

Dundry Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 7th December 2011 at 7.30pm

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

Chair: Cllr Holger Laux

In Attendance: Cllrs David Hurford, Richard Thomas, Nancy Jennings (part time), Steve McCarthy, Bee Peters (part time), Maggie Keast (part time) Simon Fiddian (part time)

District Councillor Hugh Gregor (part time)

1 parishioner was present for the Public Forum

Clerk: Judith Hoskin

07/12/2011 1067 - Apologies 1067.1. Apologies had been received from Councillors Ralph Gay and Duncan Pittaway, PC Trevor Byford, PCSO Michele Barrett, Claire Dyke (NSC Parish Liaison Officer)	Actions
07/12/2011 1068 - Chair's Introduction 1068.1. The Chair welcomed everyone present	
07/12/2011 1069 - Declarations of Interest by Councillors in items on the Agenda 1069.1. Cllr Hurford declared an interest in Item 1082.1 Planning application 11/P/2137/F Agricultural Barn, north of Elton Farm, Wells Road, Dundry (family link to potential occupant)	
07/12/2011 1070 - Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Dundry Parish Council 1070.1. The minutes of the meeting held on 2 nd November 2011 were agreed as a true record (proposed Cllr Hurford, seconded Cllr Thomas)	
07/12/2011 1071 - Crime Report/Neighbourhood Watch 1071.1. No police officers were present but PCSO Michele Barrett had sent the following report for the previous month: • 1 X Theft (lead) • 2 X Theft from Motor Vehicle • 1 x Possession of Cannabis • 2 X Assault Occasioning ASB • 1 x Common Assault and Battery She and PC Byford would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.	
1071.2. Neighbourhood Watch Report: 1071.2.1. Cllr Peters said that she had recently talked to PCSO Barrett who had been pleased that it had been so quiet. She had warned about leaving out packaging of expensive items for re-cycling after Christmas as this could advertise new and expensive purchases to thieves. 1071.2.2. PCSO Barrett had also left with her copies of the police newspaper which was the replacement for the Neighbourhood Watch leaflets. Cllr Peters would leave these in various places round the village	
07/12/2011 1072 - Public Forum 1072.1. A parishioner raised the following issues relating to Downs Farm: • An article in the Bristol Magazine had extolled Dundry's virtues but the writer had witnessed a child driving a car over Dundry Down and for that reason would not be returning. • As well as lorries driving dangerously in the narrow lanes, huge tractors were being driven too fast and there had recently been a serious incident involving a horse and rider. • Noise from the scrap metal crusher was a considerable nuisance. Councillors said that these were long-standing issues and there was a limited amount that they could do to improve matters. A letter had recently been sent to the Traffic Commissioner asking for a review of the HGV operating centre next time a licence was due for renewal. A formal letter had also been sent to the Planning Enforcement Officer asking him to reach a conclusion on whether the crusher needed planning permission. Other letters agreed on at the previous meeting had not been sent because there had subsequently been the suggestion of a meeting with the owners of Downs Farm. It was agreed that a letter should now be sent listing the various items which were causing complaints and requesting a meeting to discuss possible means of mitigating the nuisance and danger caused by these issues.	Clerk
1072.2. The same parishioner asked what the situation was with the apparently empty property at 31 Crabtree Close. The Clerk said she had been in touch with NSC about this but would enquire again.	Clerk

