

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DYRHAM AND HINTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 12th MAY 2015 AT DYRHAM VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30.PM

Present: Councillors: Kerry Sawyer (KS), Peter Miller (PM), Philip Boulton (PB) Lance Card (LC) and Caron Thornton-Trippitt (CTT)
The Clerk – Christine Howard
Ed Walsh (EW) (First Item only)

Members of the Public

Ed Walsh asked that the following report be put in the minutes and Councillor's agreed.

I have an important concern about the recent election. My concern is that residents have no means of congratulating councillors - parish or district – for getting elected or for thanking them for all their work on our behalf. So I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate councillors for getting elected to a pretty thankless but important job, and to thank them in anticipation of all the work will be doing over the next four years. On behalf of residents I would particularly like to thank Helen Senior who has retired after many years of service to this council and the local community.

As you know, I have attended this council's meetings for about 7 years now, initially as an observer and to ensure the interests of the public were being observed. I am pleased to say, our council has been outstanding in that respect.

As this is my last attendance at a parish council meeting, I would like to thank the two previous councils for their forbearance in my attempts to represent the interests of my village, Dyrham, in the absence of a representative from there. You have allowed me to speak out of turn on Dyrham issues as well as more general ones. For that I am grateful. Together we have improved Dyrham's appearance and drains at the very least.

On wider issues, I am pleased you accepted my proposals to improve direct links with residents – such as email links for suggestions and complaints, sending council's draft minutes to residents and fully using my community website to communicate with residents. I hope this will continue.

I also hope to continue my efforts by other means to encourage residents to participate more in their parish council and for parish councils to be open and honest and deal fairly and equally with all their residents.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to the parish clerk. If you think councillors have a thankless task, then consider parish clerks. So thank you Christine for the thankless and grossly underpaid work you do and for all your help in ensuring the interests of Dyrham have been met over the past several years.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Ben Stokes and Stephen Reade.

2. **Declaration of Interests under the Localism Bill**

None

3. **Councillor's to sign their Register of Members Interests and Declaration of Acceptance to office and the Register of Member Interest**

Which all Councillor's did.

4. **Election of Chairman**

PM proposed Kerry Sawyer as Chairman seconded by LC – carried unanimously

5. **Election of Vice Chairman**

PB proposed P Miller as Vice Chairman seconded by CTT – carried unanimously

6. **Election of Responsible Financial Officer**

KS Proposed the Clerk as the Responsible Financial Officer, seconded by PM - carried Unanimously

7. Confirmation of ALCA and CPRE payments

It was agreed that we pay ALCA £49.44 and as we did not find any worth from being with CPRE we would not support them this year.

8. Reports by any Councillors on Meetings attended

None

9. Review of standing Orders would be done at a later Meeting the Financial Regulations had been reviewed in the last 12 months.

10. Acceptance and confirmation of the accounts 2014/15

Confirm that:

- Appropriate books of account have been properly kept throughout the year.
- The Council's financial regulations have been met.
- The Council assessed the risks of achieving its objectives
- The annual precept requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process regularly monitored and reserves were appropriate.
- Expected income was fully received and VAT appropriately accounted for.
- No petty cash was held during the year.
- The Clerk's salary and allowances were paid in accordance with the council approvals.
- Asset registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained.
- Periodic and year end bank account reconciliation were properly carried out.
- Accounting statements prepared during the year were prepared on the correct accounting basis (receipts and payments) and agreed in the cash book.
- There are no Trust Funds

After agreement that all of the following had been adhered to the Chairman of the meeting duly signed the accounts to go off to External Auditors.

Recommendation of Internal Auditor:

None.

11. Annual Risk Management and assessment – review of insurance cover and fidelity cover

The Clerk had reported that the fidelity cover was considered adequate by the auditor.

12. Budgetary Controls

There is adequate control as the Clerk does not sign cheques. No accounts are being paid by direct debit but by BACS.

13. Nomination of internal auditor

KS proposed Mrs F J Thornton as our internal auditor, seconded by HS - carried unanimously.

14. Confirm the minutes of the last meeting 26th March 2015

The minutes were agreed and duly signed by the Chairman.

15. Matters Arising from the Minutes – not an agenda item

4. Telephone Box Cleaning Claire Worrall had washed down the Dyrham Village Telephone information box and she and her husband had stated that they would like to pay for and paint the Dyrham telephone box. Councillors were happy for them to do so.

Resolve: The Clerk was asked to end them a thank you card

10. Spring Hill Farm Flooding after 2 requests from the Clerk this is now resolved but the damage left by Wessex Water to the grassed area which now stones and mud and no grass needed to be put right.

Resolve: Clerk to contact Wessex Water and ask them to deal with reinstatement if they will not do this PB agreed to roll, add top soil and grass seed.

