

DAUNTSEY PARISH COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING HELD 25th MARCH 2008

Present: Councillor Vines (Chair) and Councillors Mrs. Blacker, Barnicoat, Potter, Chapman, Smith, Cllr. Bond,

Also present: Cllr. T. Sturgis (NWDC) 13 members of the public

The notice of the meeting had been given in accordance with Schedule 12 para. 10(2) of the Local Government Act 1972.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Sheila Wade. Flooding close to M4. Regarded to be due to blockage, which cannot be moved as there may be newts/voles. It seems to be agreed that there is a way to proceed, timescale approx 2 months. This will involve capture and relocation. It may be earlier if there is a perceived health and safety issue.

Bridget Huck. Sodom Lane has been experiencing significant usage of mobile phones and suggested that local police should be informed. Cllr. Chapman reported that he had emailed and Cllr Sturgis had raised at County Hall today.

Mike Buggins. Thanked Cllr. Chapman re meeting notes. He has knowledge regarding culvert location, which may be of use to Ed Davis. Cllr Barnicoat was aware that there is a main one outside Vale Cottage. It was commented that grips cut in The Green have allowed water to move between ditch and roads causing flooding in homes not previously affected. In 30 years not known flooding so bad in field opposite (between Green and M4) Cllr. Vines to raise at NWDC Friday.

Cllr. Potter. Only "A" side being investigated by EA, there is now problem on "B" side possibly causing problems for The Green. (A side to Bristol, B side to London)

REPORTS FROM COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Councillor Vines reported that he had attended the Malmesbury Area Committee, where representative of the Environment Agency, Highways Agency and other local authorities. The priority was large numbers of flooded properties not small numbers and this is where the European funding came from when the Bellwin formula was triggered. Most of the funding received had been targeted at Swindon and Gloucester.

Councillor Sturgis reported that the Environment Agency was being very cooperative about consents to do flood alleviation work, at Crudwell the river has been surveyed in the last three years. Dauntsey is on the agenda for the flood forum this forthcoming Friday and hopefully funding will be found for identifying where the problems are.

It was noted that this is the worst flooding experienced for 30 years and that the river came up faster than ever known before.

Councillor Sturgis responded that getting accurate data is the biggest problem.

Councillor Sturgis reported that County Councillor Mrs Soden is making good progress with her recovery, unfortunately he had to report on behalf of the County Council that the request for the 30 mph did not get onto the list for consideration this year.

22/08 APOLOGIES – were received from County Cllr. Mrs. Soden

23/08 DECLARATION(S) OF INTEREST

Cllr. Smith declared a personal interest in item 04/08 as a member of the PCC

24/08 MINUTES

Members had previously been circulated with the Minutes. The Minutes were amended to show Cllr. Barnicoat as being in attendance. Cllr Potter proposed, Cllr Blacker seconded it was unanimously

RESOLVED: that subject to the amendment to receive, approve and sign as a true record the Minutes of the following Meetings

Parish Council Meeting held 27th February 2008

25/08 PLANNING

Amended Description – to note change of description for the following shown in italics

08/00294/FUL

Erection of 4 Employment Units, Associated Access Road and Construction of Attenuation Pond and use of land as Open Space (*Revision to Reserved Matters 05/00612/REM Resulting in Total of Six Employment Unit*) Great Middle Green Farm, Dauntsey

Councillor Mrs. Blacker queried if the Clerk had submitted the comments on this application from the previous meeting because they were not showing on the NWDC website, the Clerk confirmed she had well within the time allowed and would copy the e mail to Cllr. Mrs. Blacker if she required proof.

Withdrawn – to receive notice of the withdrawal of the following application

07/03148/FUL

Erection of Temporary Dwelling Field 4857, Idoover Lane, Dauntsey

RESOLVED: That this information is noted.

26/08 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

a) Schedule of receipts and invoices for payment

Receipt

Payments

Clerks Salary & Expenses March 2008	£ 192.29
Dauntsey PCC –donation to grasscutting	£ 200.00
WCC Recreation Field Rental 2007/2008	£ 135.00

Proposed Cllr. Mrs. Blacker, seconded Cllr. Potter and unanimously

RESOLVED : That the payments are approved

Cllr. Smith declared a personal interest in the following item

b) Request from Dauntsey PCC for assistance towards upkeep of graveyard
Members noted that a sum of £200 had previously been awarded.

