

## Dunchideock Parish Council

### Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015

**Present:** Cllrs. Swain (Chairman), Dow, Ellis, Eveleigh, Riddick and Robson. 1 resident present. TDC Lake arrived during the meeting.

1. **Apologies for Absence and Declaration of Interest** - Cllr Goodchild sent his apologies. No declarations of interest were made. All members receive budget dispensation.
2. **Open Meeting** - No comments were received.
3. **Minutes of previous meetings** - Cllr Riddick proposed and Cllr Eveleigh seconded that the minutes of the 03/11/2014 meeting were a correct record. All approved and the Chair signed the minutes.
4. **Matters Arising**
  - 4.1 **Village Fire Hydrants** – No progress made. Cllr Swain to progress when weather permits.
  - 4.2 **HMRC Potential Fine** – Nothing received from HMRC. Agreed to put item on hold until the situation changes.
  - 4.3 **Village bench maintenance** – No progress. Work remains planned.
  - 4.4 **Neighbourhood Watch** – Cllr Robson had nothing to report on the possible handover.
  - 4.5 **BT Fibre Cabinet** – Representative from Highways has visited the site and cannot assist. Cllr Robson to speak to Connecting Devon project manager. Proposal is to rework the stone wall to protect the box using funds from the Connecting Devon project.
  - 4.6 **Key Topics** – Agreed that the Clerk would submit headline topics to be published in Country News and the “3Ds” magazine throughout the year.
5. **Finance Report** - The clerk reported the current balance is £3,413.08 and confirmed that this reconciles with the cashbook and chequebook.
6. **Highways Issues** – Cllr Swain and the Clerk have met with a representative of Devon Highways. Issue regarding the surface water at Dunchideock Bridge has been logged and short and long-term fixes identified. The protection of the BT fibre cabinet is not something that Highways are able to help with. Clean up of drains by Yeo’s Farm following SWW work has been chased and Highways will follow up. Clerk to update Kenn Parish Council on Yeo’s Farm road issue. As agreed with Highways all issues should be logged via the Clerk in order to ensure they are properly logged and managed.
7. **County & District Council Reports** – TDC Lake updated the meeting on the latest progress at the Haldon travellers site and that evictions from the old site have been postponed until later in the month following court delays. TDC Lake mentioned that he had been at a meeting with the rural police team. The Clerk will invite the rural police constable to a future meeting.
8. **Elector’s Fund 2014/15** – The cost of a Lengthsman through Highways is prohibitive and will not be pursued. No further suggestions for suitable community projects were received. The deadline for submissions is the end of March.

9. **Budget and Precept 2015/16** – Cllr Swain presented the proposed budget for 2015/16 and discussed the council tax amounts in comparable parishes. It is proposed that a total Precept and TDC council tax support grant of £2500 is requested. This represents an increase of 6.5p per week for a typical Band D property. Cllr Eveleigh proposed and Cllr Dow seconded that the budget and precept request be made as proposed. All agreed. The Clerk will make the application to TDC.
10. **Return of Council Records and Equipment** – Cllr Goodchild provided an update via the Clerk. No parish property has been recovered. Having taken advice from DALC, the Clerk offered and all agreed that the Clerk should now try to recover the property by the end of January. After that more formal procedures to recover the property will be required. Cllr Swain is sorting through the paperwork that has been recovered so far.
11. **Electricity Monitors and Heat Detection** – Cllr Goodchild was not in attendance and Cllr Robson had no further updates.
12. **Thornes Meadow** – Cllr Swain reported that a resident had raised the issue of parking on the entrance road of Thornes Meadow and driving across the adjacent grassed verge. There are services running under the grass and Devon County Council had written to residents in 2009 and 2010 to request that cars are not parked there. Members discussed the current situation and agreed that very little could be done to enforce parking restrictions and that the only suitable solution could be large stones being placed in the area.
13. **Clerk's Training** – Clerk is booked in on the DALC Election training in January and is trying to attend a New Clerk's course.
14. **Village Hall Report** – Cllr Dow reported that work to refurbish the sheds would be started in the coming weeks. There is a pig racing event being run in February.
15. **Clerk's Correspondence** – Various emails have been received and distributed. No further comments were made.
16. **Open Meeting** – The condition of the bank and drainage at Manstree cross was reported. Clerk to log the issue with Highways.
17. **Chairman's Remarks** – Cllr Swain had no further remarks to add.
18. **Date of next meeting** - Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2015

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

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Chairman