16. Correspondence Received

South Gloucestershire Council

Advanced warning of (1) Consultation on the proposed submission version of the Policies, sites and places plan.(2) Local green spaces.

Resolve: File

E mail from Dean Shepherd regarding the road closure of Sands Hill due to work for Dyrham Park. The Clerk had written to his contact Alan George who replied with 15 weeks was the worsted case scenario and the re routing of traffic through Field Lane is being changed as well. Information from Dyrham Park on this matter has been put out as an official Parish notice board, web site and sent to those people interested in receiving information.. Letter regarding the Infrastructure Levy (CIL) - This would be scanned and distributed.

Others

Citizen's Advice Bureau – To inform the Council that it desperately need funds. The Parish Council had given out their grant for this year.

17. Planning Applications

No objections

PK15/1353/TCA Roger Orchard, Upper street, Dyrham – work on trees

PK15/1439/F Talbot Byre, - Erection of a single storey extension with associated Works

PK15/1384/F Lower Ledge Farm, Dyrham erection of a 1.8mtr high fence

Planning Applications Permitted:

None

Planning Applications Rejected:

None

Miscellaneous

None

16. Accounts - payment of cheques since last meeting

	£	£net
Mrs C Howard Wages April		156.00
ALCA		49.44
F J Thornton		60.00
AON		427.69
Mrs C Howard Wages May		156.00

The Clerk took this opportunity to remind the Councillors that as we had a contested Election this year we had been quoted £2,173 as our payment.

17. Bank Reconciliation and Income and Expenditure by Budget

The Clerk distributed these.

18. Items from Open Parish Meeting including ideas on what to spend on items for the Parish

Mrs A Gent raised and that on Hinton Hill the verges are deteriorating fast and often there are small avalanches onto the road which cars then swerve on a fast blind narrow road to avoid. There are felled trees, broken fences and insufficient land slip barriers. It may be something the parish council want to investigate? **Note: The Parish Council had asked for this work to be done but the money was not available.**

Otherwise I am very pleased that streetcare came and cleaned all the rubbish up from Field Lane and very pleased they also came and re laid my lane and put in a new drain.

FYI with reference to my previous complaints of dogging on field lane, I am working closely with the police and recording my journeys as I have already recorded another dogging incident on that lane in full view at 3.14pm in the afternoon. I do not know what is happening with the video I am hoping for a prosecution as it showed not only the sexual activity in full force and the naked people but also the car and number plate. As of yet I have not heard back with regards to the outcome. The police did put big yellow warning signs up along field lane after this incident but they were ripped down within three days. Dyrham Park had agreed to the signs being placed on their gate as they too are sick of the activity and the dirty rubbish they leave behind. I believe the Cotswold Way are looking into re routing the Cotswold Way to avoid the weighbridge and I am heavily in favour of this from a safety of my guests and other walkers perspective.

Thank you for everyone's continued hard work.

21. Community Benefit Money

The Clerk stated that this year we should have some money thanks to KS's work from the wind turbine, which KS had confirmed would be £3,000 to £4,000 this year, paid at the end of May. The Clerk asked as we make so little money from the second bank account that any money in this account be put in the main bank account leaving the second one for Community Benefit money, this was agreed.. She also reminded Councillors that our precept would have to rise each year in the normal way as this money is for community benefit only.

KS bought forward the idea of buying a Gazebo and had a found two inter linking one that would be suitable at a cost of £1,120.00, including guttering and connection kit, in a blue colour. After some discussion about how it useful it would be for things such as the Revel and also Parishioner's could use it for themselves, it would be a real benefit to the villages. PM proposed this be purchased, seconded by LC – carried unanimously.

22. Flooding and Drainage

CTT and LC to have a site visit to Sands Hill and report back their findings to the Clerk.

23. Wetland Planting on Hinton Common Update

A site visit would be made in the summer by the Parish Councillors.

24. Speed Limit through Dyrham update

Now Dealt with.

25. Daffodil Planting in the parish update

Still on going perhaps we should pay someone to plant them for us in October.

26. Completion of work on Hinton Common update

Still on going.

27. Grass Cutting update

PM very happy with the grass cutting.

28. Passing Places Sands Hill

SR was dealing with this.

29. Healey Drive Problems update

Merlin Housing still proving a problem.

30. Parish Plan Update

No report

31. Items from Parishioners

None

32. Items of Report for next meeting

- CTT asked what could be done to screen the unsightly sub stations by Talbot Byre, Hedging was seen as a good idea PH said he would ask the Farmer's permission to put this on his land.
- CTT also reported he had counted 65 potholes from Home Farm to Ring O Bell Farm and when Sands Hill is closed this road will have even more traffic.

Resolve: Clerk to write to Street Care and ask that the road be repaired before Sands Hill is closed.

33. Date of Next Meeting

30th July 2015

24th September 2015

26th November 2015