RESOLVED : That a sum of £200 should be added to the schedule of payments

c) Parish Notice boards

Cllr. Mrs. Blacker reported that a sum of £2,000 had been awarded from the Area Committee towards the purchase of two new and two replacement notice boards, this would be match funded by £2,000 allocated in the Parish Council's budget for 2008/2009. A short discussion took place on the design and locations, it was confirmed that wood was the preferred material for the new boards.

RESOLVED : That Cllr. Mrs. Blacker will report back to the next meeting with recommendations on design, location and cost.

d) Availability of funding through Cash for Communities - it was noted that this grant funding would be available from Area 1 Committee for environmental projects, village halls etc. Two suggestions were put forward
recycling point for village
new play equipment

It was suggested consideration be given to coming up with a scheme.

e) Finalise Accounts for Parish Plan and discuss future of assets

The Clerk had been given various documents by Cllr. Mrs. Blacker but other than confirming the accounts agreed with her figures was not sure what else was required from her. Cllr. Mrs. Blacker reported it had to be the Parish Clerk who completed the documents, the Clerk queried this as the original application form had been completed by Cllr. Mrs. Blacker. It was agreed the Clerk should seek clarification.

In respects of the assets held by the Parish Plan Working Group the following was agreed

The printer should be made available to the Dauntsey Vale Link Group

The gazebo and display boards should be held by the Dauntsey PCC with the proviso that they be stored at the Church but made available for community use if approached.

27/08

CLERKS REPORT – To note items received for circulation and/or future discussion and items to be updated from previous meeting
NWDC Development Control Agendas 20th February, 12th March – **not circulated - no items for Dauntsey**

One Council for Wiltshire – **Further meet and greet Meetings 16th April 2008 Neeld Hall Chippenham 6.30 p.m**

Powerpoint presentation given at Malmesbury Area 1 Committee held 23rd January 2008 – **for information**

Minutes of the Foxham & Lyneham Branch of the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust January 2008 – **for information**

Report on presentation given by Boundary Commission regarding forthcoming boundary review – including power point - **for information**

County of Wiltshire – (District of North Wiltshire) (Civil Parking Enforcement) Amendment Order 2008 – **for information**

Audit Commission – confirmation of Mazars as external Auditors until 2011/12 – **for information**

Travel Scheme 2008 – Bus pass for Free Travel – leaflets and application forms – **for distribution**

WALC Newsletter March 2008 and enclosures – **for information**

Clerk & Council's Direct – **for information**

Flooding North Wiltshire – Exemption from Council Tax for uninhabitable homes – **for information if relevant to anyone in Dauntsey**

WCC Love Food Hate Waste Campaign – **for Information**

Rural Arts Programme January to June 2008 – **for Information**

Evaluation of the need for a rough Sleepers Count in North Wiltshire – **for completion**

Late items due to re-direction

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust Bio-diversity programme – **for information and completion of questionnaire**

CVS Newsletter – **for information**

Trade Information from

Wicksteed

RESOLVED : That these items are circulated to Councillors

28/08 FORMAL CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED ELECTORAL DIVISIONS FOR THE NEW UNITARY WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

Members discussed the proposed boundary changes and it was noted that the elected representation under the Unitary Council would be reduced to one member from the present situation of one County and two District Councillors representing the ward. After discussion it was agreed that the proposed change was sensible in terms of the representation within the community area.

RESOLVED : that this comment will be submitted by 17th April 2008

29/08 REVIEW OF WORKING WITH THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR

The Clerk reported that Consultation on the report would be achieved by comment or suggestions via completion of the Questionnaire or by attending an event.

RESOLVED : that the documents be circulated and placed back on the next agenda.

30/08 PARISH WEBSITE

It was noted that four persons are currently on the Website Steering Group and that a decision is required on who will represent the parish council as their voice and contribute to the Parish Council page. Cllr Chapman proposed, Cllr. Mrs. Blacker seconded and unanimously

RESOLVED : that Cllr. Vines should represent the Parish Council for the coming 12 months.

31/08 ROSPA – PLAY EQUIPMENT REPORT

Councillor Mrs. Blacker reported that Sovereign a ROSPA approved play equipment company had prepared some ideas for a 27 metre track style development as a possible improvement to the play area at a cost of £3,349. This would leave the pitch area open as it would be installed on the grass side of the old road in a continuous circuit. It was considered that any scheme should also include a quote for fencing the brook.