1072.3. There had been a request from a parishioner that the Parish Council write to Royal Mail complaining about late delivery of post, sometimes as late as 4.30 p.m. in the centre of the village.	Clerk																																																																																				
07/12/2011 1073 - Report from District Councillor Hugh Gregor 1073.1. Cllr Gregor reported that he had attended several meetings during November, including meetings on health and Children and Young Persons' services. 1073.1.1. A full council meeting on 15 th November had discussed the possibility of painful cuts in numbers of youth workers and youth centres. The independent group had presented an 'alternative' budget. 1073.1.2. On December 6 th there had been a more informal meeting for all councillors to discuss the following topics: • Should there be a payment for green waste collection? • Should more car parking charges be introduced in the district? • Is the current level of council run care homes necessary? • Should specialist facilities for children and young people in care be set up in the district to save on the costs of sending children out of the district?																																																																																					
07/12/2011 1074 - Finance 1074.1. The Financial Report was approved 1074.2. The Chair signed the Clerk's time sheet																																																																																					
1074.3. Payment of the following cheques was approved: <table><tr><th>Cheque</th><th>Paid to</th><th>For</th><th>Payment</th><th>Fund</th><th>Category</th></tr><tr><td>*100395</td><td>Dundry Village Hall</td><td>Hall hire</td><td>53.00</td><td>Playground</td><td>(Revenue)</td></tr><tr><td>*100396</td><td>N Jennings</td><td>Food</td><td>64.05</td><td>Playground</td><td>(Revenue)</td></tr><tr><td>*100397</td><td>B Peters</td><td>Bench</td><td>249.00</td><td>Chris Glover Fund</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>*100398</td><td>Jody's Garden Services</td><td>Village orderly</td><td>45.00</td><td>General</td><td>(Playground)</td></tr><tr><td>100399</td><td>J Hoskin</td><td>November wages</td><td>350.00</td><td>General</td><td>Clerk's Salary</td></tr><tr><td>100400</td><td>Jody's Garden Services</td><td>Village orderly</td><td>157.50</td><td>General</td><td>(Playground)</td></tr><tr><td>100401</td><td>Dundry PCC</td><td>Christmas Tree</td><td>100.00</td><td>General</td><td>Christmas Tree</td></tr><tr><td>**100402</td><td>CPCL (total £21,929.15)</td><td>Playground Stage 2</td><td>19,429.15</td><td>Playground</td><td>Construction</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>2nd instalment</td><td>2,500.00</td><td></td><td>Quartet Grant</td></tr><tr><td>**100403</td><td>JH & DJ Hurford</td><td>Fence</td><td>1,800.00</td><td>Playground</td><td>Construction</td></tr><tr><td>**100404</td><td>NSC</td><td>Professional fees</td><td>600.00</td><td>Playground</td><td>Construction</td></tr><tr><td>**100405</td><td>N Jennings</td><td>Project Manager fee</td><td>1,500.00</td><td>Playground</td><td>Construction</td></tr><tr><td>100406</td><td>George Aykroyd</td><td>Deposit for pizzas</td><td>60.00</td><td>Playground</td><td>Sustainability</td></tr></table> Items marked * had already been paid. Items marked ** won't be sent out until receipt of money from Community Spaces and HMRC		Cheque	Paid to	For	Payment	Fund	Category	*100395	Dundry Village Hall	Hall hire	53.00	Playground	(Revenue)	*100396	N Jennings	Food	64.05	Playground	(Revenue)	*100397	B Peters	Bench	249.00	Chris Glover Fund		*100398	Jody's Garden Services	Village orderly	45.00	General	(Playground)	100399	J Hoskin	November wages	350.00	General	Clerk's Salary	100400	Jody's Garden Services	Village orderly	157.50	General	(Playground)	100401	Dundry PCC	Christmas Tree	100.00	General	Christmas Tree	**100402	CPCL (total £21,929.15)	Playground Stage 2	19,429.15	Playground	Construction			2nd instalment	2,500.00		Quartet Grant	**100403	JH & DJ Hurford	Fence	1,800.00	Playground	Construction	**100404	NSC	Professional fees	600.00	Playground	Construction	**100405	N Jennings	Project Manager fee	1,500.00	Playground	Construction	100406	George Aykroyd	Deposit for pizzas	60.00	Playground	Sustainability
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07/12/2011 1075 - Budget: 1075.1. The Finance Working Group had met on 16 th November to discuss the budget. It had soon become apparent that with increases in commitments, and previous years' efforts to keep increases in the precept to the minimum, predicted expenditure would leave the council with no reserves unless significant changes were made either to expenditure or income. There was very little room for manoeuvre in outgoings as many expenses could not be avoided, although some savings had been made by a more flexible approach to 'non-fixed' expenditure. After some discussion councillors unanimously agreed to raise the precept by £2,000.00 to £9,000.00. (Proposed Cllr Thomas, seconded Cllr Hurford) This represented an increase of roughly £5 p.a on a Band D Property and £10 p.a. on a Band F one. Budgeted reserves would then be around £2,500.00 which, at about a quarter of the annual budget, is the minimum recommended in guidance from the National Association of Local Councils. The main increases in expenditure were the result of having a new playground (particularly insurance) and the employment of a village orderly. Councillors were of the opinion that the benefits to the village of both of these fully justified the increase in the Precept.	Clerk																																																																																				
07/12/2011 1076 - Village orderly update 1076.1. Cllr Jennings reported that the village orderly had now finished his duties for the year and would start again in the spring unless anything unexpected required doing. She had a basic list of jobs that needed doing during the year but some adaptation might be needed to suit circumstances.																																																																																					
07/12/2011 1077 - Playground 1077.1. Cllr Jennings reported that the playground was finished, the final claim for the construction had been submitted and the money should arrive shortly. She would like to thank																																																																																					

