

Dunkeswell Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes for the Annual Parish Meeting held in Highfield Community Hall at 8pm on Monday 18th May 2015.

Present: Cllrs John Barrow (Chairman), Brendan Procter (Vice Chairman), Kerry Webber, Andrew Luscombe, Philip Stevens, Tim Clewer, District Councillor Colin Brown, PCSO Anning 30012 and seven members of the public.

Apologies: Cllrs Tina Page, Andrew Maynard, County Councillor Paul Diviani, PC Vickery 4783,

1 Introduction of the Parish Councillors appointed at the 2015 uncontested local election, those co-opted in the interim and the parish council officers appointed at the election of Officers held at the Annual General Meeting of The Parish Council on 11th May, 2015 and appointment of chair for this meeting.

The Chairman: Cllr John Barrow
The Vice Chairman: Cllr Brendan Procter
Planning Committee: All parish councillors (quorate at three)
Tree Warden & Footpaths Representative: Cllr John Barrow
Canine matters: Cllr Tim Clewer
New Century Park: Cllr Philip Stevens, Churchill Playground; Cllr Brendan Procter
Councillors; Cllrs Kerry Webber, Tina Page, Andrew Luscombe, Andrew Maynard,

2 Minutes of previous meeting held on Monday 19th May 2014 were signed as a correct record of that meeting.

3 REPORTS

3.1 COMMUNITY POLICING - PCSO Anning reported that there were **38 Crimes in 2014/15** down from 46 Crimes in 2013/14 (32 Crimes in 2012/13 and 43 Crimes in 2011/12) broken down as follows:

3 Criminal damage	Damage caused to insecure toilets Damage caused to tyre on a car Damage caused to a boundary fence
4 Criminal damage to vehicle	Paint overspray found on a car Damage to steering column of a car Scratches caused to side of a car Windscreen smashed on a car
2 Public order	Verbal altercation over driving incident Argument between 2 males
1 Threats to cause damage	Argument between people know to each other
2 Theft from vehicle	Machinery part stolen from tractor Tools stolen from insecure vehicle
2 Theft	Solar panels stolen from field Sheep hurdles stolen from a field
1 Production of cannabis	Cannabis cultivation found at private address
3 Possession of cannabis	Stop check of vehicle – driver in possession of cannabis Warrant executed and male found in possession cannabis During traffic op male found in possession of cannabis
7 Assaults	Domestic incident – male assaulted female partner Domestic incident – male assaulted wife during argument Assault between staff members at work Domestic incident – male offender assaulted ex partner At private party father assaulted by his son At private party female assaulted by daughter in law Argument between neighbours led to assault
1 Harassment	Domestic incident – male making contact with ex-partner
1 Burglary dwelling	Whilst in house computer stolen from room
7 Burglary other	Industrial units entered and numerous items stolen (3 same night July 2014 + 3 same night March 2015)
1 Communication act	Elderly female received numerous nuisance calls
1 Dangerous Dog	Dog loose from private house killed a sheep
1 Fraud	Tenant used a stolen cheque for rent of house
1 Rape	At private location between couple known to each other

Our Rural area of Honiton (consisting of 13 parishes and 23 villages) excluding the town, has a total of 158 recorded crimes for the year from 01/04/14 to 31/03/15. This is a small increase on last year of 5 crimes.

As you can see there is a decrease in the recorded crime for the parish compared to the previous year. Last year we recorded a spate of breaks to garages on the Highfield Estate and no breaks to commercial premises. This year is the opposite, no non dwelling burglaries in the area of housing and 7 breaks of industrial units. During July of 2014, three units were broken into on the same night and in March this year another three were broken into again on the same night. The dwelling burglary reported was not a break into a house, but somebody already in the house was suspected of stealing a computer from a room to which they did not have permission to be in.

The recorded assaults are mainly domestic related and with all the incidents of assault the parties were known to each other. This would appear to a 'trend' through a large number of the recorded crimes this year, with the victim and offender being known to each other.

Many of the crimes involving theft of property are similar in nature and the offenders of these crimes will continue to be targeted by ongoing 'Cross Border Operations'. Operation Newmarket as they are known, involve officers from across Devon & Cornwall, Avon & Somerset and Dorset working together throughout the rural area.

Unfortunately we still receive complaints about speeding, particularly along the main approach to the village and past the garage and Highfield Road junction. Speed checks and enforcement will continue to be conducted by the local neighbourhood police team and the Safety Camera Partnership along this stretch of road and elsewhere within the village.

If you have any questions or concerns, or information you wish to pass on, then please contact us as below and we will endeavour to help.

