

Minutes of the Dunkerton & Tunley Parish Council Meeting 11 January 2024 7.30 pm Dunkerton Parish Hall

Ref	Agenda Item	Minute	Action
	ATTENDANCE	Cllr Orme, Cllr Robinson , Cllr Prescott, Cllr Willert, Cllr Batchelor, Cllr Mannings, , Cllr Thring, Cllr Donaldson (from agenda item 5), Ward Cllr Matt McCabe and the Clerk Kathryn Manchee	
1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	Ward Cllr Fiona Gourley.	
2	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS	None.	
3	APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS	The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 28 November were approved and signed by the chairman.	
4	Consideration of Co-option of Councillors	The parish council unanimously resolved to co-opt Mark Donaldson onto the parish council.	
4.1	Receive the declaration of Acceptance of Office from Co-opted Councillors	The acceptance of office was signed witnessed by the clerk.	
5	MATTERS ARISING		

5.1	Update on Progress on Reintroducing a Bus Service to Tunley – Ward Cllr Fiona Gourley	<p>I have asked WECA for clarification about whether the “Two Valleys” Westlocal application went in on 3 January. The idea originated from Paulton Parish Council. What I have gleaned is from Clive Turner and Damien Valentine who have met the 2V bus campaigners and Phil Wright from WECA. I believe that a bus operator may have been engaged and that the route is planned to encompass both the Somer and Cam Valley villages, potentially going to the Odd Down P&R. I don’t know any more than that but if the 2V route does get funding (and I imagine that there will be political will to make this happen), in theory a bus should be operational by April.</p> <p>Because of this potential application, discussions about the re-routing of the 522 via the Cam Valley communities came to a halt before Christmas as WECA said that there could be no duplication on the route. This is extremely frustrating as rerouting the 522 was in our network Proposal presented last summer, publicised in the press, to residents, via the Parish Councils etc. and has been the subject of discussions with First Bus and WECA.</p> <p>The suggestion of traffic lights at pinch points in Camerton and Timsbury have not progressed since T&D requested it before</p>	
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	<p>Christmas. But both seem a good idea. Whether there is funding is another issue and maybe Matt can give more information about this.</p> <p>WECA was trying to make improvements to the Westlink service before Christmas (including making the zones smaller to try to improve the service). I have not heard any more about that but have chased up WECA for more information.</p> <p>Sarah Warren and I are in contact with Somerset Council transport leadership and bus campaigners about a number of issues including cross-border buses and will discuss Clive and Damien's Wells to Bath express idea (which could also go via the A367)</p> <p>1330 people have signed the Bus Petition (www.banesbuspetition.org.uk) which is impressive. The next opportunity to confront WECA about the absence of rural buses is on 26 January and I will send an email out to everyone who signed it with an update on action and how people can make comments/statements etc.</p> <p>Cllr Robinson requested that the traffic lights at pinch points should be pursued anyway as these are two areas already</p>	
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		difficult for traffic.	
5.2	Update on the Dunkerton Bus Shelter Street Light Repair	A quote has still not been received so this item closed until the broken light gets raised again.	Clerk
5.3	Update on Increased Dog Waste in Tunley	This matter reported to Fix My Street with the report now being closed by BANES as being resolved. However dog waste remains a problem with all previous suggestions for tackling this problem discussed. Therefore the matter closed until anyone can come up with an effective solution. In the meantime Cllr Orme to circulate a possible poster warning people of the consequences that could be displayed.	Cllr Orme
5.4	Update on Disparity between Meeting Room Hire Costs	The parish council has been advised that the TRC will charge us the same rate as the DPH i.e. £15 per meeting from January 2024.	
5.5	Update on Possible Change of Use of the Tunley Recreation Centre (TRC)	This is on the agenda for the TRC's January 16 trustee meeting.	
5.6	Update on Submission to BANES of Manders Orchard as a Nature Site	As the land is within the Somer Valley Rediscovered project area and also within a strategic nature recovery zone BANES has advised that Manders Orchard has been mapped as a nature site	

