

DUNKESWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for a **Meeting** of Dunkeswell Parish Council held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Monday 15th January 2007.

Present: Mr G Sworder (Chairman), Mr J Barrow (Vice Chairman), Cllrs Mssrs Mr C Sumpter, M Stevens, B Procter, A Luscombe, R Jones, County Councillor Mr Roger Boote, PC Vickery 4783 and three members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr Mrs B Russell, District Councillor Mrs M Boote, PCSO Anning 30012

All councillors were 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 **Minutes** of the previous meeting held in the Village Hall on Monday 11th December, 2006 were signed as a correct record of that meeting.

2 PLANNING

2.1 **Decisions** (for information)

06/2672/FUL Unit 3 Westerhope Farm – Permission granted for erection of industrial building.

06/3090/TRE 3 Louis Way – Permission granted to reduce crown two ash trees and lowest branch

06/3229/TRE 21 Walcott Way – permission granted to fell three ash trees

2.2 **Applications** (for recommendation)

06/3482/FUL 26 Simcoe Way – conservatory. Recommendation: **APPROVAL**

06/3353/FUL Dunkeswell Kart Circuit – retention of widening of kart track extension. If track is 6m wide there is a limit to the number of karts allowed on the track. As the track has been widened beyond this, there are possible noise implications for the grant of this permission. This is a retrospective application. There is no question that the track was only 6m wide previously, as the original MSA licence stated this. This application only asks for a widening of the track extension granted in January 2005, not a widening of the original track.

Various options were discussed and it was decided to recommend refusal of this application, unless a condition is placed to limit the number of karts allowed on the track to 28 gear box or 26 non gear box, which is what would be presently allowed under the licence for a 6m wide track.

Recommendation: **REFUSAL**

06/3351/FUL Dunkeswell Kart Circuit – retention of car parking and pits area on land to north east of circuit.

There is no doubt that the car park is higher than before, however there are several arguments over the original level, the applicant was told by EDDC that these ground works were at his own risk when he was proceeding without permission. It was agreed there is now a visual intrusion when vehicles are using the park and on these grounds the recommendation should be to refuse. Recommendation: **REFUSAL**

Copy letter received from Blackdown Hills AONB objecting to the determination of the applications until noise and visual impact issues have been addressed.

06/3515/COU The Old Mill - change of use and conversion of ancillary barn to holiday let unit. Recommendation: **APPROVAL**

06/3525/FUL The Old Mill – erection of double garage and replacement of two existing implement sheds with single tractor shed. Recommendation: **APPROVAL**

06/3526/FUL The Old Mill – extension and improvements. Recommendation: **APPROVAL**

2.3 **Parish Plan** (review) –issues identified have progressed as follows since the plan was published: **speed restrictions** have been put in place, **affordable housing** is being addressed through the transfer of land to Magna Homes following a survey of need and the village should benefit from 10 houses in the first instance, with the possibility of a further 10 in the future. Parishioners wanted to see the old area of the **industrial estate** tidied, Mr Sworder is to speak to Britton House Properties on this matter. No more housing (other than affordable houses) was to be encouraged -very little has been granted. A **primary school** was requested, however at the time it was not feasible due a dropping birth rate and places being available at other local schools (to be readdressed a letter will be written to the Education Authority). **Rights of way** – although the footpath link remains in the DCC Highways programme, it has not yet reached priority. It was hoped a connection could be made to the footpath system from Highfield estate (land owners to hold a discussion). Land for a **sports field** is now being transferred to the parish (which will include allotments which were not previously mentioned – there are 18 applicants at present). **Youth work** continues and the youth of the village are running the youth club themselves with excellent help from Ann Barratt. The **bus service** still has no Sunday service – clerk to write to the County Council who part subsidise the service.

- 2.4 **Emergency Plan** – it was decided that in today's climate of legal action it would not be fair to ask people to assist in an emergency without insurance, therefore villagers should rely on the emergency services.

