

THE DUNTISBOURNES' PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the 157th Meeting on Thursday 25th August 2016 at 7.30pm In Duntisbourne Abbots Village Hall

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

Also present: Cynthia Laird – Village Agent

Mr Lane welcomed Cynthia Laird, and she addressed the Meeting, explaining the roll of Village Agent and giving examples of areas where she is able to help. She brought leaflets which the Clerk will put on the Notice Board. Her details are also in Parish Connections. Mr Lane thanked her, and she left the meeting.

Minutes of the last Meeting – were approved.

Matters Arising: The question of having a Defibrillator was raised – JRE to make enquiries at Syde and Chedworth villages, where they have them.

Neighbourhood Co-ordination Meeting – 7th July – JW was unable to attend.

Planning Updates: Letterbox Barn. D. Leer – refused due to wording of application. Mr. Gittins is re-submitting. The P.C. has no objections to plans for Trustrams Cottage Or Trustrams Mead. The Dutch Barn application at Middle Duntisbourne was refused in its present form.

Highways: Long Ford – the wall undermined and in urgent need of attention. Highways have inspected, and structural report awaited. Trustrams Mead - Highways are investigating the cost of a cast iron cover that Mr Crabbe can lift when the drain gets blocked – the PC expressed their appreciation to him for undertaking this. The Grove – flooding - a drain thought to be the outlet was identified and cleared but unfortunately has not solved the problem, it proving not to be the drain from the Grove but the road. It has not been possible to find the correct outlet pipe, largely due to the amount of silt washed down the road, which is already covering the previously dug out outlet. WJE suggested writing to CDC with a copy to Thames Water.

The wall collapse into the Grove, – a barricade and lights erected by Highways until it is repaired. HGV's getting stuck - JW and JRE had a meeting with Mr. Gray at the Centurion Garage regarding inadequate signage to the A417 leading to lorries going south, ending up in DA. JW made various suggestions and Mr. Gray is considering the signage. RC thanked JW in his absence, for identifying that the problem starts at the garage. The Birchalls will cut back the hedge by the sign opposite the garage. Highways are aware of the poor surface of the Slip road and under the A417 and it is on the list.

20 is Plenty signs have been purchased for by Dix's Barn. The sign on Ealy hill was removed but was rescued and will be replaced after a break, for more impact. EW said the rain water still floods from Dartley Farm past Painters Cottage at Middle Duntisbourne – Jill Portlock aware. RB had been approached by Mr Merrett regarding the poor state of the road to Duntisbourne Rous ford. The Clerk had informed Highways who will look at it.

Finances Donations, agreed at the last meeting, were made to the Village Hall and the Church. A bill for mowing the green has not as yet been received. Mr Paul Smith, on behalf of the Village Hall Committee, had written to RDL requesting possible help towards the repair of the Village Hall flat roof and up-grade of the kitchen - a partial grant from CDC is being requested. It was suggested increasing the Village Hall donation back to £250 next year. CAB had requested a donation – to be reviewed at the next meeting. It was felt an increase in the Precept is necessary and £2000 for 2017/18 should be requested.

Rural Services Network: JRE reported on the need for rural postal services to be safeguarded, after a recent review. Rural Police forces' funding is under threat. See separate fuller report.

Broadband: Gigaclear Superfast Broadband due to be in operation by end of October.

Any Other Business: The Chairman had received a letter from Fiona Hope regarding dog fouling in Greenpits Lane. A notice will be put there asking owners to pick up after their dogs.

RC said that all roads should be 40' wide, that some lanes in the village were overgrown and no longer this wide, and so too narrow for vehicles, and that this should be addressed. WJE raised the problem of the Rectory Farm tractors and trailers, driven by contractors, speeding through the village during harvest. In view of their size and the narrow bend at the bottom of Ealy Hill, among other places, there is a real danger to people and animals. The question was raised as to why it is necessary to use the road when there is a track to the farm.

RDL to write to John Jewett, cc John Birchall.

This was Charmian Ling's last meeting after 6 years as Clerk. RDL thanked her and presented her with a magnificent plant and pot. Charmaine Cuthbert will be taking over as the new Clerk.

Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 15th November at 7.30pm

Tuesday, 21st February at 7.30pm.

*Neighbourhood Meeting 16th November
7 for 7.30pm Rendcomb College.*

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Rural Services report Summer 2016 JRE including Broadband

A roundup of news, research and work provided by the Rural Services Network, highlighting issues for village services.

Call to safeguard rural postal services

POSTAL deliveries to and from remote and sparsely populated areas must not be jeopardised, the Rural Services Network has warned after a recent review.

Rural Police need fair funding

RURAL police forces could lose out because government thinking is skewed in favour of urban areas, says a report. The Fair Funding for Rural Policing study comes as the Home Office reviews how it allocates national funds across police forces.

Bank closures 'damage communities'

MPs have voiced concern that bank branch closures are devastating local communities. The issue was debated in the House of Commons on Thursday (30 June). Continued bank branch closures were damaging local communities, small businesses and the welfare of senior citizens

Government in Brexit funding pledge

The government will continue funding European projects after the UK leaves the EU – so long as they are signed before this year's Autumn Statement.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Philip Hammond issued the guarantee following criticism that rural projects and proposals face an uncertain future following the Brexit vote.

The UK will continue to have all of the rights, obligations and benefits that membership brings, including receiving European funding, up until the point we leave the EU.

"We recognise that many organisations across the UK which are in receipt of EU funding, or expect to start receiving funding, want reassurance about the flow of funding they will receive."

.The government will also match the current level of agricultural funding until 2020, providing certainty to our agricultural community. The government is determined to ensure that people have stability and certainty in the period leading up to the UK's departure from the EU.

Broadband.

There has been much activity in the village during the summer. Gigaclear are well on their way to installing Super- Fast Broadband to our homes. The network should be completed by the end of October this year. The fibre optic cables to each 'Pot' are currently being installed and tested. Some are very close to going 'live' and residents will shortly be hearing from Customer Services to book their installations with 'Box Com' if they have opted for the service.