

Dundry Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 11th January 2016, at 7.30 pm

Chair: Cllr Holger Laux

In Attendance: Councillors Maggie Keast, Steve McCarthy, Ralph Gay, David Hurford, Nancy Jennings

Also in attendance: 1 parishioner

Clerk: Judith Hoskin

11/01/2016 - 1938 Apologies had been received from Cllrs Amanda Scott and Simon Fiddian, and PC Martin Faithful	Actions
11/01/2016 - 1939 Cllr Laux welcomed all present.	
11/01/2016 - 1940 Declarations of Interest by Councillors in items on the Agenda 1940.1. There were no declarations of interest.	
11/01/2016 - 1941 Minutes of Previous Meeting - The minutes of the meeting held on 16 th December 2015 were agreed as a true record (proposed Cllr Keast seconded Cllr Gay) <i>Cllr Hurford joined the meeting at this point</i>	
11/01/2016 - 1942 Crime Report and Neighbourhood Watch 1942.1. PC Faithful had reported that in November there had been one non-dwelling burglary and one bilking in Dundry. He also reported there has been a slight increase in people 'scoping' building sites for scrap metal. . He also reminded residents to be aware of any rogue traders offering garden clearance / block paving etc. and to inform Police via the non- emergency 101 number or contact Trading Standards about any suspicious visitors of this type. 1942.2. The Clerk said she had nothing to report about Neighbourhood Watch.	
11/01/2016 - 1943 Public Forum 1943.1. There had been numerous complaints about potholes on Highridge Road. The Clerk said that she had been assured by NSC that a works order had been raised for these and they would be dealt with. It was noted that there was also a large pothole on Oxleaze Lane. This had been reported by a parishioner. Councillors thought that it would be better if parishioners reported potholes and other problems direct to NSC rather than relying solely on the Parish Council to do this, as multiple reports are often more effective. This can be done by telephoning Council Connect on 01934 888 802 or reporting online by going to http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/Pages/default.aspx and clicking 'Do it online' or follow the link from www.dundry.org.uk 1943.2. Cllr Laux said that the community mini-bus going through Winford to the airport was to be discontinued in Dundry as it had not been well used. Suggestions that it would be more used if it went down into the outskirts of Bristol had not been taken up. 1943.3. Cllr Keast asked about the street sign at the end of East Dundry lane which had been comprehensively demolished over the New Year. The Clerk said that she had reported this. She thought that it might be related to the car which she had seen being removed from this location early on New Year's Day. NSC had said that unless they could claim the cost of replacing the sign from the driver's insurers it would not be replaced as the 'service standard' only allows for one sign to each road. 1943.4. Councillors were concerned at recent reports about difficulties at Trinity Academy and Dundry School. Cllr Laux said he had written to the CEO of Midsomer Norton Schools' Partnership who was currently in charge at the school, offering any support the Parish Council might be able to give. He had received a brief reply. Councillors asked him to write to the Chair of the Dove Family Trust stressing how important the school was to the village, again offering support, with an invitation to come to a Parish Council meeting in the near future.	Cllr Laux