Outstanding planning matters/applications as at the 15th January 2007: (for information)

January 2004	04/P0078 British Light Aircraft Co. (awaiting highways new proposal)
April 2005	05/0993/FUL Land at Highfield – 26 open market units, Land off Powells Way - 19 affordable dwellings, community facilities recreational land off Liberator Way
October 2005	05/2721/FUL Brookside Farm – change of use to residential, educational centre, activity equipment.
February 2006	06/0043/FUL Lammasland – chemical store/workshop and hay barn
May 2006	06/0969/FUL Highfield Community Hall
August 2006	06/2038/COU Sheldon Grange –cross country course
October 2006	06/2607/FUL land off Culme Close – amendments to approved conservatory
November 2006	06/3019/FUL 15 Azalea Close –erection of 2m high close board fence. 06/2607/FUL land rear of Culme Close – amendments to approved scheme 4no. dwellings including conservatory to each unit and extension to plot 1
	06/2760/FUL Lodge farm – retention of windows
December 2006	06/3398/FUL Rosemary Cottage – two storey extension. 06/3342/TRE 19 Potters Stile – trees

4 HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC

Devon and Cornwall Police – reply received from Chief Inspector Nye regarding Speedwatch as follows: The statistics from the DCC speed bins for 2004 and 2006 show that speeds have dropped in the village (the 20mph zone saw a reduction of 6.9% north bound and 1.2% southbound, the 40mph zone was 3.6% northbound and 3.6% southbound). The Pilot ran from July 2005 – January 2006. These reductions cannot be directly attributed to the pilot, but no doubt they had significant a contribution. The Constabulary now does not support such schemes following guidance from the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO). Feedback from other schemes around the country have shown examples of driver victimisation, poor management of schemes by volunteers, poor use of equipment and incidents which have left forces potentially open to litigation. It is for these reasons Devon and Cornwall Constabulary has withdrawn its support.

Clerk to request clearing of moss on the pavement on Highfield road between Jenwood Road and Walden Road. Potholes: outside Blackdown Garth, on Chapel Hill and Percy Hill.

5 FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

Nothing to report

6 ENVIRONMENT

7 COMMUNITY FACILITIES

- 7.1 Community policing report – PC Vickery/PCSO Anning – there have been two crimes since last meeting, one assault and one non domestic dwelling burglary where a child's scramble bike was taken.
- 7.2 Playground safety inspections – nothing to report
- 7.3 Sports field - it has been requested that allotments be part of the plan for the new sports field (one letter received and several calls)
- 7.4 Halls – nothing to report
- 7.5 Dog bins – Council to instructed clerk where these are to be positioned and clerk to inform EDDC (fixing to take place shortly before contract emptying begins) – decided these should be placed on the entrance to Green Lane, Culme Way and opposite Junction of Louis Way and Powells Way.
- 7.6 Housing needs survey – awaiting a transfer of land to Magna Homes.

8 FINANCE

8.1	Receipts –	none	
8.2	Cheque payments -	Dunkeswell Parish News (2006 minutes)	£495.00
	Payment by direct debit -	Virgin Broadband (Public Access Computer) monthly	£24.99
		BT Quarterly payment (Public Access Computer) September, December, March and June	£32.99
		(Cheques and direct debits agreed).	
	Account balances - at 1/1/07	Paths Account £501.70	
		Parish Account £6699.61	

- 8.3 **WARD MEETING** – Dunkeswell Village Hall, 7.30pm on Monday 5th March 2007 – all parish councillors are asked to attend if possible.

- 8.4 **Precept 2007/8** – Agreed to request a £12,000 precept, with donations to remain as last year. AGREED.

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

Dates for next meetings –

Planning Applications: Monday 12th February, 2007 7pm – 8pm
Parish Council: Monday 19th February, 2007 7.30pm

Dunkeswell Village Hall
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