

DUNKESWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for a MEETING of Dunkeswell Parish Council held in the Village Hall on **Monday 20th October 2014 at 7.30pm.**

Present: Cllrs John Barrow (Chairman), Geoffrey Sworder (Vice Chairman), Brendan Procter, Andrew Luscombe, Philip Stevens, Andrew Maynard County Councillor Paul Diviani, District Councillor Bob Buxton, PCSO Anning 30012 and six members of the public.

Apologies: Cllrs Vanetta Keitch, Nicola Gale, PC Vickery 4783,

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 Receive apologies for absence. AS ABOVE

1.2 **Minutes** of the previous meeting held in the Village Hall on **Monday 15th September 2014** were signed as a correct record of that meeting.

1.3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & RISK ASSESSMENT:** To receive declarations of interest and to note any additional risks. NONE

2 PLANNING

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

2.1 **Decisions** (for information)

2.2.1 **none**

2.3 Applications

2.3.1 **14/2250/FUL Land At Wolverstone Cross Awliscombe** - Widening of existing access and creation/enlargement of hard standing and timber stacking area COMMENTS: no comments

2.3.2 **14/2398/FUL 32 Louis Way** - Construction of single storey and two storey extension to front. COMMENTS: No objections

2.3.3 **14/2226/FUL Airwestward Dunkeswell Airfield** – Construction of aircraft storage shed. COMMENTS: No objections

2.3.4 **14/2141/FUL Land South Of Powells Way** - Construction of 8 no affordable dwellings and associated external works with public amenity space. COMMENTS; Although the Parish Council are mindful of the District wide need to provide Affordable homes, there is evidence from both a recent survey by the developers and information gathered during the consultation process for the Dunkeswell Neighbourhood Plan that residents need is for low cost open market three bedroom houses, rented/open market sheltered housing for older people and compact accommodation for young people (possibly House in Multiple Occupation or small apartments). The parish council are also concerned that this Exception Site would abut a previously granted Exception Site thereby creating a large concentration of Affordable Housing in one area of the village. It is felt that Affordable homes are better interspersed with open market housing wherever possible.

On balance it was felt that the proposed two bedroom housing does not address the local need for local people. The Parish Council would however welcome the opportunity for a conversation with the developer and District Council to look at a more suitable scheme.

2.4 APPEALS

2.4.1 APP/U1105/A/14/2224343 Unit B Block 19 Flightway

Change of use from B1 industrial unit to a live/work B1 unit by converting the existing first floor to living accommodation, cladding and erection of canopy on front elevation and extension to balcony on rear elevation (partially retrospective application) The appeal will be determined on the basis of written representations. The procedure to be followed is set out in Part 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Appeals) (Written Representations Procedure) (England) Regulations 2009. If you wish to make comments, or modify/withdraw your previous representation, you can do so on the Planning Portal at www.planningportal.gov.uk/pes or by emailing teamp1@pins.gsi.gov.uk If you do not have access to the internet you can send three copies to Sarah Hardy, The Planning Inspectorate, 3/09 Kite Wing, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol BS1 6PN. All representations must be received by 14 October 2014.

2.4.2 APPEAL DECISION

Appeal Ref: APP/U1105/A/14/2216182 Old Highwood Farm Barns

The appeal was made against a refusal to grant planning permission for the development of land without complying with conditions subject to which a previous planning permission was granted. The application Ref 14/0011/VAR conversion of the barn to 4 holiday lets and manager/owner's accommodation (5 units) to be changed to keep Units 4 and 5 as holiday lets but to allow Units 1, 2 and 3 to become market led residential housing - **Appeal dismissed.**

