

DUNKESWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for a MEETING of Dunkeswell Parish Council held in the Village Hall on **Monday 11th May 2015 at 7.30pm.**

Present: Cllrs John Barrow (Chairman), Kerry Webber, Tina Page, Andrew Luscombe, Philip Stevens, Tim Clewer, District Councillor Colin Brown, and two members of the public.

Apologies: Brendan Procter (Vice Chairman), Andrew Maynard, 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 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN – Cllr Colin Brown took the chair to receive nominations for chairman. Cllr Barrow was proposed, this was unanimously agreed and he signed the Acceptance of Office.

1.3 VACANCY - the parish had an uncontested election with one VACANCY arising on 7th May, to be filled by co-option at this meeting. Tim Clewer was proposed, this was unanimously agreed.

1.4 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS -

Appointment of **Vice Chairman** – Cllr Brendan Procter

Snow Warden – Cllr John Barrow

Tree Warden – Cllr John Barrow

P3 co-ordinator (Footpaths and Bridleways) – Cllr John Barrow

Park Wardens – Churchill Play Ground Cllr Brendan Procter, **New Century Park** – Cllr Phillip Stevens and **Sports field** – Cllr John Barrow

New post created to address current canine matters within the parish – Cllr Tim Clewer

All councillors to become members of the **planning committee**, being quorate at three members who will be delegated to return comments between meetings if necessary.

Acceptance of Office, Declarations of Interests and Code of Conduct distributed to be signed by all members of the council and returned to the clerk or EDDC.

All councillors who are stepping down are thanked for their service to the parish with particular regard to Cllr Sworder who has served the parish for 25 years as a councillor (13 years of which as chairman), and been responsible for so many community initiatives beyond this role for many years in a very proactive and inspirational capacity. He will be greatly missed as a member of the team and it is hoped he will still take an active interest in the work of the council and act in an advisory capacity. Cllr Barrow presented Cllr Sworder with a hand carved stone book with hand poured bronze snails devouring the contents as a token of our gratitude and esteem, all made by local artist Claudia Napier. Clerk to thank all retiring councillors for their service to the parish council by letter.

Cllr Bob Buxton was also publicly thanked for his contribution to the parish during his time as our ward member.

1.5 Minutes of the previous meeting held in the Village Hall on **Monday 20th April 2015** were signed as a correct record of that meeting. AGREED

1.6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & RISK ASSESSMENT: To receive declarations of interest and to note any additional risks. Wobble board is being replaced in Churchill Playground. **15/0894/FUL WOLFORD FARM** - Cllr Luscombe declared an interest and left the room, Cllr Barrow abstained from discussion and the vote.

2 PLANNING

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

2.1 Decisions (for information)

2.1.1 15/0313/FUL Beechwood Farm – Approval for construction of multi-span polytunnel

2.1.2 15/0715/AGR Land South Of Bowerhayes Cross - Notification approval for agricultural building to cover existing silage clamp

2.2 Applications

- 2.2.1 **15/0807/FUL Former Operations Block Dunkeswell Airfield** – creation of new access COMMENTS: no objections.
- 2.2.2 **15/0894/FUL Wolford Farm** - Construction of agricultural workers dwelling. Cllr Luscombe declared an interest and left the room, Cllr Barrow abstained from discussion and the vote. COMMENTS: The Parish Council support the provision of tied agricultural accommodation where proven agricultural need is established and a long term business model is in place. The positioning of this dwelling is appropriate to need as the stock buildings are located a considerable distance from the farmhouse at Highwood Farm. As the proposed dwelling is set away from the highway and adjacent to existing stock buildings landscape impact will be minimal.
- 2.2.3 **15/0927/FUL Land Adjacent 9 Court View** – construction of dwelling (revisions to 14/0420/FUL incorporating rooflight in side elevation). COMMENTS: no objections.
- 2.2.4 **15/0955/FUL 49 Powells Way** - construction of garden shed. COMMENTS: no objections.

2.3 TREE APPLICATIONS (for decision)

- 2.3.1 **15/0532/TRE 1 Foxglove Close** – T1,3,4,6,8,10,12,27 and 28 - Coppice to 1m.T2,5,7,9,11,13-18, 20-26 and 29-31 - Reduce to 4m.
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: Coppice; T2, 3,- 6, 8, 10, 12, 27, and 31. Reduce to 4.5m height; T7, 9, 11, 13, 14, 17, 18, 20- 26, 29, and 30. The Council hereby **refuses** permission to carry out work described below for the following reasons: Coppice T1 and T28, Reduce to 4.0m T 2, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13-18, 20-26 and 29-31.
1. Whilst the principle of the works are accepted the details of the proposed works do not correlate with the condition and/or form of the identified trees. Alternative works have been specified and approved under another part of this decision.

- 2.3.2 **15/0547/TRE Delfim** - T6, Beech - Remove 1 branch on N E aspect of tree. T8, Beech - Fell.

Decision: REFUSE for the following reasons:

1. The proposed removal of a low branch from T6 is considered to be undesirable and unnecessary and without substantive arboricultural justification. The amount of reduction is excessive and will necessitate the making of large, over 200mm diameter, pruning cut. A pruning cut of this size and at this location on the main trunk of the tree has the potential to become a point of fungal infection leading to the structure of this important part of the tree being compromised. The branch does not over hang the garden area and its removal will have little effect on the levels of light within the garden.
2. The proposed felling of T8 is considered to be undesirable and unnecessary and without substantive arboricultural justification. The tree along with others contributes to the integrity and visual amenity of the whole group.
- 2.3.3 **15/0960/TCA Kansenji** - G1, Beech: Reduce height to 1ft above previous reduction points. (await report)

- 2.4 **Neighbourhood Plan** – The draft plan has been circulated for six week consultation comments to Parishioners, all consultees, neighbouring parishes and EDDC comments have been received back from EDDC, Highways and individuals and the plan will now be examined for any necessary changes, these seem to be only in terms of minor wording on first glance, which will not necessitate any re-consultation, but this will be confirmed shortly.

