

DUNSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 3rd March 2020

Present: Cllrs P French, A Smallridge, K Morris, P Hayes, D Gardner, C Heard, C Radclyffe
County Cllr Jerry Brooks, District Cllr S Purser, DNP Pete Rich and the Clerk, Lynne Ogden.
One member of the Public attended and was welcomed by the Chairman.

1. **Apologies** were received by Cllrs Matthews and Phipps
2. **Declaration of Interest Register of Interests:** Cllr French declared an interest in item 13 and will therefore not vote on any decisions to be made.
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on February 4th 2020** had been distributed, were approved and signed.
4. **Progress reports**
 - 4.1 Action Points from last meeting- All action points had been addressed
 - 4.2 Clerk's report – had been sent to all Cllrs.
 - 4.3 A Dunsford Book – Cllr Hayes reported that a great team had been formed and some excellent photos had already been taken. She gave the Council advance warning that a photographer would be attending the April Council Meeting.
 - 4.4 Snow warden-Certain issues need clarifying and more volunteers are still needed.
 - 4.5 Housing survey/Affordable Houses project - Cllr French reported that there was no real update this month as there have been no more meetings. A meeting with the second landowner is scheduled for next week. There has been additional flooding and sewerage problems down on the main road during the recent bad weather and site 4 was designated as at flood risk during Storm Dennis which makes this site look less promising. The Clerk passed the Evaluation of the Housing Survey to Cllr French for the sub committee to complete and return to Janice Alexander.
Action Cllrs French/Radclyffe
5. **Correspondence:** - List of correspondence received by email listed overleaf
With regard to the letter sent to Mr Brook - Cllr Smallridge has met with him and he will clear out the ditch at Butt's Corner as soon as the weather improves.
6. **Finance** 6.1.C/A £5124.83 as at 20/02/2020 BBI/A £1824.85 as at 10/02/2020
The Council resolved to pay the following invoices: - 6.2 Clerk's Salary – 4 weeks x 10 hours a week - Gross pay £422.80 Net pay to Clerk £338.40 (Tax to HMRC £84.40 to be paid in Q4) + expenses of £44.85 Total to Clerk - **£383.25 chq 1332**
6.3 Community Heartbeat for paediatric pads for defibrillators - **£90 chq 1333**
6.4 Wicksteed – p/ment of VAT for equipment for Village Green - **£3120.40 chq 1334**
6.5 The Council agreed to have P. Clapham as **Internal Auditor for year 2019-2020**

7. **Village Green Report** -Cllr Morris reported that the Village Green is very wet and weeds have started to grow through the matting but there have been lots of positive comments about the newly installed equipment. The rubbish bins keep filling with water so

they need to be moved to somewhere more protected and maybe have a roof over them. This is not urgent but needs addressing in the better weather. The picnic benches have been moved again and need screwing down. It was suggested that one could be put over the concrete area where a bit of the old equipment used to be. The ROSPA inspection is this month.

8.DNPA, District and County Councillors' report: - 8.1 County Cllr Brook reported that the Budget has been accepted and set for 2020/2021 and that there has been a discussion on the Highways Network and there may be some more money to bid for. The latest storms have cost Highways £300,000 across the County and they will be overspent at the end of the year. He also said that the Town and Parish Grant has been replaced but there is still money available and he would recommend that Community groups apply for it. He will forward details to the Clerk. There are also a lot of business opportunities for funding start-up businesses. OFSTED has inspected the Children and Young People's Services and the report will be out next week and he will forward this to the Clerk. **Questions for Cllr Brook** a) Query re-routing of the 359 during the road closure at Farrant's Cross- He doesn't know but will find out. b) Query as to the roles that he now has within the Council – Chair of Management Committee for Planning, Vice Chair of Farms and he also sits on Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee involving Task Groups. c) Query the Corona Virus situation – He confirmed it is being discussed at County Level d) Query re solar power – County Hall is going Solar this month and there are ongoing negotiations for areas of land, East of Exeter, that are likely to become solar farms. The key thing is storage.

8.2 District Cllr Purser reported that Teignbridge is supporting Local Electricity Generation. This would enable local groups sell their electricity to their local area, thus avoiding the need for paying out costs needed for selling to larger bodies. Dunsford comes under the Strategic Plan group which is going up for consultation later in the month. There is also the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan which is trying to coordinate the wider area in things such as transport links. Teignbridge are putting their parking charges up and are also reintroducing Sunday parking charges. This will be between 10 am and 4 pm and will be £1. The Rural Aid Budget has gone but Cllr Purser has managed to secure £26,000 to apply as grants to Parish Councils that have a less than £20,000 turnover. Dunsford is eligible and can therefore apply. This year, there will be a group of Cllrs who will assess the written applications and there will be no site visits

8.3 Pete Rich, Dartmoor Ranger reported that they had only just received their financial settlement, which has been cut. He also said that Dartmoor is having a Rights of Way review. Local news is that, during the recent storms, the nature Reserve at Dunsford has taken a big hit so will be needing a lot of work. The stepping stones at the Mill also need attention but the use of concrete has now been banned so it is difficult to make them secure. He has put up warning notices to say they are dangerous to use but these have been removed by someone.