2.5 TREE APPLICATIONS (for decision)

- 2.5.1 14/1763/TRE 17 Potters Stile** – T1, Ash - Reduce crown to 20' height and thin remaining crown. T2 - T5, Beech - Reduce crown to 20' height.
- 2.5.2 14/2070/TRE - 1 Bluebell Road** - T1, Beech - Shorten long heavy second order branches by 2m over Powell Road. Thin crown by 10% removing second order branches and small live branches. T2, Oak - Reduce lowest long first order branch over driveway by 2m to a suitable side branch.
- 2.5.3 14/2364/TRE Delfim** - T2, T3, T4, and T5 Beech – fell T1, T6, T7, T8 and T9 - Beech - Reduce height as shown in picture No 2

- 2.6 Neighbourhood Plan** – Business Questionnaire has been analysed and agricultural questionnaire has been sent, Housing forum on Saturday 11th October attracted 25 people to share their views on how the parish should look to accommodate our population in future years. The steering group met for visioning and setting of aims and objectives at 6.30pm on Wednesday 15th October 2014, a summary of these is to be put in the parish magazine and displayed at the next Neighbourhood Planning Public Consultation Event on Saturday 15th November 2014 10 – 7pm at Throgmorton Hall.

Mr Clewer asked that in considering the latest planning application for affordable housing that the parish council feedback the results of Neighbourhood Planning surveys also added that in speaking to community members in the last few months, that there was strong feeling that more community facilities need to be brought into community ownership as part of s106 agreements and that housing need is for more three bedroom family houses, sheltered housing for the elderly and compact/shared accommodation for young people.

3 HIGHWAYS

- 4.1 Lengthsman Pilot – Parishes Together funding** – clerk to arrange meeting shortly with Luppitt PC.
- 4.2 Issues to report;** Highfield Road raised drains, Percy Cross to Garage road surface degraded.
- 4.3 Highway Matters Conference – Monday 29 September 2014** at Stokeinteignhead Village Hall focus of Community Self Help on Highway Works. Cllr Barrow reported that cuts mean that residents and landowners will need to look after verges and ditches, please see the Tough Choices (as below).
- 4.4 DCC Tough Choices** – Over the three years 2014 to 2017, Devon County Council's Highways and Traffic Management service needs to make large savings in its budget. Around £18.5 million has already been cut from the highways revenue budget since 2009, but it is vitally important that we can find different, more cost-effective ways of doing things and that non-essential work is stopped so that we can maintain a safe and effective highway network. To help DCC meet its 2015/16 budget reduction target of £3.4 million they are considering a number of options which we hope will help us reach this target, while still allowing us to maintain and carry out the essential work required on Devon's road network. They will continue to reduce costs of management and support services, as well as raising fees and charges to reduce the impact on services.

Consultation begins on 3rd October 2014 to find out what the people of Devon and a range of stakeholders think about the range of proposals, what their impact might be and what we can do to reduce the impact. The consultation ends on 5th December 2014. Please find out more and give your feedback through the DCC Tough Choices Website

The proposals in brief;

Gritting and snow clearing fleet – To reduce the number of vehicles in our second fleet, which is used to respond to severe winter weather.

Gritting and snow clearing routes – To review the criteria determining which routes are treated with salt during close to or freezing conditions.

Grit bins – That Devon County Council no longer maintains or restocks grit bins.

Picnic sites – To close the four picnic sites on the A361/A39.

Grass cutting – To only fund grass cutting to maintain visibility at junctions and on the inside of bends.

Weed treatment – That the Council no longer fund the targeted weed spraying and treatment of noxious weeds.

Parish Lengthsmen Service – To reduce the number of Lengthsmen and make their clean of drainage features their only duty.

Neighbourhood Highway Team – Reducing frontline staff by 20%.

4.5 ROAD CLOSURES

- 4.5.1 Windgate Hill, Wednesday 15 October - Friday 24 October. Road from Gypsy Cross to Chapel Cross, Monday 27 October - Friday 31 October.** The works will involve essential **Surfacing** works in the highway. In order to safely carry out these works, a road closure will be in place during working hours. Work generally will be undertaken between the hours of **09.00am and 16.00pm**, although these times may vary. Diversions will be in place throughout.