Cllr Jennings joined the meeting at this point																														
11/01/2016 - 1944 Report from District Councillor Nick Wilton 1944.1. Cllr Wilton had sent his apologies so there was no report. While realising that Cllr Wilton had many calls on his time councillors were disappointed that Councillor Wilton attended so few meetings of Dundry Parish Council. They felt that regular reports from the District Councillor were an important link with North Somerset Council. Cllr Laux was asked to contact Cllr Wilton to discuss councillors' comments.					Cllr Laux																									
11/01/2016 - 1945 Finance 1945.1. The Financial Report for December was approved (prop. Cllr Hurford, sec. Cllr Gay) 1945.2. The Chair signed the Clerk's time sheet. 1945.3. Payment of the following cheques was approved: <table><tr><td>100594</td><td>NSC</td><td>P'ground Inspection</td><td>14.40</td><td>P'ground inspections</td></tr><tr><td>100595</td><td>NSC</td><td>Election expenses</td><td>145.66</td><td>Variable admin</td></tr><tr><td>100596</td><td>J. Hoskin</td><td>December Salary</td><td>375.00</td><td>Clerk's Salary</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>(394.00)</td><td>Printer Cartridge</td><td>19.00</td><td>Office Expenses</td></tr><tr><td>D/D</td><td>E.ON</td><td>Streetlight</td><td>12.27</td><td>Fixed bills & Subs</td></tr></table> 1945.4. Councillor Laux proposed paying for the Domain Name and Hosting of the website by Direct Debit. The Financial Regulations allow for utilities to be paid for by Direct Debit with two signatures. Councillors agreed that the website was essentially a 'utility', particularly as it was now obligatory to put certain information online. There was some difficulty with the requirement for two signatures as the Direct Debit had to be set up online. However, The Clerk had checked with the bank who would accept a letter in advance, signed by two signatories, instructing them to set up the Direct Debit when it was requested. The Clerk and Councillor Laux would arrange to set this up. 1945.5. Proposed budget 2016 – 2017 – The budget had been provisionally approved at the previous meeting. The Clerk said that she had since then discussed the possible cost of a one-off election for a replacement councillor with a representative of electoral services at NSC. This might be between £2,000 and £3,000. Councillors agreed that in the unlikely event that this was needed the cost would have to be met from reserves as to include it in the budget would mean increasing the Precept considerably. The budget was therefore approved and the Precept, including council tax support grant set at £9,000 which was the same as the previous year. 1945.6. The Clerk said that from the start of the 2017/18 financial year smaller authorities, including parish and town councils, can choose to have an auditor appointed to them by a new 'sector-led body' or they can decide to procure their own, but they must have an auditor appointed as a legal requirement. It had been brought to her attention that if DPC wished to opt out of the sector-led body this needed to be done by the end of January. She had looked at the process for doing this which was very complex, and the advice from ALCA was to stay opted in. Councillors agreed that this was the appropriate course of action.					100594	NSC	P'ground Inspection	14.40	P'ground inspections	100595	NSC	Election expenses	145.66	Variable admin	100596	J. Hoskin	December Salary	375.00	Clerk's Salary		(394.00)	Printer Cartridge	19.00	Office Expenses	D/D	E.ON	Streetlight	12.27	Fixed bills & Subs	Cllr Laux Clerk
100594	NSC	P'ground Inspection	14.40	P'ground inspections																										
100595	NSC	Election expenses	145.66	Variable admin																										
100596	J. Hoskin	December Salary	375.00	Clerk's Salary																										
	(394.00)	Printer Cartridge	19.00	Office Expenses																										
D/D	E.ON	Streetlight	12.27	Fixed bills & Subs																										
11/01/2016 - 1946 Sports and Social Club/Playing field 1946.1. Letter to Sports and Social Club – The Clerk reported that a reply to the letter sent on 26th October had still not been received from the Sports and Social Club despite a request for a response within four weeks and an email reminder sent after the previous meeting. It was therefore agreed that a stronger letter was required. The Clerk would circulate a draft for agreement. 1946.2. Registration of Playing Field with Land Registry – The Clerk reported that she was still awaiting information from the Chair of the Village Hall Committee about services from the hall which crossed Parish Council land. She saw no reason why most					Clerk																									

services should not come directly from the road over the village hall car park. However, she had recently sent an email to the Chair of the VHC with a marked up aerial photograph indicating her understanding of the position of the village hall septic tank which she believed to be behind the clubhouse. Once this had been confirmed it should then be possible to sign the 'overriding interests' form and the information could be sent to the Land Registry.	Clerk
11/01/2016 - 1947 Streets and Open Spaces 1947.1. Broadoak Hill safety measures- The Clerk reported that NSC had installed some reflective marker posts outside Oak Cottage. They were also intending to refresh the road markings and install a warning sign before the bend. They intended to monitor these measures before installing any more. 1947.2. Street Light, Hill Road Turning Circle – The Clerk said that Western Power had established that the supply to the street light was live, in good order and safe but that the lamp fitting was broken. The cost of disconnecting the supply in order to cancel the Direct Debit was likely to be in the region of £550- £650. The options appeared to be to do nothing (but continue to pay about £50 p.a. for the unmetered supply) or to find out how much it would cost to repair the light. It was not clear whether the light had any deterrent effect on anti-social behaviour or whether the neighbours would object to it being there. After some discussion councillors agreed for the moment to do nothing since this was the cheapest option. 1947.3. Litter bins – North Somerset Council had supplied four litter bins. Cllr Laux had looked at fittings for fixing them to posts and put forward two suggestions. It was agreed that the option of jubilee clips would be adequate for the job and Cllr Laux was asked to order them.	Cllr Laux
11/01/2016 - 1948 Letter from Transport commissioner re Downs Farm 1948.1. One of the Operator licences at Downs Farm had come up for renewal. In response to the letter of complaint sent by DPC in October a letter had been received from the Office of the Traffic Commissioner with a form for completion. The replies to the questions were discussed and the Clerk was asked to return the form.	Clerk
11/01/2016 - 1949 Playground 1949.1. At the previous meeting Cllr Jennings had requested funds for replacing some of the topsoil round the play tunnel and slide and the Clerk had tabled a quotation from the Village Orderly. On looking at the job in more detail the VO had realised that a much smaller amount of topsoil would be required and reduced the quote to £47. Councillors who had inspected the problem thought this was a reasonable price and it was agreed to instruct the village orderly to go ahead.	Cllr Jennings
11/01/2016 - 1950 Forward Activities – The Clerk reported that the committee of Forward Activities were considering future options since no volunteers had been found to ensure continuity of the organisation. They had however been told that they could now give funds to existing organisations. This might open different routes to providing positive out of school activities for young people in the target area of Winford and Dundry Parishes.	
11/01/2016 - 1951 Consultations 1951.1. W of E Joint Spatial Plan – Councillors discussed how to approach this very wide ranging consultation, what the scope of DPC's reply should be and how to submit it. It was decided to concentrate on the aspects that Dundry PC and parishioners had felt in the past were particularly important - the preservation of the Green Belt (to prevent urban sprawl and as a resource for the residents of Bristol), the preservation of the rural	

