

The Duntisbournes Parish Council

Minutes of the 173rd Meeting on 10th Sept 2020 at 7pm Online

Present Councillors: Mr R Lane (Chairman), Mrs J R Edwards, Mr W J Eykyn, Mr E Cuthbert, Mr D Doyle, Ms S Cavendish (Clerk) **Also Present:** Cllr J Judd, Mrs I Birchall, Mrs C Boulton, Mrs C Ling, Mr P Ling

Apologies: Mr R Bliss, Mr J Weston

- 1) **Minutes of the Last Meeting** were approved. Cllr D Doyle is moving from the area. Thanks were given for his work on the PC throughout the years. The PC requires an additional Councillor, resident in the Duntibourne Rouse electoral area.
- 2) **District Councillor Julia Judd** discussed her latest report (see website). She is arranging a litter pick alongside the Centurion Garage at 12.45 on Sunday 27th September. All residents are invited to assist. There was a discussion about Government changes to Planning Policy and the White Paper on creating a Unitary Authority to cover the whole of Gloucestershire. The PC thought that these would be unwelcome ideas for this area.

3) **Matters arising**

Parish Plan – Community Design Statement. On hold until the Covid-19 situation has improved and Government changes to Planning are known. Creating this Plan will require many hours of input from incoming Clerk and Parish Councillors with multiple surveys and public meetings. This can only be accomplished with significant resident input. The anticipated cost is £1000.

Parish Emergency Plan – On hold until the Covid-19 situation has improved. This will require input from incoming Clerk, Parish Councillors and consultation with residents. The cost will be minimal.

Dog Waste Bin – On hold until CDC resumes this service.

Noticeboard in Leer – The PC is still considering various ways to improve the noticeboard.

The Grove Culvert & Flooding – This is still blocked. The Clerk has repeatedly written to Highways. JW to discuss with Mr J Jewitt and Mr J Birchall. Mrs Birchall will also discuss with Mr J Birchall.

Police Community Group – Meetings have not been held due to Covid-19. Notices are sent out via Neighbourhood Watch and posted on the parish website when necessary.

Legal compliance on parish website – Paul Smith has generously agreed to complete the work needed to bring the parish website into compliance. The PC is grateful for his offer to carry out this complex work. The Clerk again suggested that an easier domain name be purchased.

Snow wardens and salt bags required – All grit bins will be refilled and additional salt bags will be delivered. The current snow wardens will be moving from the area however they **will** cover the parish for this winter. D Doyle will look for new snow plough operators and snow wardens.

Clerks Training GAPTC – The basic training courses have been attended. The outgoing Clerk will type up the notes for the incoming Clerk.

Motorcycles speeding through lanes – J Eykyn and other residents have paid for signs to be erected to try alleviate this issue in the Greenpits Lane area. Another resident raised the issue of a similar problem close to Cotswold Farm. J Judd suggested identifying and writing to website owners to remove online suggested motocross routes throughout the parish. This is being monitored by PC.

Litter near Centurion Garage/Cotswold Farm – See comments about Centurion Café development.

Local Signage – The PC is still looking into this work.

Planning Breach – This matter is ongoing.

Historic England – This is ongoing JW to advise at a later date.

Parish Clerk: duntisbourneparish@gmail.com

Village Website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/theduntisbournes> (For Minutes with links)

Neighbourhood Watch: duntisbournewatch@gmail.com

4) Finance

Current Financial Position

Audit - All legal notices on website and Exemption Certificate sent to PKF.

Covid Costs - The Parish Council thanks Jon Stevens for kindly providing costs of Zoom access and stationery during the Covid-19 period.

Expenditure since last Minutes: Clerk Expenses £100, GAPTC (Basic Training) £60.

Imminent: It is noted that the defibrillator pads are due for replacement.

5) Highways

Notch Road/Ealy Hill: (pointing to A417) Work Scheduled with Highways awaiting installation.

Lorries in Leer – Cllr J Judd has raised this with MP Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown.

Long Ford Collapse – Ongoing. JW to advise further at a later date.

6) Planning Updates

Approved

The Old Rectory – 20/01626/FUL Insertion of first floor side facing window.

Current

Millstone House - (Leer) 19/01100/FUL - Construction of garage & store, retention of use as builder's yard & storage –*New Submission 13/08/19. NB 20/02236/CLEUD Approved 25/08/20. CDC Planners decided that despite ongoing complaints over many years, this property has been operating as a Stonemason's Yard and is therefore a Builder's Yard.* There remain multiple objections to the proposed large building. **Awaiting Decision** (Note JRE recused)

Land Adjacent to Crabtree Lane – (Leer) 20/01361/FUL – Erection of a storage barn. 18/04/2020 Multiple objections regarding access (inability of horseboxes to turn around in the narrow lane and lorries becoming stuck in the Leer Ford). GCC Highways responded to CDC Planning stating that they have no issue with large vehicles travelling along this lane (despite lorry warning signs at the top of the lane and photographic evidence of large vehicles becoming stuck in the historic ford at Leer). J Judd continues to raise these issues with Planning, Highways and our MP. **Awaiting Decision**

The Old Rectory – (Abbots) 20/01626/FUL Erection of outdoor swimming pool **Awaiting Decision**

Old School Cottage - (Abbots) 20/02355/FUL Multiple objections to previous plans. New plans submitted. **Awaiting Decision**

Centurion Garage – (Abbots & Winstone PC) 20/02740/FUL- Extensive development. (NB Parish boundary with Winstone who will be objecting) There were many reservations and objections including the four access and egress junctions to the A417 (especially given the widening of the A417), increased lorry parking, littering, noise, lights, potential height of roof or signage & waste-water issues. 01/09/20 **Awaiting Decision**

Yew Tree Farm – Abbots 20/03024/TCONR Tree works 04/09/20 **Awaiting Decision**

7) Any Other Business

Expenditure on Legal Advice

It was suggested that the PC may need to pay for qualified advice on Planning issues.

Resignation of Clerk

The Clerk has tendered her resignation due to the excessive workload caused by continual, repetitive issues with CDC Planning and GCC Highways and the impending workload from new government directives. She has agreed to continue until the next meeting and will conduct an efficient transfer of records and responsibilities. The Chairman and Councillors expressed their great thanks for all her work.

Applications for the post of Parish Clerk to The Duntisbournes should be sent to Mr Rupert Lane, Chairman at rdl.344@btinternet.com

Meetings: Date of next meeting: Thursday 3rd December 2020 at 7pm.

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Neighbourhood Watch: duntisbournewatch@gmail.com