017 – East Steps, Dunsford** – Tree works/removal **7.3 Decisions: None**

**8. Lengthsman** – tasks for March were discussed **Action Clerk**

**9. Annual Parish Meeting** – A discussion took place and the date of Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May was decided. It was decided to extend the time for the display to be available to allow, hopefully, more people to access it. Volunteers for putting up the display and providing refreshments were noted. Initially, the Clerk will liaise with Cllr Morris to begin the process. **Action Clerk/ Cllr Morris**

**10. 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.** The situation at Butt's – check with Highways about communication with Landowner. **2.** On Collabridge Lane near Boyland's end – the ditch has been cut off by a tractor/large vehicle driving over it – the Clerk will add to Lengthsman's list. **3.** It is noted that the barriers are still in place at the top of Farrant's Hill. These have been put there by BT. The Clerk will follow up. **4.** There is general concern about signage being left around the Parish after roadworks.

**Other matters** – **5.** DADs have approached a Cllr about the possibility of their summer play being performed in the Village Green. The Cllr will glean more information, and it will be put on April's agenda **6.** There are still problems with lighting – Cllr Squire received a reply after she reported something – she will forward this to the Clerk. **7.** Concern has been shown about the safety of a wall in the Village. **8.** Flooding at Lea Lane sometimes spreads onto the B3212 which is dangerous if it is icy.

**11. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 7:30 pm in the Village Hall Dressing Rooms**

**There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:30pm**

**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
- DERT Emergency Plan for consideration
- A4 Description of Dunsford PC by PF
- Link to article on Devon Elections by RS
- Information on Devolution and Small Councils from PF
- Community resilience Audit from Niki Glew
- Community Energy information
- Photo of landmark tree by KM