

Dundry Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd November 2011 at 7.30pm

(These minutes are subject to approval at the next meeting)

Chair: Cllr Holger Laux

In Attendance: Cllrs David Hurford, Ralph Gay, Richard Thomas, Nancy Jennings, Duncan Pittaway (part time)

District Councillor Hugh Gregor (part time)

Claire Dyke (NSC Parish Liaison Officer) (part time)

PC Trevor Byford and PCSO Michele Barrett (both part time)

5 parishioners were present

Clerk: Judith Hoskin

Invited guest: PC Mark Vicary

02/11/2011 1044 - Apologies 1044.1. Apologies had been received from Cllrs McCarthy, Keast, Peters and Fiddian.	Actions
02/11/2011 1045 - Chair's Introduction 1045.1. The Chair welcomed all present	
02/11/2011 1046 - Declarations of Interest by Councillors in items on the Agenda 1046.1. Cllr Jennings declared an interest in item 1063.1 as her son attends the pre-school.	
02/11/2011 1047 - Minutes of the previous Meeting of Dundry Parish Council 1047.1. The minutes of the meeting held on 5 th October 2011 were agreed as a true record (proposed Cllr Thomas, seconded Cllr Hurford)	
02/11/2011 1048 - Crime Report/Neighbourhood Watch 1048.1. PC Byford reported that in the preceding month there had been four crimes in total in Dundry: • 1 x Theft from Motor Vehicle • 2 x possession of cannabis • 1 x bladed article in a public place Abbots Leigh and Leigh Woods had suffered a few non-dwelling burglaries (sheds and outbuildings) PC Byford suggested that the public should check the security on their garden sheds, and secure and postcode any expensive equipment. Report anything suspicious to the police on 101 . Crime prevention surveys can be arranged via PCSO Michele Barrett 8487 on this number. 1048.2. Neighbourhood Watch Report – nothing to report.	
02/11/2011 1049 - Invited guest: PC Mark Vicary to talk about a possible permanent supervised off-road bike track on lower Dundry Slopes. 1049.1. PC Vicary started by stressing that there were no definite plans for an off-road motor bike track nor had any planning applications been submitted. He was simply in the process of exploring possibilities. He explained that there was a problem with youngsters riding motor bikes on the lower Dundry slopes, causing a nuisance and damaging crops. In Cardiff, where there had been a similar problem, a supervised track had been set up with great success and the ASBO rate had come down dramatically. If a similar track were to be set up in south Bristol/Dundry slopes it would be a cooperative effort between the police and the council with an organisation set up to run it. It would be fully supervised with conditions set on using it. Noise reduction measures would be put in place but he conceded that it would be noisy. There followed much discussion with parishioners and councillors expressing concern at the possible noise which would be magnified by the 'bowl' effect of the hill. They felt that a more appropriate site could be found within the Bristol boundary where noise would not be such an issue. Landfill sites or old quarries were also suggested as a possibility. PC Byford said that he was very aware of the problem and supported the idea in principle but thought that efforts should be made to look further afield for a site. Transport would not necessarily be an issue as youngsters were already often taken in vans to ride on bridleways etc where they also caused a nuisance. 1049.2. Discussion then turned to recent problems with youngsters riding motorbikes (and sometimes driving old scrapped cars) on private land at Downs Farm. This was also extremely noisy and a nuisance to walkers. PC Byford said that any vehicle driven in a field with a footpath must be insured. If there was a noise nuisance, or suspicion that uninsured vehicles were being driven near footpaths, members of the public should call 101 and the police would attend.	

