



Minutes of the Meeting of Dulverton Town Council

Held on Monday 8th August 2022 at 7.15pm, in the Town Hall,
Fore Street, Dulverton TA22.

Present: Chairman/Mayor: Mrs Christine Dubery. Councillors: Mr Nick Thwaites, (also representing Somerset West & Taunton (S.W.T.)); Mr Alan Ottey; Mr Bill Gash; Mrs Louise Parrish; Mr John Preston; Mrs Ann Van Praag; Mrs Margaret Rawle and Mrs Frances Nicholson, Somerset County Council (S.C.C.), who left at 8.25pm.

Deferment of Business for Comment by the Public: None

Apologies for absence and acceptance of any reasons offered if agreed:

Cllr. Mr Stephen Pugsley (S.C.C.)

Declarations of Interest:

Cllr. Mrs Christine Dubery with regards the Sports Field Management Committee.

Cllr. Mr Nick Thwaites with regards the Sports Field Management Committee.

Cllr. Mr Bill Gash with regards the P.C.C. & Parish Rooms.

Chairman's Comments & Meeting Management: None

Questions for County and District Councillors:

Cllr. Mr Nick Thwaites - S.W.T:

Local Plan: E.N.P.A. have determined not to revise the Local Plan at present but to look more closely at the guidelines that sit along side it.

Royal British Legion: An application for the closure Kemps Way, while the memorial service is taking place at the War Memorial in November, is unlikely to be successful due to existing covenants.

Bin Replacement Project: Following a meeting on site with Mr Julian Grant (SWT), Cllrs. Mr Thwaites and Mrs Christine Dubery were able to report that the following had been agreed:

- a) To move the bin located behind the Dulverton Toilets to the right hand side of the Lion Car Park.
- b) The return of a DTC bin for location likely to be near the Jubilee Pond, Abbots Way.

- c) Exmoor lawn, to reposition the SWT bin on the lawns next to the steps opposite the Bridge pub, and relocate the existing bin on the lawns next to the trees by the hand rail. To move the red dog poo bin from its current position on the lawn and mount it on the existing post opposite Hanover house on the corner of Exmoor Car park, on Kemps Way.

Bike Rack: To be resituated somewhere else, from behind the Lion Stables toilet block, in the near future.

Cllrs. Mrs Frances Nicholson & Mr Steven Pugsley - S.C.C.

LCN Projects and Highways Issues: The Chairman stated that several issues have been raised with S.C.C. concerning the following:

1. Regular jetting of drains - Cllr. France Nicholson agreed to investigate funding through LCN Grant. Costs of regular jetting needs to be ascertained by S.C.C.
2. High Street from Lion Stables up to Vicarage Hill – Request that bollards are reinstated at the dropped curbs on the left, to stop vehicles mounting the pavement. Photographs of such incidents have been provided in a separate email.
3. Jury Rd – High Street end – Request whether big vehicles eg camper vans can be restricted from parking along that main road stretch to improve visibility for residents exiting their entrances. It will also improve motorist's view of oncoming traffic and enable them to pass more safely. If this is not possible, DTC suggest restricted parking times or partial yellow lines. Advice is required from S.C.C. traffic engineers as to which proposal would be preferable. Costs of this project need to be ascertained prior to it being submitted to the LCN.
4. High St. /Fore St. /Bridge St. – Yellow kerb blips need to be urgently installed at Union Street outside Webbers at the junction, which was agreed some time ago. Further yellow kerb blips have been requested on the double yellow lines outside the Hardware Shop/Chemist Corner. The proposal to create a disabled parking space in Fore Street has been put on hold.
5. Northmoor Road – Lining refresh required all along this road along with the parking restriction lines at Paper Mill /The Gardens junction entrance layby. Request installation of simple 'Keep Clear' or 'No Parking' signage (whichever would have the greatest impact) at the 'layby' just west of Pump cottage adjacent the Leat Wall.
6. Dropped Kerbs in Town centre - Request these are all relined to enable parking enforcement.
7. The yellow lines in the Paddock have faded and need refreshing.
8. A request has been made that all the linings in the town be inspected and refreshed as most of the problems in the town centre arise from faded white and yellow lines which causes irresponsible parking and inappropriate speed.
9. The extended yellow lines, agreed some time ago, at the Amory Road junction, still haven't been implemented.

