

The Duntisbournes' Parish Council
Minutes of the 159th Meeting on Tuesday 28th February 2017 at 6.30pm
In Duntisbourne Abbots Village Hall

Present: Mr R. Lane (Chairman), Mrs J.R. Edwards, Mr J. Weston, Mr R. Carver, Mr R. Bliss,
Mr W.J. Eykyn, Mrs C. Cuthbert (Clerk).
Also present: Mr P. Thomas

Minutes of the Last Meeting – were approved.

Position of Clerk: - Mrs Cuthbert has agreed to continue in the role of Clerk until September, completing a full year.

Defibrillator: - After further research by JRE, and much discussion by the PC, it has been concluded that the cost of a defibrillator would be too onerous for such a small parish and that we should investigate the possibility of First Aid refresher courses. JRE will investigate and report back.

Planning: **Millstone House** (DL) – Ongoing.
 Grove Cottage (DA) – No objections raised.
 Top Withens (DA) - Approved.
 Well Hill House (DA) - No objections raised.
 New Barn Farm (DL) - Approved.

Additions submitted post agenda:

Long Furlong (DA) – Amended plans submitted. No objections raised.
 Yew Tree Farm (DA) - Concerns on scale, materials and precedents being set were made, but it was decided that CDC should be allowed to conclude.
 Yew Tree Farm (DA) – It has been suggested that retrospective planning permission be applied for the riding school/ménage built as none appears to have been previously applied for. The Chair to raise with Mr Smail.
 Rectory Farm (DA) – No objections raised.
 Rectory Farm (re works in The Grove) – Following concerns regarding large-scale grounds/forestry work being undertaken along The Grove, it appears a cross-country horse track is being built. Rectory Farm have agreed to contact the council to determine whether this requires planning permission, particularly with it being an AONB and on a busy public footpath.

Highways:

Longford Wall – Following works by Thames Water, the warning signs regarding the possible collapse of the wall were taken away. The Clerk has contacted the Council, who will organise for replacement/new signs to be installed. The Clerk will report on the likelihood of the works being undertaken on the wall by Highways in the next financial year.

A417 Slip Road – As above, we are awaiting these works to be allocated funding.

Signs – There are a number of new signs to be installed when Council budget allows, to alleviate the ongoing problem of lorries getting lost/stuck in our villages. Many thanks to JW for his input on this.

The Grove Wall – CDC are still awaiting a structural report from Amey to enable a decision to be made.

Finance:

Precept – The PC have applied for its precepts to be increased to £2000 to cover increased costs.

Budget: The financial report for the current year and budget forecast for 2017/18 were tabled. A copy of the report can be seen on the PC website. The Clerk will approach Robert Towill to request that he audit the accounts prior to formal external audit.

Neighbourhood Co-ordination Meeting: - Next meeting is 23rd March. JRE has agreed to attend on behalf of the PC, who offered their thanks.

Rural Services Network:

JRE has been in discussions with both villagers and the bus companies regarding services. Sadly, we are now reduced to 1 bus per day M-F allowing 2.5 hours in town for shopping. This has proved problematic for some children who used the service to return from school/college, but without more support the bus companies are no longer able to provide a fuller service.

Any Other Business:

Mrs Smith has had a number of posts placed around the cover of her septic tank sited on Mason's Green to avoid cars parking on/damaging it. No objections were raised.

A letter has been received with regards to dog fouling in the village, in particular on people's drives and grass verges. The Clerk will arrange for a notice to be put in the parish magazine asking dog owners to be more considerate and clean up after their dogs. Signs will also be strategically placed as last year.

A number of letters have also been received which voice concerns regarding the state of grass verges, which in some areas have been damaged greatly by vehicles. The PC felt this was indeed an ongoing problem, which they have little power to influence, but the Clerk will discuss this in next meeting with Richard Gray from Highways.

Following a suggestion from a local resident, it was discussed whether it was feasible to have a map of local houses/post codes/names displayed in the village hall porch to assist the many delivery drivers who seem to get lost in our villages. The decision reached was that this would breach personal information and would not be pursued.

Next Meetings:

- Tuesday 23rd May 2017 at 7pm. DA Village Hall. Nicholas Parsons (CDC) and Nigel Robbins (GCC) have agreed to attend. (Nigel Robbins attendance will be subject to his being re-elected in early May).
- Further meeting Tuesday 22nd August 2017 (tbc).