9. Planning: - Applications 9.1 – Teignbridge 20/000190 Pan Reedy, Dunsford – Construction of replacement shed
9.2 DNPA 0069/20 – Upperton Farm, Dunsford – Erection of general-purpose agricultural storage building. The Council had no objections to either application and decided site visits were not necessary. **Decisions 9.3 Teignbridge**
20/00122/LBC Brook Farm House – Grant of conditional consent to Re-render the East and West ends of the house. **Action Clerk**

10. The Review of the Asset Register was delayed till the April Meeting so that Cllr Matthews could contribute, as he had raised the item.

11. Flood Issues – The recent storms and general wet weather has caused flooding alerts to be issued which, in turn, has resulted in people wanting sandbags. The Clerk has had enquiries about this and the Council has agreed to look into having a store of sandbags for the Village. A discussion took place about possible storage sites and the number of bags needed. Cllrs will collect information and bring it to the next meeting. If a site can be found, the Council will then have to apply to Teignbridge for a supply of bags. Meanwhile, individuals can get sandbags from Teignbridge District Council but should ring them on 01626 361101 to make sure they have some in stock. A point of information was given by a member of the public that there is grant money available through Environmental Protection and products are available. **Action Cllr Morris/All Cllrs**

12. Training/Meetings Attended by Council this month: –

20/02/2020 Cllr French – TDC Tree seminar – He reported that trees are being subsidised by the Woodland Trust & Forestry Commission and they can be bought by anyone who has the space. The amount of subsidy depends upon the purchaser. It would be good for the council to revisit this in the Autumn.

17/02/2020- Cllrs Smallridge, Matthews and Gardner met with interested person re the Lengthsman post. (see item13)

02/2020 -Cllr Heard met with Fuad Al – Tawil from TEC re investigating the insulation problems with the Village Hall – the result of which is that the ceiling is losing a lot of heat. She will take this forward alongside the Village Hall management Committee.

13. Lengthsman for Dunsford – Cllr Smallridge reported that He, Cllrs Matthews and Gardner had met with the person interested in this post. They found him to be very capable and he had the right qualifications and tools for the post. They thought he would be competent and do a good job. The problem is they felt the prices quoted are too high. There was a discussion on rates of pay and the amount of time needed for the post. The information from Cllr Matthews was mentioned but this had only been sent to the Chairman and Clerk. Cllr Radclyffe proposed that the email be circulated to all the Council and it be discussed again at the next meeting. The Council asked the Clerk to notify the applicant.

Action Clerk

14. Street Lighting - An email sent by Les Pym from Devon Lighting Team had been received and circulated on the morning of this meeting. In addition to this email, the Clerk had spoken to him and he has agreed to have a meeting in the Village to discuss the subject of types of lights. His aim is to standardise the tops as there are several different types already in the Village. The Council agreed that the post top variety is most in keeping with the Village. Les Pym will contact the Clerk to arrange a date to visit. **Action Clerk**

15. Annual Parish Meeting – The date has been confirmed as 12/5/2020 and this has been advertised in the Parish magazine. The main village hall has been booked and the contacts from last year have been notified. The format was discussed. Cllrs will email the Clerk with any other contacts and their details that need to be informed. The Clerk will send a list of tasks to Cllrs and will ask for volunteers at the April Meeting. Cllr Morris has agreed to produce a poster for advertising the event. **Action Clerk/All Cllrs**

16. New Website – Cllr Radclyffe reported that the Clerk had been working on some updates but that there was a bit more work to do before it would be launched. He showed a few sections of the website to the Council and there was some discussion on the timing of changing from the old website to the new one.

17. Matters brought forward by the Chairman (for information only /possible addition to next month's agenda)

a) The email from Holcombe Burnell Clerk re Nature Warden - Clerk to reply and steer to Teign Climate Hub, via Chair. **Clerk**

b) 75th VE day celebrations – Cllr Morris would like to organise an event in the Village Hall/Green on 8th May 2020. The suggestion is that people bring their own picnic and Tea and Cake will be provided. Timing 2.30 pm to 5 pm. The Council agreed to back this.

c) Lea Lane is in need of repairs again. - Highways to be notified by the **Clerk**

d) The Village Hall is raising funds with a Quiz Night on May 2nd. Teams of four are required. The Council agreed to field (at least) one team. **Cllr Heard**

e) It has been reported to the Council that a barbed wire fence has been put up next to a footpath in the Village. It was discussed and the Council will address the issue by asking for the brambles opposite to be cut back which will give people more room to walk past safely. The Clerk will contact Pete Rich with this request and inform the Parishioner. **Clerk**

f) there is still an issue with parking in the layby near the Methodist Chapel. **Cllr Morris**

18. Date of next meeting Tuesday April 7th 2020 at **Village Hall Dressing rooms, Dunsford**, at 7.45 pm

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 10 pm

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

Date

Email circulation during the past month

- Teignbridge District Council weekly list of applications for planning
- Rural Services Network Bulletin plus Funding Digest
- DALC newsletters
- DNP planning applications for Dunsford
- Teignbridge planning applications for Dunsford
- Raising the Commonwealth Flag info
- Site visit in Drainage Maintenance Responsibilities
- Devon Work Hubs – funding opportunity
- TALC constitution and working party update
- Your Dartmoor Consultation
- Webpage for Parish/Town Councils info
- National Village and Community halls Survey
- Lengthsman post response
- Copy of letter concerning drainage at Butts
- 3 Parish meeting info Dartmoor Assembly Invitation
- Road closure info
- Sandbags info
- Email from Les Pym Devon Lighting Team