BT Road Closers: Some of the proposed work has been undertaken, however the arranged road closures and corresponding signage proved not fit for purpose.

Dulverton Junior School: Cllr. Mr Bill Gash informed members that there are no proposals to close the school however, there may be some possible re-structuring of administration and management. The Board of Governors are seeking more parental engagement and are hoping to create a Parent Teachers Association. In the meantime parents are urged to direct any concerns they may have directly to the Board of Governors.

The Nursery is subject to restricted hours at present due to staff shortages.

Minutes of the meeting held on 11th July 2022 as circulated: were approved and signed. Proposed by Mr Preston, seconded by Mrs Ann Van Praag and carried.

6834 Update of action points resulting from the last meeting:

Minute 6823 – All Saints Church Wall:

A report of the meeting held with the new owners was circulated to members. The meeting was deemed positive. Further advice is awaited from Ware Construction as to proposals as to how to proceed.

Minute 6823 – ‘Dulverton Lives!’:

The list of local groups wishing to take part in the event is growing. Promotion of the event has been undertaken and will continue, the event being advertised in local publications and on social platforms.

There will be a maximum of 38 participants.

If successful the event will be repeated annually.

6835 Accounts:

Financial Statement – July 2022: See Appendix A

RESOLVED: That the Financial Statement as per Appendix A is approved. Proposed by Mrs Rawle, seconded by Mr Ottey and carried.

Payments for approval – July 2022: See Appendix B

RESOLVED: That the payments as per Appendix B are approved. Proposed by Mr Preston, seconded by Mrs Parrish and carried.

Members were informed that the external audit has been concluded. No issues of concern have been identified.

6836 Committees:

Minutes to be approved by the relative Committee members and be adopted as part of this meeting:

a) Dulverton Partnership Group – 20th July 2022

RESOLVED: To adopt as part of this meeting the minutes of the Dulverton Partnership Group Meeting held on 20th July 2022. Proposed by Mrs Rawle, seconded by Mr Gash and carried.

6837 Planning Applications:

To approve comments as per Appendix C.

RESOLVED: To adopt the comments as per Appendix C as part of this meeting. Proposed by Mrs Van Pragg, seconded by Mr Preston and carried.

6838 Pest Control – Moles:

RESOLVED: To approve the service agreement with Green Valley Pest Control. Proposed by Mrs Parrish, seconded by Mr Ottey and carried.

6839 Voices of Exmoor - Grant request:

RESOLVED: To award a grant amounting to £50.00. Proposed by Mrs Dubery, seconded by Mr Preston and carried.

6840 Late Correspondence:

Correspondence noted by members.

6841 Questions for Members who have attended additional meetings:

Jubilee Committee – 8th June 2022. De- brief concerning the Friday 3rd & Monday 5th June events on Exmoor Lawns.

It was noted that approximately 50 volunteers had helped over the festivities, all of whom received thank you letters from the Council.

Dulverton Town Hall Meeting of Trustees - 21st June 2022. Attended by Mrs Parrish who circulated minutes of the meeting.

DTC /P.C.C. - 26th July 2022. Attended by Cllrs. Mrs Dubery, Mr Ottey, Mrs Parrish and the Clerk. A report of the meeting was circulated to members. The future maintenance requirements of the church yard was discussed.

6842 Issues to be raised with permission of the Chairman:

Street Operative: Members commented that they had received many complimentary remarks concerning the cleanliness of the Town from visitors over the past few months and can attribute this to the diligence and hard work of Robyn, who it has been noted goes 'beyond the call of duty'. Members wished to express their gratitude and thanks.

Exmoor Panel Meeting – 1st September 2022: Members were informed that highways winter salting provision was on the agenda to be discussed.

Staff Annual Leave: Members were informed that due to annual leave commitments both the Clerk and Deputy Clerk will be on leave as from 22nd August 2022 until 5th September 2022. There will be little clerical cover over this period. The Chairman has agreed to check the phone for messages and the emails will be checked for emergency communications.

Chairman