02/11/2011 1050 - DPC response to proposal for permanent off-road bike track 1050.1. Councillors agreed that their response should highlight the noise issue and the fact that a site on lower Dundry slopes might not target the people who are driving out of Bristol and causing a nuisance elsewhere	Cllr Laux/ Clerk																																																
02/11/2011 1051 - Public Forum 1051.1. A parishioner reported the presence of Japanese Knotweed on Oxleaze Lane. The Clerk would report this to NSC. Cllr Gregor suggested someone to contact in Winford for advice as this invasive weed had recently been a problem there. 1051.2. A parishioner had noticed that there had been a meeting about signs (see item 1058.2) and reminded councillors that there had once been a sign with house numbers (3-30) at the end of Crabtree Close. The Clerk was asked to request a replacement from NSC. 1051.3. It had been reported that the timber fence round the garden of the new house on the corner of Crabtree Close and Crabtree Lane appeared to be encroaching on the visibility splay. The Clerk had checked the planning application drawings and found that the high perimeter fence did not appear to be included in the planning approval and that trees which were to have been retained and had originally helped define the boundary had been cut down. She was asked to contact the NSC enforcement officer for his comments. 1051.4. An email had been received from a parishioner concerning the condition of 31 Crabtree Close which appeared to be empty and in poor condition. The Clerk had contacted North Somerset Council Empty Homes team who said they had recently been made aware of this property and confirmed that Council Tax was being paid on it. They were continuing investigations. 1051.5. The village car park had again been used by people taking components from vehicles before taking the vehicles to the scrap yard at Downs Farm. The Clerk was asked to write to the owners of Downs Farm asking them to try to stop this practice. <i>Cllr Pittaway joined the meeting at this point.</i>	Clerk Clerk Clerk Clerk																																																
02/11/2011 1052 - Report from District Councillor High Gregor 1052.1. Cllr Gregor reported that NSC was still in intense discussions about how to reduce costs and exploring further ways of delivering services to communities. A full council meeting had been cancelled to save costs. Councillors were concerned that this might mean the executive taking decisions which had not been put to full council but Cllr Gregor and Ms Dyke said that there was a Democratic office to ensure that this did not happen. 1052.2. Cllr Gregor had attended the following meetings: • October 10th – Youth Activities Working Group - discussing how to cope with cuts in funding for youth services. • October 11th - Our Health Working Group – examining how medical practices manage their appointments systems and out of hours provision • October 14th Presentation by National Grid about proposed Hinkley C connection project. • October 17th – Children and Young Person Scrutiny Panel – managing proposed cuts. • October 19th – A tour round NSC's major construction projects. 1052.3. Councillors said there was concern in the village about the possibility that NSC would start charging for collection of Green Waste. Parishioners felt that they did not always receive the full range of services available elsewhere in the District and that free waste collections was one service they received and valued. Cllr Gregor said he would pass on these concerns.	Cllr Gregor																																																
02/11/2011 1053 - Finance 1053.1. The Financial Report was approved (proposed Cllr Thomas, seconded Cllr Jennings) 1053.2. The Chair signed the Clerk's time sheet																																																	
1053.3. Payment of the following Cheques was approved: <table><tr><td>100382*</td><td>Tennyson Insurance Ltd</td><td>Public liability Insurance</td><td>65.74</td><td>General</td><td>Playground Insurance</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>(total 491.74)</td><td>Asset insurance</td><td>426.00</td><td>Playground</td><td>Construction</td></tr><tr><td>100383*</td><td>E.ON</td><td>Street light</td><td>10.31</td><td>General</td><td>E.ON</td></tr><tr><td>100384*</td><td>Jewson Ltd</td><td>Items for fixing n/boards</td><td>62.16</td><td>General</td><td>Noticeboards</td></tr><tr><td>100385</td><td>R Gay</td><td>Items for noticeboards</td><td>140.63</td><td>General</td><td>Noticeboards</td></tr><tr><td>100386</td><td>J Hoskin (total 355.52)</td><td>October wages</td><td>350.00</td><td>General</td><td>Clerk's Salary</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>Stamps</td><td>5.52</td><td>General</td><td>Office expenses</td></tr><tr><td>100387</td><td>Whitehall Garden Centre</td><td>Bench</td><td>249.00</td><td>Chris Glover Fund</td><td></td></tr></table>		100382*	Tennyson Insurance Ltd	Public liability Insurance	65.74	General	Playground Insurance		(total 491.74)	Asset insurance	426.00	Playground	Construction	100383*	E.ON	Street light	10.31	General	E.ON	100384*	Jewson Ltd	Items for fixing n/boards	62.16	General	Noticeboards	100385	R Gay	Items for noticeboards	140.63	General	Noticeboards	100386	J Hoskin (total 355.52)	October wages	350.00	General	Clerk's Salary			Stamps	5.52	General	Office expenses	100387	Whitehall Garden Centre	Bench	249.00	Chris Glover Fund	
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100388	JH & DJ Hurford	Install Kissing Gate	2,760.00	Playground	Construction
100389	Signet Signs	Signs for playground	512.13	Playground	Construction
100390	Children's Playground Company Ltd	Playground Stage 2 1st instalment	21,929.15	Playground	Construction
100391	Chew Valley Inflatables	Bouncy castle for launch party	105.00	Playground	Revenue grant
100392	The Story Group Ltd	Barbecue for launch party	500.00	Playground	Revenue grant
100393	St Michael's Dundry PCC	Parish News and floodlighting	225.00	General	Parish News/ Floodlighting
100394	Lisa de Boer	Craft items for launch party	20.25	Playground	Revenue grant
*Already paid					
1053.4. It was agreed that the Clerk would arrange a date for the meeting of the Finance Working Group to prepare the draft budget. She would then circulate the remaining councillors for their thoughts on items that should be included.					Clerk
02/11/2011 1054 - Agree Village orderly tasks 1054.1. There had been some problems with agreeing who out of the village orderly/NSC/willing parishioners should be undertaking specific maintenance tasks around the village, particularly strimming outside the north wall of the churchyard. Cllr Jennings said that she had been made aware of this and other locations that needed strimming now to ensure good bulbs in the spring and would ask the VO to do this. The Clerk said she had asked NSC about grass cutting in various locations but it seemed that unless there was a danger to the public or vegetation was overhanging the road NSC were increasingly reluctant to do the work because of lack of funds. 1054.2. Communication about 'village orderly' tasks needed to be improved. Cllr Jennings was the contact for parishioners and it was agreed that she could take decisions on small tasks. The Clerk would advertise her contact details on the noticeboards. <i>Cllr Gregor and Ms Dyke left the meeting at this point</i>					Cllr Jennings
02/11/2011 1055 - Playground 1055.1. Cllr Jennings reported that the playground had been installed, inspected by ROSPA and by the Lead Professional. This meant it was fully ready for play. The new wheelchair accessible kissing gate had been installed and the signs for the playground were up. The fence had still to be installed and the temporary fencing removed and then everything would be ready for the Grand Opening on November 6 th . 1055.2. Before the meeting Cllr Jennings had circulated a proposal for safety inspections of the playground. This would involve an annual inspections by ROSPA, a total of 8 inspections per annum by North Somerset Council Play Rangers, and regular inspections by members of the playground group. Records of these inspections would have to be kept for 25 years and Cllr Jennings was investigating the best way of doing this. It was agreed that the Parish Council would provide funds (£226 in first year and £171 in subsequent years at current prices) for these inspections.(Proposed Cllr Jennings, seconded Cllr Gay)					
02/11/2011 1056 - Downs Farm 1056.1. In response to several complaints about the dangers of heavy lorries driving through the village a letter to the Traffic Commissioner had been drafted asking for the HGV licences held by the various companies at Downs Farm to be reviewed at the appropriate time (on renewal). This letter had been circulated before the meeting and was agreed. 1056.2. Scramble bikes on Dundry Down – see item 1049.2. The Clerk was asked to write pointing out that the noise was very intrusive and asking for it to cease.					Clerk Clerk
02/11/2011 1057 - Possible funding bid 1057.1. Cllr Jennings had identified a possible source of Lottery funding for small community based projects (up to £10,000). She had circulated details and a list of suggestions before the meeting. After some discussion it was agreed that two possibilities stood out from the list as probably meeting the criteria and being worth pursuing. These were: • Activities or some kind of provision for older children/teenagers • Extending the Hill Top Walk, possibly to include some repairs to The Steps as it seemed unlikely that funds for this would be available from NSC. Cllr Jennings would investigate these two possibilities further. It was thought that the Village Hall Trust might also be able to benefit from this fund and Cllr Laux would forward details to them.					Cllrs Jennings & Laux