2.5 Proposed changes to the Local Plan (for comment)

- The **West End of East Devon will form the main focal point for further residential land allocation** given the close proximity to jobs, services and public transport.
- The **seven main towns of East Devon** (Axminster, Budleigh Salterton, Exmouth, Honiton, Ottery St Mary, Seaton and Sidmouth) are already the focus of some growth and, due to constraints on all of them, it is **not seen as appropriate to allocate additional residential development to any of them**
- There are **no proposals to allocate sites for development in the villages or countryside**
- **Villages** A [study](#) has considered the suitability of villages (and Colyton) to take further growth, based on an assessment of the facilities and services available, such as a pub, shop, Church, primary school, village hall and place of employment. Ease of access, quality of public transport and walking distances are also key considerations. Two categories of village are now defined:

Villages who will have Built-up Area Boundaries defined through a development plan document: Beer Broadclyst, Chardstock, Clyst St Mary, Colyton, Dunkeswell, East Budleigh, Feniton, Kilmington, Lymington, Musbury, Newton Poppleford, Sidbury, Uplyme, West Hill, Whimple, Woodbury

These settlements have the greatest range of facilities and the most accessible locations and so are best suited in sustainability terms to accommodate new housing. We will be reviewing the Built-up Area Boundaries as part of the Villages DPD which could also include allocations and other policies. We are committed to extensively involving the local community in these processes.

Most of these communities are producing Neighbourhood Plans which may cover, amongst others, issues such as design, location, scale and type of new development and protecting features of local importance. Information about producing a Neighbourhood Plan is available from the Planning Policy Section.

Villages where development focused on meeting identified local need will be permitted; All other villages will not have a Built-up area Boundary but will be defined as part of the countryside in planning policy. They will still potentially be suitable for some development where it is compatible with the built form of the village and the local landscape and where it will add to the range of services and facilities available. New mixed-use market and affordable housing (at least 66% of a scheme) will be permitted in villages where a need is demonstrated and some services and facilities are available. Where greater levels of development are sought by the local community, policy enables this to be provided through a Neighbourhood Plan.

There was some concern over the implications of being one of a handful of sustainable communities in the long term. At present there is no school, which may of course change in future. It was felt that if Dunkeswell parish wishes to avoid larger scale development for the foreseeable future the best way forward might be to relinquish the BUAB as other villages are doing. Clerk to make comment to this effect.

3 HIGHWAYS

4.1 **Lengthsman** – no new issues at present

4.2 **Issues to report;** main road through the village remains in a poor state of repair, clerk to contact highways.

5 FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

5.1 **Report from Cllr Barrow** – There was a some confusion over money gratefully received from DCC Highways, it may be for Burnsome Lane or BW 12, this is presently unclear Cllr Barrow to call and confirm.

6 ENVIRONMENT

6.1 **Emergency planning & winter issues** – receive any new items for consideration - none

7 COMMUNITY

7.1 **Community policing report** – PC Vickery/PCSO Anning - crimes since last meeting – domestic incident (harassment by text and phone, Public Order – argument over dog off the lead, Malicious communication – threatening and abusive telephone calls.

7.2 **Playgrounds/Sports field** – clerk to request additional litter bins for both Sportsfield and New Century Park, Cllrs Procter and Barrow are liaising to replace oak posts and wobble board in Churchill Playground.

7.3 **Allotments** – Cllr Webber reported that the allotments were all now occupied again for the current year.

7.4 **Halls** – nothing to report

7.5 **Dog Walking** – rubber receivers to be added to gates on new dog walking areas to lessen clang for near neighbours.

8 FINANCE

8.1 **Insurance renewal quotes** – The three year agreement with our current insurers terminates on 15th May 2015. Renewal invited from Hiscox (via Came and Co brokers) of £588.25, alternative quote from Zurich of £438.09, Came and co then made a reduced offer of £401.90 (both with a three year agreement of 'only slight increase').

8.2	Receipts -	Precept EDDC (April – Sept)	£12862.00
		CGT EDDC (April – Sept)	£1388.00

8.3	Cheque payments –	Cut and Strim	£61.00
		Insurance renewal - Came & Co	£401.90
		Clerk expenses cheque reissued (2013 not banked)	£79.94
		Brookridge cheque reissued (2013 not banked)	£67.55
		(Cheques agreed)	

Account balances – Parish Account at 1/5/15 - £25357.16 includes the following:
P3 balance of funds - £3908 (opening bal -£92, grant £4,000)

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC (The meeting to be closed before questions from the public). A gentleman commended the action of the parish council in installing dog bins in the old part of the village, he was also concerned about speeding.

Dates for next meetings 2015 –

18th May 2015 **Annual Parish Meeting** 8pm Throgmorton Community Hall

8th June 2015	Village Hall	Planning Meeting 7 - 8pm
15th June 2015	Village Hall	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
13th July 2015	Village Hall	Planning Meeting 7 - 8pm
20th July 2015	Village Hall	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
17th August 2015	Village Hall	Planning Meeting 7 - 8pm
24th August 2015	Village Hall	Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm