

DUNDRY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Dundry Parish Council

Held on Wednesday 4th March 2009 at 7.30pm

Chair: Cllr Maggie Keast was voted into the Chair for this meeting –
proposed Cllr Thomas, seconded Cllr Hurford.

In Attendance: Cllrs Jane Swyer, Bee Peters, Bee Quick, David Hurford, Richard Thomas, Holger Laux & Mike Gleave. Cllr Kevin Smith joined the meeting at 8.30pm.
District Cllr Hugh Gregor, WPC Jackie McDonald & NSC Parish Liaison Officer, Claire Hawkins.

Clerk: Julie Smith

Three members of the public joined the meeting (of whom two were representatives of Dundry Residents Action Group)

04/03/09 442 – Apologies Cllr Duncan Pittaway. PCSO Michele Barrett.	
04/03/09 443 – Crime Report for Preceding Month/ Neighbourhood Watch 443.1 WPC McDonald delivered the following crime report – 1 x vehicle interference. Theft of petrol. Theft of copper pipe (same location as above crime industrial location). Theft of mobile – loser lost clutch bag whilst sledging, found bag but mobile phone missing. Damage to car window. 5 burnt out cars in East Dundry – North Somerset Council taken responsibility for removal of residual debris. WPC McDonald further reported that there has been a good stop check of known car criminals in Dundry in the middle of the night during the last week, so would all villagers be reminded to keep cars locked and remove all valuables. If you see a crime committed please ring 999, and report any suspicious incidents at any time via 0845 456 7000. 443.2 Cllr Peters had no specific Neighbourhood Watch news to report.	
04/03/09 444 – Matters Arising 444.1 Notice Board/Signs – Cllr Gleave has taken delivery of the new notice board for the A38 and will arrange installation in the agreed position in the garage. The Clerk had obtained a further quote for the sign to top the village hall notice board and reported on a cost of £287.85 (net of VAT). After discussion it was agreed to proceed with the purchase – proposed Cllr Thomas, seconded Cllr Hurford 444.2 Streets & Open Spaces (including Grit Bins)	

The Clerk read out various communications she had received from North Somerset Council regarding the state of the highways and leaning posts etc. Minor repair works were being authorised although the resurfacing of Dundry Lane has still not received formal approval despite being on a priority list. Officers from Highways could only suggest contacting the NSC Executive Member, Cllr Elphan ap Rees, to urge him to approve the repairs. The Clerk also reported that she had received several calls midway during the snow fall of February, regarding the lack of road gritting & snow clearance through the village and the ensuing traffic chaos. She had made two calls at the weekend to the North Somerset Council emergency line, and one to the Police regarding the severe ice on Broadoak Hill. She had since been copied in on a response from North Somerset Council to a Parishioner complaining about the lack of adequate grit coverage for the village which gave details of when the gritters had driven through, as well as when grit bins had been topped up. However, due to the national grit shortage at that time, NSC had had to restrict gritting to major routes. After discussion, the Clerk was asked to write to NSC and request details of their planned strategy for coping with a similar severe weather incident in the future, in the hope that armed with this information, the Parish Council and the wider community might be better prepared to cope. Furthermore, Councillors wished to thank local farmers for their assistance with clearing the roads. 444.3 Sports & Social Club – football disruption/car parking – unsure if Cllr Pittaway had managed to speak to Sports & Social Club members, the Clerk reported that she had written to the club regarding the net problems and the need for car parking for forthcoming WI events. She had also taken the opportunity of requesting the club’s annual report in readiness for the Annual Parish Meeting to be held next month. 444.4 Hill Road Turning Circle – agreed to carry over to the next meeting in the absence of a report from Cllr Smith. 444.5 Downs Farm Building Construction – the Clerk reported that North Somerset Council had advised that planning permission was needed for the newly erected building at Downs Farm. NSC will be writing to the owners regarding this. At this point, notification was given of a report of customers of the scrap yard at Downs Farm, using the village car park to take cars apart, presumably before continuing onto the yard. The Clerk was asked to write to the scrap yard owners seeking their support in stopping this activity.	ACTION: Clerk ACTION: Clerk
04/03/09 445 – Minutes of the Meeting held 4th February 2009 After a request from Cllr Gregor for an amendment in item 04/02/09 435 from ‘Audit Commission’ to ‘Audit Committee’ the minutes were signed as a true and accurate reflection of proceedings – Proposed: Cllr Swyer Seconded: Cllr Hurford	