02/11/2011 1058 - Reports on Meetings Attended: 1058.1. Meeting at Castlewood Clevedon about the future of services in North Somerset - October 6th (Cllr Laux and Clerk) NSC were exploring ways of saving costs by handing over management of some services to Parish Councils in the hope that this would reduce costs. At present they were not expecting Parish Councils to fund these services, but made it clear that some services would disappear if they could not be run more cheaply. Most of the services under discussion (such as libraries or public toilets) were either not available in Dundry, or already managed within the village (such as the Village Hall and the playing field). Councillors were concerned that NSC were proposing to hand over to inexperienced and unpaid parish councillors jobs which were at present being done by experienced staff, who might well lose their jobs. They agreed that at present they did not wish to explore with NSC taking over any services mainly because there were none they felt were appropriate but also because the proposals were not sufficiently advanced. 1058.2. Meeting with NSC area officer and officer responsible for road signs 10th October – Clerk. The Clerk reported that she had discussed repairs and additions to various road signs around the village. She noted in particular: • The present Ham Lane sign would be left where it is but NSC would put in a narrow sign (on two lines, on posts) next to the Hill Road sign. This would be visible from Church Road/Dundry Lane. • NSC would put a sign at the end of Castle Farm Lane. In order to reduce the amount of signs this will have a 'No Through road' symbol incorporated in to it and the present NTR sign will be removed. • Putting a 'No access to Whitchurch for HGVs' sign at the end of East Dundry Lane would require a traffic order so would probably not be feasible. • (Not related to signs) NSC had found funding to repair the surface of the pedestrian access at the end of Crabtree Close 1058.3. Cllr Laux had attended the meeting of the Village Hall Committee on 20th October 2011 and the minutes had previously been circulated to councillors. These were noted. Cllr Jennings noted that Dundry Playground Group had not been informed of the date of the meeting which was why there had been no representative there.	
02/11/2011 1059 - Draft PCAA Position Statements for Core Strategy Examination 1059.1. Because of the short timescale the draft PCAA position statements for the Core strategy examination had been circulated for councillors' comments. None had been received and the document was duly noted without further discussion.	
02/11/2011 1060 - Chew Medical Practice Questionnaire 1060.1. Cllr Jennings had circulated to councillors her comments on the proposed questionnaire from the Chew Medical practice. Councillors suggested the following: • Rather than ask what private therapists patients would be willing to pay for at the surgery the form should list what services available under the NHS patients would like to see in the building. • There should be a question about whether patients would like to see a full pharmacy (rather than a prescription only one) at the surgery It was agreed that Cllr Jennings should submit these (and her other) comments on behalf of the Parish Council.	Cllr Jennings
02/11/2011 1061 - Report from Dundry School Governors – 1061.1. In the absence of Cllr Peters there was no report from Dundry School Governors	
02/11/2011 1062 - Report on Tree Warden Scheme: 1062.1. Cllr Gay reported that he had been accepted as a tree warden. He should know more about the role by the next meeting but he was not expected to be an expert or answer problems.	
02/11/2011 1063 - Planning 1063.1. Planning Applications received: 11/P/1903/F Dundry Village hall, Crabtree Lane, Dundry, BS41 8LN – siting of a storage container for toys and equipment (retrospective) – <i>no objections</i> 1063.2. Planning applications withdrawn by applicant: 11/P/1650/F Alveare, Bridgwater Road, Dundry, BS41 8JP - Conversion of existing garage to a two storey 4no bedroom detached accommodation for use as an annexe to existing dwelling (retrospective) 1063.3. Applications Approved by NSC: None	Clerk