the Parish Council for their help. She also thanked the anonymous donors who had been prepared to fund the VAT up front although in the end this had not been needed. This had meant that extra equipment could be purchased. She had noticed that already the playground was proving to be a good meeting point for people in the village. 1077.2. The Playground Group were now planning the events which would be paid for by the Sustainability Grant. The first of these would be a 'Winter Games' event on Sunday 22nd January. The next event would coincide with Dundry Day which Cllr Jennings had already volunteered to coordinate. Various dates were discussed with a preference for 20th May if the village hall was available. 1077.3. The first safety inspections would take place the day after the meeting. Cllr Jennings would be asking about the best way to keep records of these and other inspections. 1077.4. Cllr Jennings said that she had been invited by NSC to a meeting about creating networks of villages to commission activities for children and young people. This was to discuss linking up villages to apply for an 'Innovation fund' for young people. No one was available to attend the meeting but Cllr Jennings would ask for more details. Cllr Gregor said he would be going and would report back.	Cllr Jennings Cllr Gregor
07/12/2011 1078 - 'Awards for All' possible funding bid 1078.1. Cllr Jennings had investigated the Awards for All criteria further and found that the project had to be on land owned by the applicant and could not be on behalf of another organisation. This narrowed the possibilities down to something on the playing field provided for the general community. The Playground Group was keen to work with the Parish Council on this. Some consultation on possible projects had already been done with a group of older children. Cllr Jennings would consult with interested parties. From this she would construct a simple questionnaire to be used at the event on January 22nd. She would bring a draft of this to the next PC meeting. <i>Cllr Jennings left the meeting at this point</i>	Cllr Jennings
07/12/2011 1079 - Report from Dundry School Governors – 1079.1. Cllr Peters reported that much work had been done on waterproofing the school building and work had begun on refurbishing the inside. This should be complete by the summer. New fencing had been installed over half-term with a better security gate. 1079.2. The school would like to have more of a presence on the village website than at present. The Clerk would ask the web editor about this. <i>Cllr Gregor left the meeting at this point.</i>	Clerk
07/12/2011 1080 - Chris Glover memorial bench 1080.1. A bench had been bought and brought to the hall. Sufficient funds were left for a plaque and for fixing which a parishioner had volunteered to do. It was suggested that the bench should be 'dedicated' at the event on January 22nd. <i>Cllr Keast left the meeting at this point.</i>	
07/12/2011 1081 - Report on Tree Warden Scheme: 1081.1. Cllr Gay had reported to the Clerk that he had at present no more information on this scheme.	
07/12/2011 1082 - Planning 1082.1. Planning Applications received: 11/P/2065/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). <i>Object to this application for the same reasons as the previous application (11/P/1650/F) for this building i.e that:</i> <i>The building as erected has clearly become a substantial dwelling independent of the existing house.</i> <i>It is considered to be of poor design out of keeping with other homes along this section of road.</i> <i>With other buildings on the site it represents over-development.</i> <i>It will lead to an increase in vehicles using the existing entrance onto a busy highway adjoining a busy filling station.</i> <i>In addition consider the proposed amended design to be totally unsatisfactory.</i> 11/P/2137/F Agricultural Barn, north of Elton Farm, Wells Road, Dundry Siting of an agricultural workers dwelling within an agricultural barn for temporary period of time	Clerk Clerk