character of the area and of gaps between settlements. The consequence of this approach would be that DPC would be in favour of Option 1 in the consultation. It was also felt that a more mixed approach to future development (as offered by Option 4) would relieve pressure on transport and resources and provide dispersed employment opportunities. However, this could involve some changes to the Green Belt so might not be entirely compatible with support of Option 1. It was agreed to use the questionnaire provided for submitting comments. Councillors were asked to fill in a copy with their comments and return them to Cllr Laux so that he and Cllr McCarthy would coordinate the reply for circulation and final agreement. (If parishioners wish to submit their own comments by the deadline of 29 January, they can do so at https://www.jointplanningwofe.org.uk/) 1951.2. West of England Joint Transport Study – it was agreed not to comment on this consultation.	All Cllrs Laux & McCarthy						
11/01/2016 - 1952 PCAA draft responses to the W of E Spatial Plan and joint transport study –Councillors had no comments they wished to make to the PCAA.	Clerk						
11/01/2016 - 1953 Planning 1953.1. Applications Received – none (noted) 1953.2. Applications Approved by NSC - (noted) 15/P/267 Barn to rear of Valley View Farm, Highridge Road, Dundry, BS41 8JU Prior approval for proposed change of use of agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (Class C3) plus associated operational development 1953.3. Applications Refused by NSC – None (noted) 1953.4. Application withdrawn – (Noted) 15/P/2271/F Field adjoining Hollydene, Upton Lane, Dundry, BS41 8NF- Change of use from dwelling with agricultural land to dwelling with an associated School for Equestrian Facilitated Learning... 1953.5. Appeal (noted) APP/D0121/D/ 15/3140040 - Alveare, Bridgwater Road, Dundry, BS41 8JP - Erection of carport attached to existing garage 1953.6. Planning Enforcement – nothing new to report.							
11/01/2016 - 1954 Clerk's Reports 1954.1. The Clerk's Report and Streets and Open Spaces Reports for the previous month had been circulated before the meeting. Some items had been discussed at the meeting, the rest were noted.							
11/01/2016 - 1955 Correspondence <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Winford Clerk</td><td>Note of meeting 16 December 2015 re lights at Downside - <i>noted</i></td></tr> <tr> <td>Barrow Gurney Clerk</td><td>New Councillor Training (possibly March?) – Clerk to check with Cllr Scott</td></tr> <tr> <td>Parishioner</td><td>Offer to help a councillor clean up fingerpost at hairpin bend – Cllr Laux to contact</td></tr> </table> 1955.1. Correspondence list -. Councillors had no further comments on the list of correspondence.		Winford Clerk	Note of meeting 16 December 2015 re lights at Downside - <i>noted</i>	Barrow Gurney Clerk	New Councillor Training (possibly March?) – Clerk to check with Cllr Scott	Parishioner	Offer to help a councillor clean up fingerpost at hairpin bend – Cllr Laux to contact
Winford Clerk	Note of meeting 16 December 2015 re lights at Downside - <i>noted</i>						
Barrow Gurney Clerk	New Councillor Training (possibly March?) – Clerk to check with Cllr Scott						
Parishioner	Offer to help a councillor clean up fingerpost at hairpin bend – Cllr Laux to contact						
11/01/2016 - 1956 Items from the Public Forum to be noted for discussion at next meeting - None							

There being no further business the meeting ended at 10.10 p.m.

Copies of the full notes of the meeting of Dundry Parish Council held on Monday 11th January can be found on the village notice boards, on the parish website (www.dundry.org.uk) or obtained from the Clerk, Mrs Judith Hoskin – Tel: 0117 9642804, email: parishclerk@dundry.org.uk
Abridged versions are available in the Parish News and the Chew Valley Gazette.

The next meeting of Dundry Parish Council will be held on Monday 8th February 2016

If parishioners would like something to be included on the agenda please notify a councillor or the Clerk by **Monday 1st February**. You can also raise matters in the Public Forum but, depending on what they are, full discussion may have to be left to the following meeting.