

DUNKESWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for a meeting of Dunkeswell Parish Council held in the Village Hall on **Monday 12th December 2011 at 7.30pm.**

Present: Cllrs John Barrow (Chairman), Geoffrey Sworder (Vice Chairman), Donna Delamain, Brendan Procter, Andrew Luscombe, Philip Stevens, Andrew Palmer, District Councillor Bob Buxton, and two members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr Vanetta Keitch, County Councillor Paul Diviani, PC Vickery 4783, PCSO Anning 30012

All councillors are politely reminded of their obligation to declare interests under the Code of Conduct.

In making decisions the Parish Council recognise their statutory duties provided for in Section 11A(2) of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 (National Parks) and Section 85 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (AONBs) that in exercising or performing any functions in relation to, or so as to affect, land, they shall have regard to their purposes (ie conserve and enhance their natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage and to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of their special qualities by the public).

- 1.1 **Receive apologies for absence.** AS ABOVE
- 1.2 **Minutes** of the previous meeting held in the Village Hall on **Monday 21st November 2011** were signed as a correct record of that meeting. AGREED
- 1.3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & RISK ASSESSMENT:** To receive declarations of interest and to note any additional risks. NONE
- 1.4 **To receive** signed Code of Conduct from Cllr Palmer. For next meeting

2 PLANNING

(http://planning.eastdevon.gov.uk/PublicAccess/tdc/DcApplication/application_searchform.aspx)

2.1 **Decisions** (for information)

2.1.1 **11/2327/FUL Dunkeswell Aerodrome** - Erection of aircraft storage shed (re-submission of application 07/3417/FUL) approved.

2.2 Applications

2.2.1 **11/2574/FUL Land at Airfield** – retention of land for storage of woodflakes. Cllr Procter declared an interest and left the room while the application was discussed. COMMENTS: The parish council noted that this use has existed for 19 years and had no objection. It was questioned why the application had come in as it seemed only a Certificate of Lawful Use was required in the circumstances.

2.2.2 **11/2539/FUL Hooked Rise Farm** – construction of covered yard and lean to (demolition of existing)
COMMENTS: No objections

2.2.3 **11/2540/FUL Land NE of Collard Hill Farm, Blackborough** – 10kw wind turbine 15m tower (amendment to 11/1194/FUL) COMMENTS: No objections, the parish council support small scale renewable energy production.

2.3 Tree Applications

2.3.1 **11/2506/TRE 2 Powells Way** – reduce height of two Beech trees to 10ft. DECISION;

THIS IS A SPLIT DECISION (a part of the application has been refused and a part approved).

The Council hereby **grants** permission to carry out work described below subject to the following conditions:
To reduce the height of two beech trees to points at or above previous reduction points at approximately 6-7 metres height, reduce side branches by up to 1.5metres.

1. The works hereby consented to shall be carried out within a period of 2 years from the date of this decision notice. (Reason - To ensure that the works are carried out within a reasonable period of time.)
2. The works hereby consented to shall be carried out in accordance with British Standard 3998: 2010 (Tree Work - Recommendations).(Reason - In the interests of amenity and to ensure the works are carried out in a satisfactory manner.)
3. Pruning works shall be carried out in accordance with the following restrictions:
(i) All pruning cuts should not exceed 10cms in diameter.
(Reason - In the interests of amenity and to ensure the works are carried out in a satisfactory manner.)

The Council hereby **refuses** permission to carry out work described below for the following reasons:

To reduce two Beech trees to 10 feet in height. Reason: The works are considered unnecessary and excessive. The removal of this much canopy will be detrimental to the trees health and significantly reduce the trees amenity value.

2.4 ENFORCEMENT

2.4.1 Copy letter asking for the removal or planning application for 11 caravans at the Skydiving centre used for weekend accommodation. FOR INFORMATION. Cllr Procter declared an interest, an application has been submitted but not received as yet.

2.5 **Parish Plan** – noting to report

2.6 **Neighbourhood Plan** – The draft LDF does speak of support for Neighbourhood Plan which we are pursuing.

2.7 **Old village of Dunkeswell Conservation Area** – was agreed at the last development management committee

2.8 Consultation on the emerging new East Devon Local Plan 2006 to 2026

East Devon District Council has published its Draft Consultation Plan for East Devon.

The new East Devon Local Plan will set out where development in East Devon will occur and how we will protect and enhance our great natural assets. This plan has built on previous consultation exercises and on going research and assessment.

To view the plan and make comments please visit www.eastdevon.gov.uk/localplan.

Please note that all comments must be received by **5.00pm on 31st January 2012**.

Please take this opportunity to influence the policies that will shape future development in East Devon.

If you have any queries about the public consultation, or the Local Plan as a whole, please contact a member of the Planning Policy team on 01395 571533. Cllr Sworder will write a draft response for approval.

2.9 **Blackdown Hills AONB Partnership has produced a draft design guide** for houses for consultation – comments are requested. COMMENTS: Cllr Sworder to circulate a draft response.

2.10 East Devon District Council Design Review Panel

A member of the Parish Council has been invited to attend a meeting of the above panel on 26th January 2012.

The purpose of the panel is to look at examples of recently completed schemes and discuss and compare their design. Details of the sites to be visited will be distributed to attendees in advance of the panel meeting but we will be looking at affordable housing schemes. The day will involve visits to selected sites in the morning, followed by a discussion back at the Knowle Council Offices, Sidmouth in the afternoon to discuss the schemes visited.

