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

**Minutes of the 152ND Meeting on Tuesday 19th May, 2015 at 7.00pm
in Duntisbourne Abbots Village Hall**

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

Mr. Nick Parsons – District Councillor
Mr. Nigel Robbins – County Councillor - was unable to attend.

Also present: Mr R. Gittins, Mr R. Towill, Mrs M. Drake, Mr F. Drake.

Mr Nick Parsons gave a comprehensive Report. Topics covered were Council Tax, where there will be no reduction in services in spite of a reduction in the Government grant, car park and waste bin charges frozen and 5% reduction in Council Tax. He explained the emerging local Plan and the situation regarding development sites in Cirencester.. CDC support the A417 Missing Link plans and funding is in place. Waste Collection and Re-Cycling is working well with CDC in the top 10 in England. He showed a map of the new Ermin Ward which now covers 60 square miles.

Questions from the floor:- RDL asked about Parking in Cirencester, in light of the Brewery development. NP said it is planned to build a 2 storey car park – site options under discussion. JRE asked about the dangerous Birdlip junction and NP said it is a priority and separate from the Link plan. JW, WJE and RDL all expressed concerns regarding the strain on the Cirencester infrastructure with the Chesterton Development proposal. NP clarified some points and said CDC is doing its best with the Government directive to build more houses. JW asked about the New Rural Housing Policy and stressed the need for the planners to be aware of the damage to rural villages when unsuitable plans are approved. NP said a developer has to demonstrate community need and support from local people. There is 100% Council tax on 2nd homes and 150% if a house remains empty for more than 2 yrs. JWE congratulated NP on CDC's good financial management. RDL said NP's attendance was much appreciated and thanked him.

Minutes of the last Meeting – were approved

Election: RDL was proposed as Chairman by JW and seconded by WJE. Council Members signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms – there was no Election.

Matters Arising: The new **Village sign** was received positively and the Council thanked Mr Robert Towill and Mr Francis Drake for erecting it. It was felt that and the '20 is Plenty' signs were making a difference. **Dog fouling** – both metal signs have disappeared. The Parish Council thanked Mr Bob Gittins for providing and erecting the new **Notice Board in Leer**.

Planning Updates: **Grove Piece** plans amended and permitted – Domestic use only - no external lights or Livery.

Post Box Barn – no Application at present - some concerns raised regarding the septic tank. CDC Building Control aware.

Highways: Mr Richard Grey of CDC Highways visited the village and surrounding area in March and wrote a report which was circulated. He re-instructed Amey to jet out the pipes to solve the Grove flooding problem but no action so far. The Clerk was asked to ensure the drain under the road at the bottom of the village was cleared at the same time. Notice received of **Road Closure** around DA for 5 days between 11th and 26th June for road repair.

Finance: Approval of the Audit was proposed by JRE and seconded by RB. The Parish Council thanked Mr Robert Towill very much for Auditing the accounts.

Rural Services Network: JRE reported that the Miserden Broadband upgrade is planned to go live after the fibre optic cable is tested at the end of June. It is then hoped DA will have a Cabinet installed, but nothing confirmed. The Parish Council thanked JRE for reporting on the weekly newsletters.

Any Other Business: Mr Robert Towill felt the speed of traffic entering the village is noticeably slower since the erection of the new Village Sign, with 'Please Drive Carefully', as well as the '20 Plenty' sign., and there was general agreement. He suggested 'SLOW' be re-painted on the road near Rectory Farm. As road works are imminent, it was agreed to discuss the idea again after completion. He also suggested the possibility of a Village sign for Leer – this also to remain under review while opinion sought.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 25th August – 7.30pm
Tuesday 17th November – 7.30pm.

Neighbourhood Co-Ordination Meeting – 4th June – RB to attend