5 FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

- 5.1 **Report from Cllr Barrow** – There is a group of local horse riders campaigning for the reopening of Bridleway 12, the parish council fully support this.

6 ENVIRONMENT

- 6.1 **Emergency planning & winter issues** – receive any new items for consideration

6.2 Tough Choices – Proposals for budget savings for 2015/16 in Waste Management

Proposals to save up to £265,000 next year from the County Council's waste and recycling budget have been put forward for consultation this week. As you will be aware, the potential savings are part of a wider plan to reduce the council's budget to meet the latest Government spending targets. Over the last three years, changes have been made to the way DCC manages Devon's domestic waste resulting in £4.7 million worth of savings. However, further work is still needed.

The proposed measures are as follows:

i) Proposal to discontinue payment of discretionary Recycling Credits for textiles

As the Waste Disposal Authority for Devon, Devon County Council has traditionally paid discretionary recycling credits to groups who collect materials for recycling. This credit represents the Council's net saving of expenditure on the disposal of the waste.

Currently discretionary credits are paid to registered groups for materials such as paper, glass, textiles, card and plastic. In addition to the Recycling Credit (currently £55 per tonne), groups may also receive an income from the sale of these collected materials. Material values vary from less than £30 a tonne for glass to more than £350 a tonne for textiles. In 2013/14, Devon County Council paid £65,500 in discretionary Recycling Credit payments for textiles to 161 registered groups (mainly charities). The potential income available to the groups from selling these could add up to more than £400,000. As the scheme continues to grow, the costs continue to rise at a time when budgets are being cut. Due to the high resale value of this material it is considered that the groups would continue to collect this material without the support of the recycling credit. It is considered, therefore, that it is no longer appropriate to be paying discretionary credits for textiles. It is predicted this proposal will save £65,000 per annum.

ii) Further charges for the disposal of non household waste at Devon's Recycling Centres: Devon County Council (DCC) has a legal obligation to provide Recycling Centres for Devon residents to dispose of/recycle mainly bulky household and garden waste (i.e. **household waste** that is not normally collected as part of the local refuse/recycling collection services) free of charge.

The legal definition of **household waste** does not include materials from the repair or improvement of houses i.e. DIY home improvement types of waste. DCC has no obligation to accept such waste or to accept it free of charge and currently, charges apply for the deposition (by residents) of soil/rubble; plasterboard; asbestos and tyres at DCC Recycling Centres.

DCC is considering extending the principle of charging residents for the deposit of further DIY waste types, to include, but not limited to the following:-

- UPVC Windows (with/without glass)
- UPVC Doors (with/without glass)
- Baths or shower trays
- Shower Screens
- Insulation materials
- Roofing Felt
- PVC downpipe/guttering

The charge is likely to be in the region of £3.50 an item. It is predicted this will save £200,000.

If the proposals are agreed by Cabinet it is estimated that a total of around £265,000 in savings could be made in 2015/16. No final decision on these proposals until February 2015.

In the meantime, Impact Assessments can be found and comments on the proposals can be made from October 9th at <https://new.devon.gov.uk/wastebudget/> or in writing to Waste Management (Tough Choices), Devon County Council, County Hall, Exeter, EX2 4QD. The closing date for comments is 19th November 2014.

7 COMMUNITY

- 7.1 **Community policing report** – PC Vickery/PCSO Anning - since the last meeting there were four recorded crimes, one possession of cannabis, theft of a motor vehicle, theft from a motor vehicle and a fraud where a tenant of a property issued a stolen cheque for the rental of a house. Householders were reminded about the police marking service for property and garden equipment, this is free, please contact PCSO Phil Anning.

- 7.2 **Playgrounds/Sports field** – nothing to report.

- 7.3 **Allotments** – nothing to report.

- 7.4 **Halls** – Throgmorton hall are looking to install lighting at the cost of £5000, Cllr Diviani to assist.