A light lunch will be provided. On the day itself we would like to meet at the Knowle between 9.00am and 9.15am to arrange shared transport and to leave by 9.30am. We will spend up to half an hour at each site, walking and considering the project. We may well experience some inclement weather and we may also walk across unmade ground depending on the conditions underfoot, so please ensure that you wear suitable clothing and footwear. Please also bring raincoats and umbrellas etc as you deem necessary. You may also want to bring bottled water with you as we will be out on site for the whole morning. AGREED a representative will attend TBD.

3 HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC

3.1 To receive issues to report – a gentleman has seriously injured himself in a pothole.

4 FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

4.1 Report from Cllr Barrow – awaiting delivery of gates, return to be completed for grant by February.

5 ENVIRONMENT

5.1 **Emergency planning** – receive any new items for consideration

6 COMMUNITY FACILITIES

6.1 **Community policing report** – Anning – one crime since last meeting – domestic incident of sexual assault, there was also a crime from earlier in the year which was resolved, a young girl was threatened by a Dunkeswell resident via the internet. Cllr Buxton and the parish council thanked the police for all the work they do in our parishes during the year.

6.2 **Playgrounds/Sports field** – Spraying has been completed at new Century Park.

6.3 **Allotments** – **Lease between Allotment Society and the Parish Council for agreement.**

6.4 **Halls** – Nothing to report at present. Parish council were thanked for the donation towards the firework night which was well supported making £1200.

6.5 **EDDC open space, recreation and sport facilities** study of the area – map returned.

6.6 **East Devon District Council** - health, wellbeing, and welfare reforms that are happening in East Devon and find out a bit more about the Coalition Government's Localism agenda as well Friday 2 December report on meeting – there were various healthcare pilot schemes described. The councils were asked to prioritise housing needs.

7 FINANCE

7.1 **Receipts** - none

7.2 **Cheque payments** – none

(Cheques for agreement)

Account balances – Parish Account at 1/12/11 - £15540.92 includes the following:

P3 balance of funds - £672.00

7.3 Budget for 2012/13 for consideration (agreement needed in January)

Email received from Lesley Smith: You may be aware that under sections 72 – 80 of the Localism Act the Secretary of State has the power to limit the amount that council tax can rise, with any increase above this amount only going ahead if approved by a local referendum. This section of the Act has received its commencement order so can operate with regard to council tax increases for the next financial year.

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Town and parish councils are included in this provision, although we are expecting more information about the exact parameters of the control in a Local Government Finance Order due out some time this month – possibly next week. This might set out a de minimus limit on local councils to be affected by the provisions of the Localism Act (in terms of turnover), and it might indicate whether the Secretary of State intends to set a limit of increase for local councils (as opposed to Local Authorities) for next year. Eric Pickles MP has already issued a press release indicating that local authorities should have no more than a 3.5% increase.

The increase is measured on the Band D equivalent rather than on a straight precept figure increase. This might mean that councils could increase their precept by more than 3.5% but because there are more properties in the parish, the Band D Equivalent does not rise by very much. Band D equivalent figures are available from your billing authority.

Local councils could plan to limit their increase to 3.5%, or if a higher increase had been planned, see if they could produce a “Plan B” budget which they could use if they find they are caught by the provisions for the coming financial year. Of course they could continue to press for a higher precept but take steps to inform the electorate so that when it comes a vote at referendum the result might be positive.

For those councils in any doubt about putting in an increased precept demand, they might want to ensure they have a council meeting scheduled for mid January so they can take last minute decisions on their budget and precept demand.

7.5 Bank signatory forms for completion – change of signatory form to be completed.

7.6 Correspondence

Letter of thanks received from Cllr Halse for welcoming him to the November meeting.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC (The meeting to be closed before questions from the public).

Members Remember! You must declare any personal or prejudicial interests at the start of the meeting (item number 3). Make sure you say the reason for your interest as this has to be included in the minutes. If your interest is prejudicial you must leave the room.

Dates for next meetings 2012 –

9 th January 2012	Planning Meeting 7 – 7.30pm
9 th January 2012	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
13 th February 2012	Planning Meeting 7 – 7.30pm
20 th February 2012	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
12 th March 2012	Planning Meeting 7 – 7.30pm
12th March 2012	7.30pm WARD MEETING – Dunkeswell
19 th March 2012	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
9 th April 2012	Planning Meeting 7 – 7.30pm
16 th April 2012	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
14 th May 2012	Planning Meeting 7–7.30pm and Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm (Annual General Meeting)
21 st May 2012	7.30pm Annual Parish Meeting (at Community Hall)
11 th June 2012	Planning Meeting 7 - 8pm
18 th June 2012	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
9 th July 2012	Planning Meeting 7 - 8pm
16 th July 2012	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
13 th August 2012	Planning Meeting 7 - 8pm
20 th August 2012	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
10 th September 2012	Planning Meeting 7 – 7.30pm (around 10 th SEPTEMBER 2012 WARD MEETING – 7.30pm Sheldon)
17 th September 2012	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
8 th October 2012	Planning Meeting 7 – 7.30pm
15 th October 2012	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
12 th November 2012	Planning Meeting 7 - 8pm
19 th November 2012	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
10 th December 2012	Planning Meeting 7 – 7.30pm and Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm