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**THE DUNTISBOURNES' PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL VILLAGES MEETING**

**Minutes of the 153rd Meeting on Tuesday 25th August, 2015 at 7.30pm
in Duntisbourne Abbots Village Hall**

Present: Mr R. Lane, Mr R. Carver, Mrs J.R. Edwards,
Mr R. Bliss, Mr W.J. Eykyn, Mrs E. Whitaker, Mrs C. Ling (Clerk)
Apologies: Mr J. Weston

Mr. Nigel Robbins – County Councillor

Also present, for the first part of the Meeting, were some 50 members of the village.

Mr Nigel Robbins gave a Report covering Highways, the Market Place in Cirencester, Parking in the town, cuts in the CDC budget and the effect this will have on Social Services which presently runs at 44% of the whole Budget. There were questions from the floor, the main topic being the problem of HGV vehicles disregarding signs and getting stuck in the villages, as happened that day in Leer. Various suggestions made included improved signage off the A417, as once having left it drivers are committed: 'Do Not Use SATNAV', and further at the Picket at the top of Leer.

REPORT ON BROADBAND: JRE, having done an enormous amount of work on the Broadband situation over the past months, gave a Report. She explained the progress to date, and the complex technical details and companies involved, and that she had recently discovered that the Fastershire/Gigaclear Broadband 'roll out' did not include the properties in Leer, Ealy Hill or Rectory Farm. Subsequently, all relevant houses were leafleted over the w/e and invited to attend the P.C. Meeting. She also invited Nigel Robbins as our County Councillor in the hope that he could help. There was much concern and frustration expressed, with numerous examples of Businesses unable to operate, (at least half the people present), school work and research impossible to complete, inability to download documents etc. etc. and our present situation being described as Rural Poverty in this respect. One suggestion was that there had been a postcode muddle over who received the improvements. There was a lively discussion with several helpful suggestions from the floor. It was agreed that Mr Robbins and RDL would write to the Minister for Communications, Geoffrey Clifton-Brown our MP, Nick Parsons our District Councillor, and the County Council. Michael Bywater suggested he would write an article for the Guardian.

From the floor it was stated that **Speeding** past Rectory Farm towards the village has become worse since the road was resurfaced. Re-instatement of the SLOW sign painted on the road was suggested – the Clerk to investigate.

The Chairman suggested anyone who wished to leave before the rest of the Meeting could, though everyone was welcome to stay. Mr Gittins and Mr Maddox remained.

Minutes of the last Meeting – were approved.

Matters Arising: RB gave a report on the Neighbourhood Co-ordination Meeting, covering the Centurion Garage and overgrown vegetation effecting visibility, the pros and cons of anti-theft signs and CCTV on properties, and fly tipping.

The new Village Sign having received many favourable comments, RDL wondered if Leer would like one too and JRE said she would canvas opinion, and for a suitable position.

Planning Updates: Brewers Cottage – approved.

Newbold Farm – no concerns raised.

The Old Cottage – approved with stipulation not to be sold separately.

Highways: The Clerk had written thanking for the resurfacing of the roads, and received a reply that the slip road parallel and under the A417 remains on the list. She will raise the question of a SLOW sign being painted on the road by Rectory Farm or other traffic slowing methods, the subsidence just past the Loop road towards Jackbarrow, and the possibility of the road past Windmill Cottage being re-surfaced, and remind Highways that the signpost at Crabtree Lane is still missing. She will also contact Andrea Shutt about 'Do not use Satnav' signs. Mr Gittins raised the question of improving the wall at The Picket, and RC said it was in hand.

Finances The donations, agreed at the last meeting, to the Church and Village Hall will be made. RDL reported that green will be mown – only one cut this year.

Rural Services Network: JRE said nothing of particular relevance to report.

Broad Band – JRE was thanked for the enormous amount of work she has done on this.

Any Other Business: Having heard CDC has grants available JW approached Nick Parsons regarding the problem at the Centurion Garage, receiving a favourable reply. Bob Gittins reported the traffic signs are obscured – this is in hand.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 17th November - 7.30pm

Tuesday, 23rd February – 7.30 pm.

Neighbourhood Co-Ordination Meeting – 22nd October – RDL to attend

STOP PRESS – 15th September. THERE HAVE BEEN FURTHER SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE PROPOSED BROADBAND PROVISION, WHICH WILL AFFECT ALL PROPERTIES. A NEW MEETING WILL BE ARRANGED SHORTLY WITH FASTERSHIRE – DATE TO BE CONFIRMED EARLY IN OCTOBER. FURTHER DETAILS TO FOLLOW.