PCSO 30012 Phil Anning	phillip.anning@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk
PC 4783 Clive Vickery	clive.vickery@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk
Telephone	101 - Honiton

- 3.2 PARISH COUNCILS YEAR** – Chairman reported that the Parish council had had a busy year mainly in preparing the neighbourhood plan and engaging with neighbouring parishes to achieve this within the government funding available.
- 3.3 YOUTH CLUB – Anne Barratt** – (report attached separately)
- 3.4 FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS/TREE WARDEN** – John Barrow reported that footpaths were kept in good walkable condition, there is hope that bridleway 12 will be re-opened.
- 3.5 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING** – Tim Clewer reported that the plan was nearing the point where it can be submitted for inspection and go to referendum. There is a proposal in the Local Plan to remove the Built Up Area boundaries (BUABs) for all but a few villages in the District. Dunkswell was not originally selected as a village to retain its boundary, but was added at the last minute against the officers recommendation and without the knowledge of the parish council. Any village left with a boundary may be subject to a boundary review and possibly gain considerable housing in future as a 'sustainable community'. The Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire results made clear that parishioners feel the parish has had a good deal of housing in recent years and although some is required to fill specific gaps in need, more large scale housing is not welcome. The parish council will therefore make objection to the proposal.
- 3.6 SPORTS FIELD** – John Barrow reported that the field, Muga, Cricket nets, half pipe and BMX track was well used and in good order. A new dog walking area has been created adjacent to the sports area which is being well used and appreciated.
- 3.7 CHURCHILL PLAYGROUND** - Brendan Procter reported that there has been a new shed installed this year and there will be repairs and replacements to equipment this year.
- 3.8 NEW CENTURY PARK** - Philip Stevens reported that the park had a new wooden shelter this year, there is a problem with dogs being walked through the park and also bins being filled with household waste. It was discussed that solar posts might be a good idea to give some walking light at night.
- 3.9 ALLOTMENTS** – Kerri Webber told the meeting that the allotments are well used and every allotment is allocated and well maintained.
- 3.10 FINANCE** – Tracey Bell (clerk) explained the accounts were mainly as usual, with the exception of receiving

Neighbourhood Plan and Parishes Together funding. The parish has also been granted additional funding for P3 work which it is hoped to spend on Bridleways in the coming months.

3.11 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR – Colin Brown has been ward councillor for just a few days, but offered his contact details for any issues people may have.

3.11 COUNTY COUNCILLOR – Paul Diviani sent the following report:

I am pleased to present my annual report as County Councillor for the Honiton St Paul's Division. As many of you will know, my major committees are Development Management (including a working party on Waste and Minerals Local Plans), Health & Well-being Scrutiny, SWEEG (South West Energy and Environment Group) which works with other Authorities in conjunction with Academia and the East Devon AONB.

County Council Budget

Over the past four years the County Council's funding has been cut by 27% as a result of a Government squeeze on local government spending and savings of nearly £128 million have been made. This year (2015/16) a further saving of £50 million has been required as a result of the Government's latest Comprehensive Spending Review. This will be followed by a saving of at least £34 million in 2016/17. This will have a considerable effect on services such as Highways, Adult Care, Youth Centres, Libraries, Public Transport, etc. The County Council's share of Council Tax is set to go up by 1.99%. This will enable continued support for vulnerable people, support for the CAB's, extra funding to cushion the effect on bus services and the continuation of road gritting.

Highways

The original budget reduction proposals for consultation on highways included the following:

Withdrawal of second gritting and snow clearing fleet; Review of gritting and snow clearing routes; Annual restocking of grit bins; Closure of picnic sites; Grass cutting (Only work undertaken will be to maintain visibility at junctions and on the inside of bends); Weed treatment; Parish Lengthsmen's service; Rationalisation of Neighbourhood Highway Teams.

Following the consultation, the annual restocking of grit bins will be undertaken and the majority of priority gritting and snow clearing routes will be continued. The proposal for the Lengthsmen is to make cleaning of drainage features, such as grips and easements and cleaning of gullies, their only duty. Therefore, this would be one of the activities where a local contractor may need to be deployed, or work carried out through the "Community Self Help and Road Warden Scheme".

Parishes Together Fund taking some of the budgetary strains...

I am delighted that many of our parishes have joined with other parishes to help fund amongst others, The Road Warden Scheme and "The Project", which supports young people suffering from mental stress, and this has a particular resonance for me with regard to the Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny. At the moment the Health Service is undergoing upheaval with most of your County Councillors playing their part in Stakeholder Groups who are taking a critical, in-depth, but fair look at the way the NEW Devon Clinical Commissioning Group operates following the initial scares about our much loved cottage hospitals. This is not about beds but treatment and that preferably in our familiar home surroundings.

4 PUBLIC QUESTIONS - none

Forthcoming Meetings: Planning Applications: 8th June 2015 7 – 8pm

Parish Council Meeting: 15th June 2015 7.30pm **Dunkeswell Village Hall**