

## **Position Statement Dunchideock Village Website**

In order to legally comply with the Transparency Code, the Parish Council is required to publish certain papers on a website. It is advised that the Parish Clerk has editorial rights to a village website in order to ensure legal compliance.

The Parish Council has, until now, published the required documents on the Dunchideock Village website. At a Council meeting in 2013 it was minuted that the domain name of this website ([www.dunchideock.org.uk](http://www.dunchideock.org.uk)) was owned by the Parish Council. In early 2018, it transpired that although a fee had been paid for the transfer of domain ownership in 2013, this had not in fact taken place. This has now been remedied and the transaction was free of charge. Cost recovery for the original fee is therefore being pursued.

In order to resolve a number of longstanding issues, Councillor Stephen Moor has tried repeatedly to constructively communicate with the current Webmaster to agree a way forward, proposing that the Parish Council and Webmaster enter into a Memorandum of Understanding in an attempt to develop a more professional working relationship. These efforts have been rejected by the Webmaster, who has recently proposed that the Parish Council sets up its own website.

The Parish Council believes that this is indeed the best way to move forward and accordingly, a demonstration site has been developed for the consideration of the Council. It is proposed that this site be finalised and published as the official Dunchideock Parish Council website and the community will of course be invited to take up pages on this site for disseminating public information.

Any information on this new site will be subject to copyright and cannot be copied or published elsewhere without the express permission of the Parish Council and relevant contributors.

Having researched costings for similar sites, it is proposed that a sum of £500 be agreed at this meeting to facilitate the setting up of the new site. In order to assist with cash flow and ensure the site is running properly, it is proposed that this is done in a two-stage payment with the initial £300 now and the following payment in a few months' time. We also propose that ongoing support be placed on a professional basis with Peter Thompson who offers professional web-support services at a very reasonable cost.

The Parish Council are asked to support these proposals with a view to initiating the new site as soon as possible.

Sarah Sharpe

Chairman of Dunchideock Parish Council

13 July 2018