RESOLVED : That Cllr. Mrs. Blacker should report back on a comprehensive scheme costed to include fencing the brook and with consideration of bark surfacing.

32/08 HIGHWAY MATTERS

a) Roadworks - closure at St James

Cllr. Barnicoat reported that he felt the contractors should be thanked as they had done an excellent job in keeping the road open and traffic moving wherever possible, although he was aware that they had been verbally abused on one occasion by

someone kept waiting two minutes. It was agreed the Clerk should send a letter to the contractors.

b) 30 mph request for Sodom Lane – this matter had been discussed earlier but it was agreed the Chairman should copy the letter to Cllr. Chapman to pursue.

c) Parish Stewards Spring Programme and a request had been received for a local contact to improve communication. It was noted that the next visit would be 10th April and Cllr. Potter was designated as the local contact.

33/08 NEGOTIATION WITH NWDC REGARDING THE RECREATION FIELD LEASE

The Chairman reported that due to the length of time since the 1st offer was made and that they must get the best price the County Council would not move on the total sum required to have the long term lease. It was noted that with only short term leases there would be no opportunity to apply for larger scale grant aid. Members had a discussion on their view of the benefits of leasing the recreation field long term with a 99 year lease.

Cllr. Vines proposed, Cllr. Mrs. Blacker seconded and unanimously

RESOLVED : That the field should be retained for the longer period.

Cllr. Mrs. Blacker proposed, Cllr. Bond seconded and unanimously

RESOLVED : That the availability of match funding for the lease should be explored.

34/08 UPDATE ON FLOODING ISSUES

Cllr. Chapman reported that flooding newsletters have been sent out. Questions had been asked about representatives from parishes going on to Flood Forum, but they had been told it was just for elected members. It was felt that this should be considered as the parish had information that others may not have about where things are and especially what it was like before the motorway was built. All information should be shared, but there are no standard maps and the local community are aware that water is coming from strange locations. There is lots of inter-related information to pass on the Environment Agency but it is a matter of finding the right level. Two Environment Agency managers have agreed to be involved, unfortunately the awaited report is not now expected until the middle of the year. Ed Davis is relaying information to Cllr. Chapman but they are still only addressing the problems at Dauntsey Brook.

Cllr. Vines mentioned a letter from Barrie and Sylvia Willerton, which will be copied to those concerned. It is apparent that there needs to be comprehensive drainage and dredging of ditches. The Environment Agency is not happy with weeds just being sprayed off as it still slows the flow down.

A discussion took place on the benefits of drainage boards whose responsibility it is to ensure that all drainage ditches in an area are maintained to a standard, further discussion took place on the establishment of a drainage committee to gather information on behalf of the Parish Council and the community.

Cllr. Chapman proposed Cllr. Potter seconded and unanimously

RESOLVED : That a drainage committee is established to gather information for dissemination to the relevant authorities.

A further discussion took place on flooding at Dauntsey Lock, where water is crossing the road and flooding the pub car park to a depth of 6 " or more. It was felt that the problem could be blocked culverts and badly positioned and poorly maintained drains and gullies, which are not allowing the water to drain into the ditches. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Danny Everett WCC about the problems by the Peterborough Arms and Dauntsey Lock in general.

35/08 BEST KEPT VILLAGE CONTEST

It was agreed the Village should enter Cllr. Vines will complete the entry forms on behalf of the Parish Council and submit to the CPRE.

36/08 COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Cllr. Barnicoat raised concern at the Pennine stone being used in the construction at Great Middle Green Farm as it was not felt to have been the material specified in the NWDC permission.

Cllr. Vines reported that the Public Open Space was still not resolved, and as such none of the houses should have been occupied until it had. NWDC were considering enforcement action.

Cllr. Smith reported that the Doctors surgery would move to Malmesbury in June.

Cllr. Mrs. Blacker asked the Clerk why the School Governors were not informed of the Parish Council's meetings. The Clerk responded that she had never been informed that they should be but suggested that if someone would like to supply an email address they could be sent agendas.

37/08 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting on April 22nd which will commence at 7.00 p.m. Items for the agenda will include a flooding update and lack of kerbside recycling. There will be a short Parish Council Meeting immediately following the Annual Parish Meeting.

Councillor Vines
Chairman

Date 22nd April 2008