1063.4. Applications Refused by NSC: None																								
02/11/2011 1064 - Clerk's Report 1064.1. The Clerk's report on past month had been circulated with the agenda. The following points were noted in particular: • Community Connect - Cllr Peters had attended the 'advice opportunity' coffee morning in Winford and put together a pack of information for anyone who would like it. • The new grit bins had been ordered but had not yet arrived. • The 'village orderly' bins should arrive shortly • The noticeboards had been fixed and looked very smart. Thanks were due to all who had worked on ordering, making and fixing them. • A response was still needed on whether the crusher at Downs Farm required planning permission. The Clerk was asked to write a formal letter to the NSC Planning enforcement officer copied to the head of Development Control		Clerk																						
02/11/2011 1065 - Correspondence 1065.1. Correspondence requiring action/discussion/noting (not dealt with elsewhere on the Agenda) <table><tr><td>Bruno Peek, OBE MVO</td><td>Invitation to light a beacon for the diamond jubilee. Deadline 30/04/2012 – <i>Cllr Pittaway to investigate further</i></td></tr><tr><td>OPR, Pageantmaster The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Centre for Sustainable Energy</td><td>Free energy advice service for families in North Somerset – <i>info put on website</i></td></tr><tr><td>HMRC</td><td>Confirmation that VAT will be repaid – <i>VAT now received</i></td></tr><tr><td>Parishioner</td><td>31 Crabtree Lane disused and becoming derelict – <i>see item 1051.4</i></td></tr><tr><td>PCAA</td><td>Draft PCAA Position Statements for Core Strategy Examination – <i>see Item 1059 above</i></td></tr><tr><td>Parishioner</td><td>Sign with house numbers for Crabtree Close/corner house encroaching on council land (<i>see item 1051.2</i>)</td></tr><tr><td>Parishioner</td><td>North wall of the churchyard needs tidying up (<i>see item 1054.1</i>)</td></tr><tr><td>NSC Area officer</td><td>Notification of change of role and reorganization of AO team</td></tr><tr><td>NSC</td><td>Local Sustainable Transport Fund – deadline 21st November</td></tr><tr><td>Bristol Airport</td><td>Invitation to mulled wine & mince pies 1st December - <i>noted</i></td></tr></table> 1065.2. Comments/queries arising from complete correspondence list (circulated with agenda) - <i>none</i>		Bruno Peek, OBE MVO	Invitation to light a beacon for the diamond jubilee. Deadline 30/04/2012 – <i>Cllr Pittaway to investigate further</i>	OPR, Pageantmaster The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons		Centre for Sustainable Energy	Free energy advice service for families in North Somerset – <i>info put on website</i>	HMRC	Confirmation that VAT will be repaid – <i>VAT now received</i>	Parishioner	31 Crabtree Lane disused and becoming derelict – <i>see item 1051.4</i>	PCAA	Draft PCAA Position Statements for Core Strategy Examination – <i>see Item 1059 above</i>	Parishioner	Sign with house numbers for Crabtree Close/corner house encroaching on council land (<i>see item 1051.2</i>)	Parishioner	North wall of the churchyard needs tidying up (<i>see item 1054.1</i>)	NSC Area officer	Notification of change of role and reorganization of AO team	NSC	Local Sustainable Transport Fund – deadline 21 st November	Bristol Airport	Invitation to mulled wine & mince pies 1 st December - <i>noted</i>	Cllr Pittaway
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02/11/2011 1066 - Items to be noted for discussion at next meeting - none																								

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 10.43 pm.

Copies of the full minutes of the meeting of Dundry Parish Council held on Wednesday 2nd November, 2011 can be found on the village noticeboards, on the parish website (www.dundry.org.uk) or obtained from the Clerk, Mrs Judith Hoskin – Tel: 0117 9642804, email: dundryclerk@tiscali.co.uk
Abridged versions are available in the Parish News and in the Chew Valley Gazette.

The next meeting of Dundry Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 7th December 2011