

## THE DUNTISBOURNES' PARISH COUNCIL

### Annual General Meeting and Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the 156th Meeting held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2016, at 7.00pm Duntisbourne Abbots Village Hall.

**Present:** Mr R. Lane [Chairman], Mr N Robbins County Councillor Mr N. Parsons District Councillor. Parish Councillors - Mr R Carver, Mrs J.R. Edwards, Mr W.J. Eykyn, Mr J Weston Mrs L. Whitaker.

Also present: Mr R Crabb, Mr R Edwards, Mr R Gittins, Mr P. Thomas

**Apologies:** Mrs C Ling [ Clerk)..

The Chairman welcomed the Councillors and residents to the meeting.

### Report from Mr N Parsons: District Councillor for Ermin Ward

#### Main points :-

- CDC has frozen Council tax
- Flood defence expenditure increased by £100,000
- Extra £500,000 has been committed to improve Rural broadband.
- Planning : Draft Local Plan has been on hold until after Referendum
- Youth Projects: Finance available, and NP will lend support.
- Community Projects: - CDC will continue to support community projects inc. matched funding from e.g. GRCC, Lottery Fund. Useful e.g. for village halls .
- Environmental schemes. Funding available for local projects eg litter picking or flood protection/prevention.

#### Questions from the floor:

- Concern was expressed at the current lack of a Local Plan.
- \* Concern was voiced at the ability of Travellers to purchase land and gain permission for Traveller Sites: GCC are currently reviewing their 'Draft Policy'. CDC has no policy in place as awaiting GCC review. The current application for the site at Hartley Lane originally granted for 3 years runs out in August.
- **Car parking:** currently a major issue in Cirencester. 150 places at the private [Bathurst] overflow car park at Cirencester Hospital have been taken by St James Place. It is hoped that parking will be improved slightly after the renovation work in

the town centre. The size of car parking spaces was mentioned. Car parks at the Brewery, Waterloo, Forum and Memorial sites were free after 3pm on weekdays.

- CDC is dept free with assets of £34 million.

**Report from Mr Nigel Robbins: County Councillor Beeches Ward (This includes The Duntisbournes)**

- Broadband continues to be installed across the area by chosen contractors Gigaclear currently operating in Winstone.
- Potholes: Still considerable work to be done, but Amey have improved the roads considerably during the last year.
- Parking near Centurion Garage by Lorries causing social problems.
- Increase in the GCC budget for mental health.
- \* GCC welcomed the reversal of the Government stance on Academies.
- A417; the new money committed will be used for a survey; hopefully for a 2020 road build start. Speed limit of 50mph might help along some stretches.
- Road surface on A417 slip road to Duntisbourne Abbots and to the Garage in v. bad state. On-going dispute on whether Highways or GCC responsible.
- Defibrillators mentioned. DPC to consider. Location plus training required.
- Ambulance response times appalling; serious concern by GCC Rural areas affected badly. New plan under urgent review.
- Fire Service: Consideration being given to less provision. Fewer full time employees likely outcome. Overall employees are active 25 out of 37 hours. Police, Fire and Ambulance services should be more co-operative.
- Hospital closures: Gloucester emergency is now the only 24hour service;

**Questions from DPC and Floor:**

- Elkstone 'road' from the A417 to A435; severe and dangerous potholes and damage to road edges. County Councillor N. Robbins to investigate.
- Local road and lane damage exacerbated with the increased size and mass of tractors and coaches taking up whole width of these narrow lanes.
- The Chairman thanked Councillor Nick Parsons and Nigel Robbins for their comprehensive reports.

## **The Parish Council meeting followed the AGM**

**Minutes of the last Meeting** No:155 on 23/02/2016 – were approved.

### **Matters arising:**

**Neighbourhood** :Report [JRE] The full minutes have been circulated earlier by Andrea Shutt PSCO to the Parish Council. Main points included a Broadband update from JRE - work had been completed by Gigaclear in Coberley, Elkstone and Chedworth and residents were pleased with their service. JRE is currently liaising with Gordon Roach at Winstone for the next phase of Gigaclear fibre roll out. Work has commenced in Winstone the teams will progress to The Duntisbournes.

Crime figures for all types of crime were down in the area inc. all burglaries.

The Mobile speed detection cameras at Dartley Bottom recorded greatest number of speeding drivers in the County. The highest speed recorded by a motor cyclist driving at 139 mph: Two motor bikes for speed detection are to be introduced in the area in **addition** to the mobile vans.

Date of next NCM: July 7<sup>th</sup> at Chedworth Village Hall. 7pm for 7.30 on Date T.B.C

**Planning Updates** : Trustams Mead – Status - Permitted

**Highways**: '20 Plenty' signs are helping with speeding on Ealy Hill and Haley Hill.

HGV signs promised by Highways to be placed at The Picket, D'Leer and Abbots.

Concern has been expressed regarding 'White lines' painted in the wrong position at the 'Pickett'; potentially dangerous, and GCC Highways to repaint as a priority.

**D'Leer Village sign** erected. Thank you to Francis Drake on behalf of PC for its installation. However, it is now obscured by grass: to be strimmed.

**The Pickett** A large gatepost stone at the Pickett had been broken by a lorry last year, removed in the hope of repair but unfortunately not possible and the large hole created has been filled with stone.

**DPC Finance – Accounts 2015/2016**: Approved and on the village web site.

**Transparency Code (Chairman)** It is now a requirement to publish our PC minutes and accounts on a Parish Council web site. Paul Smith thanked for setting this up.  
*[Go to 'The Duntisbournes' on line]*

**Rural Services Network**: Report by JRE. Currently a GCC 'Bus' review is underway. Th 852 bus services is not secure we are still awaiting a decision.

**Broadband**. JRE reported Gigaclear will be laying cable to The Duntisbournes shortly with 'pots laid outside individual homes, hopefully the live by end of August.

**AOB:**

[i] Precept: A resident commented that the amount Duntisbourne PC raised in Precept was amongst the lowest in the county: t.b.d. at the next meeting.

[ii] Drains culvert damaged in Duntisbourne Abbots the situation to be monitored.

[iii] Electric fence: An electric fence has been placed across a public bridleway/foot-path on Hailey Hill. Owners to be contacted to discuss removal.

[iv] Stones on verges: Mr R.Gittins expressed concern regarding various large stones placed on verges within the villages. This provoked contrasting opinions, but major problems with lorries and other vehicles, damaging the verges had prompted residents to take action in this manner.

*Subsequent clarification from Highways as follows:- If the verges are owned by Highways there should be no obstruction at all and Highways may remove them.*

(v) E.W. reported continued problems with water gushing down from Painters Cottage at Middle Duntisbourne- Gillian Portlock [Highways] to be reminded.

(vi) In Duntisbourne Leer, stone cover over the culvert outside Trustrams Mead broken by lorries. Access is required for maintenance, so a grid cover suggested. R.Crabb was thanked for making this safe and also his continued maintenance of the water flow at this site.

**The date of the next meeting: Tues 23<sup>th</sup> Aug 2016 Duntisbourne V. Hall 7.30pm**