04/03/09 446 – Public Forum

446.1 An attending Parishioner challenged the statement published in the minutes of the last meeting regarding the South West Urban Extension, which read that “we must be realistic in accepting that the development is likely to go ahead in some form and we must not solely focus on opposing the development as a whole, but work to limit the size and effect”. The Parishioner felt that it is unacceptable that the Parish Council is not directly opposing the planned development. Cllr Thomas replied that indeed, the Parish Council has been working for over two years to oppose the entirety of the development making formal objections to the draft RSS and had attended many workshops and meetings with North Somerset Council, Barrow Gurney and Long Ashton Parish Councils, developers consultants, our MP, Dr Liam Fox and most recently, Nigel Ashton, Leader of North Somerset Council, as well as accompanying the Dundry Residents Action Group to a Parliamentary debate on the subject at the House of Commons. At every event and at every level, Dundry Parish Council has made it clear that they strongly oppose the development. The Parish Council has however been concerned that Government policy will dictate that this development will proceed and has therefore worked to minimise the effect it would have on this Parish and surrounding area. The Parishioner was unable to accept the explanation of the Council's work in opposing the development, becoming verbally abusive to Council Members and to North Somerset Councillor Gregor. After a warning from the Chair which went unheeded, the Parishioner was asked to leave the meeting.

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04/03/09 447 - Dundry Residents Action Group

Debbie Nicholls, representing DRAG, reported on the groups recent activities and of a protest meeting planned for Saturday 7th March 2009 at an exhibition event being held by the developer, Baker Associates in Bristol. All were invited to attend. The Police and Press had been informed of the protest and Debbie advised of interviews given to BBC Points West, Radio Bristol and Orchard FM, all of which had been aired recently. Debbie further advised that Baker Associates had agreed to bring the exhibition to Dundry which she hoped would be for a week long stay, probably at Dundry Royal British Legion Social Club. Cllr Thomas confirmed that he too, had had a similar conversation with Baker Associates. It was agreed to jointly request Baker Associates for the exhibition to be brought to Dundry British Legion as soon as it is available. Debbie further reported that Bristol City Football Club were expected to formally submit plans for the new stadium during the latter part of March.

04/03/09 448 - North Somerset Council Core Strategy – South Bristol Urban Expansion Cllr Thomas reported on his recent meeting with Nigel Ashton, Leader of North Somerset Council, during which Cllr Ashton had made it clear that NSC also oppose the current development plans and would take whatever action it could to prevent the development taking place on the scale proposed. Cllr Ashton had also made it clear that he felt that there should be a clear division between the development in relation to the North Somerset and Bristol boundary. Cllr Thomas also reported on a comment he made to Baker Associates, regarding his interest in viewing a development of theirs in the Midlands and after discussion, the Clerk was asked to write to them to request an organised visit for Councillors to visit this development. In the meantime, Cllr Thomas, in association with representatives of Barrow Gurney and Long Ashton Parish Council, will continue to meet with Baker Associates, to persist in our joint opposition to the development and minimisation of its effects. Cllr Keast reported that she and Cllr Smith had recently attended a public meeting held in Withywood with the aim of advising members of the public in the Bishopsworth, Hartcliffe and Withywood areas of the proposed development and associated link road.	ACTION: Clerk
04/03/09 449 – Report from District Councillor Hugh Gregor Cllr Gregor gave a brief account of his recent Council activities, which included his attendance at the ‘Safer, Stronger Neighbourhoods’ event held at the Winter Gardens in Weston Super Mare. He reported that North Somerset Council had approved an increase in Council Tax of 2.5%. Cllr Gregor also reported that he will be briefed shortly on the Bristol International Airport expansion plans and advised that Mr Karuna Tharmananthar had agreed to address Winford Parish Council on the subject of related infrastructure.	
04/03/09 450 – Parish Plan 450.1 Questions for the Parish Council arising from the PP Questionnaire – after some discussion, it was agreed that a sub-committee should be formed to receive and address the questions posed by Parishioners in the Parish Plan questionnaire – proposed Cllr Thomas; seconded Cllr Swyer. Cllrs Peters, Quick, Laux and Smith volunteered for this committee and will arrange a meeting date. 450.2 General Update – the Parish Plan Steering Committee had prioritised action points for publishing in a newsletter to be distributed to all households. Cllr Keast wondered if the Parish Council could also use this newsletter as a communication tool, but it was generally felt that this was not feasible at the present time. Cllr Peters reported that she had been working hard on the ‘pensioner’ links between the Parish and the wider North Somerset community. She advised that a representative of Age Concern, Nailsea, had agreed to give a talk at the Dundry Lunch	ACTION: Cllrs Swyer, Peters, Quick, Laux & Smith