<i>Concern about temporary nature of planning proposal and longer term possibility of it becoming a permanent residence.</i> 1082.2. Applications Approved by NSC: 11/P/1776/F Alveare, Bridgwater Road, Dundry, BS41 8JP Removal of condition 3 of 07/P/2042/F (Erection of detached garage(Amendment to approved planning application 06/P/2912/F)) to allow the room over garage to be used as guest accommodation in conjunction with main dwelling) . 1082.3. Applications Refused by NSC: None 1082.4. Planning Enforcement Issues 1082.4.1. It had been noticed that an addition had been made to the front of Densford, Bridgwater Road despite the recent planning application having been turned down. The Clerk was asked to contact the planning enforcement officer for his comments. <i>Cllrs Fiddian and Peters left the meeting</i>	Clerk										
07/12/2011 1083 - Clerk's Report 1083.1. The Clerk's Report on the past month had been circulated with the agenda. she noted the following in particular: • There had been no recent progress on the Community Payback Scheme (Cllr McCarthy to chase this up) • Grit bins had been delivered and were in place in Yanleigh Close, at the junction of Downs Road and Crabtree Lane, at the end of the Mead, and on East Dundry Lane near Rocklea. The Clerk expressed thanks to the parishioner who had installed this last in a recess in the grass bank. • Following the previous meeting PC Vicary had emailed to say that having heard the views of councillors and parishioners he was now looking elsewhere for a location for a scramble bike track. • A replacement Area Officer had been appointed for the parish and would be starting in January. • The Clerk mentioned that she had seen a parishioner collecting litter on East Dundry Lane that day. Councillors agreed that that he and all parishioners who did the same were much appreciated by the village.	Cllr McCarthy										
07/12/2011 1084 - Correspondence 1084.1. Correspondence requiring action/discussion/noting (not dealt with elsewhere on the Agenda) <table border="0"> <tr> <td>NSC</td><td>Waste & recycling severe weather advice – <i>now on website and noticeboards</i></td></tr> <tr> <td>PCC</td><td>Invitation to carol service – <i>Cllr Peters to read lesson</i></td></tr> <tr> <td>NSC</td><td>Invite to T & PC development management workshop – <i>Clerk to attend</i></td></tr> <tr> <td>NSC</td><td>Local commissioning networks – <i>see item 1077.4</i></td></tr> <tr> <td>Right to build (CLG)</td><td>Community right to Build – consultation – <i>Cllr Thomas to review this.</i></td></tr> </table> 1084.2. Comments/queries arising from complete correspondence list (circulated with agenda)	NSC	Waste & recycling severe weather advice – <i>now on website and noticeboards</i>	PCC	Invitation to carol service – <i>Cllr Peters to read lesson</i>	NSC	Invite to T & PC development management workshop – <i>Clerk to attend</i>	NSC	Local commissioning networks – <i>see item 1077.4</i>	Right to build (CLG)	Community right to Build – consultation – <i>Cllr Thomas to review this.</i>	Cllr Peters Clerk Cllr Thomas
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07/12/2011 1085 - Items to be noted for discussion at next meeting 1085.1. No items were noted for discussion at the next meeting											

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 9.47 pm.
Copies of the full minutes of the meeting of Dundry Parish Council held on Wednesday 7th December, 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 4th January 2012