		and made available online for their partners and potential funders who might be interested in the site.	
6	URGENT BUSINESS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN	None.	
7	FINANCE		
7.1	Financial Report including 3rd qtr forecast	The balance of funds as at 11 January is £13,775.71. Forecast against Budget 2023 2024 3rd quarter. Total receipts forecast to be up £646 at year end as compared to budget. Total Payments forecast to down by £395. Overall this means that a deficit of £1,100 is forecast compared to the budget which resulted in a deficit of £2,141. A report on the key variances was circulated prior to the meeting.	
7.2	Approval of the Budget and Precept Level for 2024 2025	In light of the decision taken in June to increase the precept by 50% spread across two years, 25% for 24/25 followed by a further 25% for 25/26 only one version of the draft budget has been circulated. It was unanimously resolved to approve the draft budget with the increase in the precept as agreed in June 2023 as this would help to address the situation where the council's operating costs exceed income. Based on the paper	Clerk/RFO

		prepared by Cllr Robinson in June 2023 it was agreed to add to the next meeting agenda consideration of increasing usage and/or raising revenue from Manders Orchard and consideration of incorporating Upper Tunley into Dunkerton & Tunley parish.	
7.3	Payments for Approval	Approved. Details can be found in Appendix 1.	Clerk
8	PLANNING		
8.1	BANES Planning Decisions	Planning Application REF 22/02169/EOUT Parcel 4234 Combe Hay Lane Combe Hay Outline application for Phases 3 and 4 for up to 300 dwellings; landscaping; drainage; open space; footpaths and emergency access; all matters reserved, except access from Coombe Hay Lane via the approved Phase 1 spine road (details of internal roads and footpaths reserved); (ii) Detailed application for the continuation of the spine road (from Phase 1), to and through Sulis Manor and associated works comprising: the demolition of existing dilapidated buildings and tree removal; drainage; landscaping; lighting; and boundary treatment; to enable construction of the spine road, and (iii) Detailed application for landscaping; mitigation works; allotments; including access; on the field known as Derrymans.	

		<p>PENDING DECISION.</p> <p>Planning Application REF 23/04142/FUL 1 North Hill Cottages Tunley Road Tunley Conversion of existing garage to a holiday let PENDING DECISION.</p> <p>Planning Application REF 23/03554/FUL Greenways Stoneage Lane Tunley Erection of 1no 2 storey dwelling to replace existing bungalow. PENDING DECISION.</p> <p>22/00378/UNAUTH - The Batch Tunley – nothing new to report.</p> <p>23/00462/NONCOM - New Farm, Marksbury Lane – nothing new to report</p>	
8.2	Planning Correspondence and other Planning Related Matters	The new Local Plan Options document will be consulted on in Feb/March.	
9	NEW ISSUES RAISED BY COUNCILLORS/PARISHIONERS		
9.1	Update on Flooding Issues in the Parish following a meeting with BANES Council	In light of the recent weather Dunkerton has suffered 3 flooding issues. Following Cllr Orme's meeting with BANES drainage BANES will undertake some work on the watercourse in the cricket field which may uncover a drain BANES think may be	

		associated with the flooding in a property's garden situated on the corner of Combe Hay Lane. Cllr Robinson suggested that some of this flooding may be related to improvements to the drainage improvements at Manor House Bend on the B3115. Cllr Orme to advise BANES. The issue may also be associated with the foul drainage on the east side of the road which could not be located during a house sale some time ago. In addition recently 2 other properties in Dunkerton village have been flooded.	Cllr Orme
10	OTHER ISSUES FOR THE ATTENTION OF DISTRICT WARD COUNCILLORS	None.	
11	DATE OF NEXT MEETING Thursday 22 February 2024 7.30 pm Dunkerton Parish Hall		

Appendix 1 – Payments for Approval

Dunkerton & Tunley Parish Council Payments for approval at meeting 11 January 2024

Payments to Ratify

28 November	Direct Debit	Street Lighting October	£30.48
30 November	Standing Order	Clerk's Net Salary November	£536.23
31 December	Standing Order	Clerks December Salary	£536.23

(Standing Order to be adjusted in January when new net figure known)

31 December	Bank Fee	Quarterly Service Charge	£18.00
2 January	Direct Debit	Cricket Club Water Bill June to Nov	£39.73

Payments for Approval

11 January	Bank Transfer	Clerks Expenses Oct Nov	£129.93
11 January	Bank Transfer	ALCA Training New Cllr	£40.00
11 January	Bank Transfer	MSN Dial A Ride Grant	£30.00
11 January	Bank Transfer	Net 8 months back pay and uplift Clerk's salary	£249.83