Club in April, about the drive to help the elderly remain in their own homes by tailoring support specific to their needs. Cllr Peters also advised Councillors that a new village litter picking rota had been drawn up, effective from 1st March 2009 and could be found on the Parish website and on village notice boards. Some areas remain uncovered by volunteer litter pickers. Cllr Smith advised that Steph Jones, North Somerset Council, Streets & Open Spaces Area Officer, had reported a request from a Parish Plan Steering Committee member, for a joint walk around the Parish with the aim of identifying areas that need attention. After discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Smith should authorise this walk as a related Parish Council matter. Cllr Laux suggested a public record of potholes etc, that could be published on the website. Cllr Gregor reported that he continues to receive a monthly update of repairs and maintenance undertaken in both Dundry and Winford, and will ensure the Clerk receives a copy. Cllr Peters asked the Clerk to send thanks to North Somerset Council for their prompt clearance of crash debris on the pavement near the bottom of Dundry Lane recently.	ACTIONS Clerk
04/03/09 451 - Bristol International Airport Councillors had recently attended a meeting at Bristol International Airport but great disappointment was expressed at the non-attendance of any of BIA's management and as a result, it was felt to be somewhat of a wasted exercise. Cllr Thomas requested that the Clerk write to BIA to express the views of Councillors. Cllr Thomas reported that he had completed a response to the expansion consultation on behalf of Dundry Parish Council, and that this would be passed to the Clerk for formal submission. Cllr Thomas also reported that the economic benefits of the expansion of Bristol International Airport are under scrutiny from the Parish Council's Airport Association. Cllr Thomas further advised that help and advice on the environmental impact of the expansion has been offered by a resident of Upton Lane who has expertise in this particular field. This was very much appreciated by Councillors and it was agreed that Cllrs Keast and Thomas should make contact.	ACTIONS Clerk/Cllr Thomas/ Cllr Keast
04/03/09 452 – Planning 452.1 Declaration of Interests Cllr Quick – 52 Dundry Lane Cllr Swyer – 3 Crabtree Close 452.2 Applications Received 09/P/0258/O 52 Dundry Lane, Dundry: Outline planning application for the replacement of the existing B1 unit with a newly built dwelling and work unit and associated parking/cycle provision and bin storage, with access, layout and scale not reserved for subsequent approval 09/P/0259/O – 52 Dundry Lane, Dundry: Outline application	

for the replacement of existing unit with a newly built B1 unit with a newly built dwelling and work unit and associated parking/cycle provision and bin storage, with access, layout and scale not reserved for subsequent approval – <i>no decision reached on these two applications – further consideration needed.</i> 09/P/0290/F Dundry Inn, Church Road, Dundry: Change of use of first floor accommodation into 4no bed & breakfast rooms – <i>no objections</i> 09/P/0226/RM 3 Crabtree Close, Dundry: Submission of Reserved Matters for access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for the erection of a detached dwelling with a live/work unit pursuant to Outline approval 07/P/0105/O – <i>no objections to appearance and unable to comment on landscaping due to lack of detail. Concerns about insufficient parking.</i> 09/P/0231/F Quarry Cottage, Downs Road, Dundry; Replace wooden fence panels on east facing boundary with 2m high stone wall – <i>unclear whether permission actually needed but no objections.</i>	
04/03/09 453 – Annual Parish Meeting April 2009 The Clerk reminded Councillors that the Annual Parish Meeting is held each April. This provides an opportunity for Parishioners to raise any subject they wish and after some discussion, it was proposed that this year, the APM should be held on a different evening to the monthly Parish Council meeting and Wednesday 22nd April 2009 was settled upon - <i>proposed Cllr Hurford seconded Cllr Smith</i> After further discussion involving District Councillor Gregor, it was decided to invite a speaker for the APM and all agreed that a representative from North Somerset Council's Streets & Open Spaces Section could provide an informative talk. The Clerk will arrange a speaker and advertise the meeting on Parish noticeboards etc. The agenda for the APM will be finalised at the April meeting of Dundry PC.	ACTION: Clerk
04/03/09 454 - Vice-Chairperson Vacancy Since the resignation of Cllr Nevitt, Dundry Parish Council has been without a vice chairperson. However, it was decided that as only two months remain until the Annual General Meeting when officers will be re-elected to committees etc, a decision will be delayed until then.	
04/03/09 455 – Clerks Report/Finance 455.1 The Clerk submitted her time sheet which was duly approved and distributed an updated finance report. 455.2 Approve Cheques Paid/ to be Paid: C/N 100250 £317.65 Mrs J Smith Feb wages/office expenses <i>proposed Cllr Thomas seconded Cllr Smith</i>	