- 7.5 **Dog Walking area, Dog Bins** – are being ordered. Tree on new dog exercise area which carries a preservation order is to be inspected by David Colman EDDC as a parishioner has concerns it is dangerous,

- 7.6 **Parish Computer** –

- 7.7 **Blackdown Hills Parish Network (BHPN)** - There will be a General Meeting of the on Tuesday 25th November in Culmstock Methodist Hall at 7.30 pm. All are welcome to hear about recent activity of the Network and to take the opportunity to share information and experiences with other residents of the Blackdown Hills. Councillor John Hart, Leader of Devon County Council has agreed to address the meeting and a Somerset County Council representative is also anticipated. Two recent resignations from the Steering

Group (through ill health and other commitments) have created an opportunity for others to express an interest in becoming more involved in the Network's activities. Anyone may apply, the only qualification being that you are a resident of a Somerset or Devon parish with a full or partial footprint in the Blackdown Hills AONB and are prepared to become involved in helping to deliver the aims of the Blackdown Hills Community Plan. The Plan was published following consultation throughout the AONB on both sides of the county boundary and can be viewed here www.blackdownsonline.org.uk. The Steering Group is particularly looking for applicants living in the East Devon district. For more information please contact BHPN Co-ordinator Catherine Bass by email blackdownhillsonline@gmail.com or phone 01884 849172.

There are free advertising opportunities on www.blackdownsonline.org.uk. To publicise club, society or community activities, or a community facility that is available for rent or hire, follow the links on the website home page and complete an online form to share your information. There is a free events diary too, so please post events using the web form.

Businesses facing local residents and visitors (such as Bed & Breakfast, residential stays, restaurants, pubs, village shops, creative activities such as teaching instruments, supplying locally made goods or produce) can advertise very cheaply, for just £10 pa

7.8 **Post Office** – consultation on proposed changes to Dunkeswell Post Office

- Post office services would be offered from a till at the main counter instead of separate screened area
- Branch opening hours would be longer (Mon-Sat 7am – 8pm and Sunday 8am – 8pm)
- NS&I Premium Bonds will no longer be available at this branch, but all other services will be retained

Please comment online postofficeviews.co.uk (branch number 17351999) or call 08457223344 or FREEPOST YOUR COMMENTS by 4th November 2014.

7.9 **Bus Shelters** - A petition was brought to the meeting asking for more bus shelters on Highfield Estate, the parish council passed this to Cllr Buxton to request action via s106 funding. It was noted that when the Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan are approved there will be CIL money which could be spent on these as they would be beyond the pocket of the parish council, but would fall to the parish council to maintain.

8 **FINANCE**

8.1	Receipts -	None	
8.2	Cheque payments –	Cut and Strim (two cuts Wellsteps, Hall and Churchill Playground)	£61.00
		Clerk Remuneration (August – October)	£1935.56
		Clerk Expenses (August – October)	£148.43
		Fields In Trust (renew membership)	£25.00
		Munch n Lunch - Neighbourhood Plan	£140.00
		(Cheques agreed)	

Account balances – Parish Account at 1/10/14 - £30139.88 includes the following:

P3 balance of funds - £1198.00 (after above cheques drawn) (298 bal 2014 + 900 grant, less 192/225 Aug)
Neighbourhood planning grants £2000 EDDC & £6300 DCLG (final £700 to be claimed after defrayed)

8.3 **EDDC Meeting for Clerks and Councillors Tuesday 2nd December 2014 5.30- 8.45pm Knowle, Sidmouth** – Two representatives from each council are invited, as well as any councillors considering standing for District Council at the next election. The meeting will be in two parts, with one part being DCC speaking about their forthcoming budget challenges and how these will impact on us all.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC (The meeting to be closed before questions from the public).none

Dates for next meetings 2014 –

10th November 2014 Planning Meeting 7 - 8pm 17th November 2014 Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm

Saturday 15th November 2014 Neighbourhood Planning Public Consultation Event 10 – 7pm Throgmorton Hall

8th December 2014 Planning Meeting 7 – 7.30pm and
Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm