

The Duntisbournes' Parish Council

Minutes of the 163rd Meeting on Tuesday 20th February 2018 at 7.30pm in Duntisbourne Abbots Village Hall.

Present: Mr R. Lane (Chair), Mrs J.R. Edwards, Mr J. Weston, Mrs L. Whittaker, Mrs C. Cuthbert (Clerk).

Apologies: Mr W.J. Eykyn, Mr R. Carver, Mr R. Bliss.

1. Minutes of the Last Meeting – were approved.

2. Matters Arising:

Defibrillators – JRE kindly gave a full update on the position regarding availability of grants for DA obtaining a defibrillator. At the time of the meeting, it looked as though we were too late to achieve a grant for the current financial year due to all grant allocations being taken. Subsequent to the meeting JRE has been notified that a £500 grant can be made available to use from another ward, subject to us promptly submitting confirmation of funding available. The Parish Council has agreed to provide £500, for which these minutes will provide proof of “pledge”. The Village Hall committee might also pledge £250, confirmation to be obtained by RDL. This would leave a shortfall of £245 to be raised through local pledges. In order for this to proceed before the grant offer ends, it is important to act quickly. RDL is to write a letter requesting donations/pledges.(Please see later amendment)

3. Neighbourhood Co-ordination Meeting – The next meeting is due to be held on 19th March 2018 in Winstone village hall. JRE has agreed to attend and report back.

4. Planning:

Dutch Barn (MD) 17/01320/OPANOT – This planning has gone to appeal, the results are still pending.

5. Highways:

Longford Wall – Repair work is currently being carried out.

Damaged Grit Bin –Unfortunately, the Council do not accept any liability for grit bins damaged by motorists, therefore the Parish Council has funded a new bin. Peter Thomas has very kindly agreed to install the new bin. Thanks to JRE for organising both the purchase and fitting.

State of Highways/Bridle paths - CC reported the severity of potholes on the Jack Barrow road towards Winston to the Council, who have raised the issue with Amey. Repair work will be carried out in due course.

The Chair raised the state of bridle paths. WJE invited John Birchall and John Jewett to personally look at the condition of the tracks running either side of his home, which they duly did. WJE has invited them both to attend the next PC meeting to allow a village discussion on the issue, as letters regarding the matter have also been received. JW would like to note that he is opposed to this matter being dealt with through the PC.

A417 Link Road - Following consultation presentations, it seems that there are 2 route options being considered. Which ever is chosen, timescales suggest 3 years before commencement and a 3-year build time.

Hedges at Church Farm:

A number of complaints have been received regarding the overhanging hedge at Church Farm. The hedge is of a particularly thorny species and has caused damage to the paintwork of passing vehicles. The Clerk has agreed to write to the owner of the property to request that the hedge be trimmed.

6. Finance: - The Clerk presented the Annual Accounts to date, together with the proposed budget for 2018/19. JW proposed adoption, JRE seconded and all agreed. Copies of the finances were sent to those unable to attend the meeting to enable them to comment accordingly.

All members attending the meeting agreed to the PC making a £500 donation towards the cost of a defibrillator.

POST MEETING AMENDMENT TO FINANCE

Due to extensive works being required to the roof, the Village Hall Committee feel they would be unable to contribute the £250 previously anticipated towards the cost of a defibrillator. To compensate for this (should it be necessary), it was proposed that the budget for the forthcoming year was therefore amended, with reduced donations being made to both the Village Hall and Church Committees, allowing the Parish Council to add another £200 to the purchase cost, now totalling £700. The Parish Councillors agreed to this amendment, as did the VH & Church committees. This would leave a shortfall of £295 (plus installation, so £500 in all), which is hoped to be raised through pledges from the Parish, or through fund raising. It was also agreed that, rather than lose the grant, the Parish Council would put forward the total amount required of £995 with a view to replacing the funds retrospectively with the pledges/fund raising.

7. Any Other Business:

LW raised the ongoing problem of water cascading down the hill and freezing in Middle Duntisbourne. The Clerk has contacted the council regarding grit in this area, and requested that it is put on the schedule for the next allocation, which will be in preparation for winter 2018/19.

Next Meetings: - AGM Wednesday, 23rd May 2018 at 7pm
August 30th – tbc at AGM.