

The Duntisbournes' Parish Council

Minutes of the 162nd Meeting on Tuesday 21st November 2017 at 7.30pm in Duntisbourne Abbots Village Hall.

Present: Mr R. Lane (Chair), Mrs J.R. Edwards, Mr J. Weston, Mr W.J. Eykyn, Mr R. Carver, Mrs C. Cuthbert (Clerk) Mr R. Bliss

Apologies: Mrs L. Whittaker

1. Minutes of the Last Meeting – were approved.

2. Matters Arising:

Defibrillators – Kevin Dickens from South West Ambulance Service Foundation Trust very kindly attended our meeting to present to us the merits of obtaining a defibrillator for our village/s. After a very interesting and helpful presentation, the PC all agreed that it would be of benefit to purchase one. There has been a part-funding scheme in operation. RDL/JRE/CC will make enquires to establish if funding is still available. RDL will put together an email/letter to request donations towards the cost of purchasing and fitting the equipment, which would amount to £1,000 - £1,500 (depending on funding).

Tractors – RDL reported that he had spoken with John Jewitt regarding tractors and John has agreed that during harvest times he will put up 'slow' signs and speak with the drivers to request them to ensure they slow down appropriately when driving through the village.

The Grove Watercourse – It was agreed that no action was required at the moment regarding trees/flooding in this area.

3. Neighbourhood Co-ordination Meeting – RDL attended the meeting on behalf of the PC. Items covered included the A417 link road (current due date 2021-2024), the ongoing problem of potholes in our roads and crime figures (which are down on last year). The next meeting is due to be held on 19th March 2018 in Winstone village hall. JRE has agreed to attend.

4. Planning:

The Old Cottage (DA) Willow Trees 17/03923/TCONR – Approved.

Well Hill House (DA) 17/02111/LBC - Approved.

Yew Tree Farm (DA) 17/02766/FUL - Approved.

Stone Cottage (DA) 17/02120/LBC – Approved.

Elm Cottage (DA) 17/02853/FUL & 17/02854/LBC - Approved.

Dutch Barn (MD) 17/01320/OPANOT – Refused.

Five Mile House (DA) 17/03087/FUL & 17/03088/LBC – Approved.

Duntisbourne Abbots Village Hall 17/03258/FUL – Approved.

The following application was received post agenda notice.

Partidges (DA) 17/04163/FUL – No objections raised.

5. Highways:

Longford Wall – Awaiting funding from Gloucestershire Council to enable the repair work to be carried out.

Signs – Most new signs now appear to be in place and all agreed that they offer much clearer directions to drivers leaving the garage.

The Grove Wall – CC had obtained a number of quotes for the repairs to the wall, which ranged from £800 - £1500. The PC agreed that it does not have the funds to complete the works. It was felt that a defibrillator took greater priority over other projects. It was suggested that Rectory Farm be written to, asking if they would consider having the wall mended, as it appeared to be under their ownership. The barricade will need to stay in place for safety reasons.

Public Access - RB reported that a skip had been placed across a bridleway in Duntisbourne Rous, blocking access. RB agreed to speak with the homeowners in question to request its relocation to a more appropriate site.

Motorbikes – JE raised the issue of motorcycles racing along Greenpitts Lane in front of his house. He is concerned that an accident will occur. Having reported the matter to the police (who were unable to offer any direct action without waiting for the next occurrence), he requested that the PC contact Highways and request some ‘Slow’ signs to be put in place. CC agreed to contact Jill Portlock of Highways to discuss.

Damaged Grit Bin – JRE reported that yet another lorry has attempted to drive through the ford in DL, this time approaching from Crabtree Lane having cut across country. Again, it was a continental lorry/driver from whom we will be unable to claim repairs for the damage caused. On reversing up the hill, the driver had managed to demolish the lid of the grit bin positioned on the bank. Photographs were taken and a police incident number raised, but it is highly unlikely that we would be successful in pursuing the company or driver. CC agreed to write to the council to request them to repair the damage.

6. Finance: - The Clerk reported that Grant Thornton had completed the audit and signed off the finances for 2016/17. We will be contacted by a new company for our next audit as Grant Thornton have completed as many as they are allowed.

It was agreed to request a 10% increase in our precept to help cover costs, particularly as we hope to obtain a defibrillator.

7. Any Other Business:

Emergency Plan - RDL has spoken with a number of other villages regarding this, and having reported back, all agreed that we did not feel the need to pursue a plan for our villages.

Burglaries – JRE reported that Richard Edwards had issued packs, detailing how to minimise the risk of being burgled, and had received a number of requests from those wishing to be added to the information email list regarding incidents etc. in the area.

Next Meetings: - Date of next meeting -Tuesday 20th February 2018
- Further meeting – May 2018 tbc