

DONYATT PARISH COUNCIL.

Minutes of the Parish Council held on 13th March 2024 in the David Willis room @ 19.00hrs, Present: Cllr D Light, Cllr K Light, Cllr Porritt, Cllr McKenzie, Cllr M Grabham. Z Bougourd (Clerk).

24/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr Attlesey.

24/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS: None

24/22 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: No members of the public were present.

24/25 PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

There is currently one vacancy on the council. An application has been received from Mr. Steven Payne. Councillors voted unanimously in favour of co-opting Mr Payne to the council, who duly signed the declaration of acceptance of office and was invited to join the meeting.

24/26 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16th JANUARY 2024.

Approved.

24/27 Matters arising:

- a) **Ilminster – Canal Way development.** Cllr D Light, on behalf of Donyatt Parish Council and residents, will attend a meeting in Ilminster on 14/3/24 of the South West of Canal Way Development Liaison Group.
- b) **Sea – traffic calming/speed limit update:** Cllr McKenzie reported that she had met with Ilminster TC and SCC representatives and received a positive response. Cllr McKenzie received further information immediately prior to the meeting, this was discussed; there is a requirement for an initial contribution of £250.00 for data collection. Due to the late notification of this financial request, this proposal will be ratified at the next DPC meeting. The process will involve drawing up a plan, SCC will produce this, and then forwarding it to relevant authorities including the Police. There will be an opportunity for Sea residents to comment, but a formal consultation is not required. There are several stages to complete before any actual signage is installed, but the speed reduction to 40mph through Sea has been approved and should be completed within 18 months. It was unanimously agreed to go ahead with this scheme, any further financial implications will be discussed at the appropriate time, Cllr McKenzie considered that local businesses may be able to contribute towards overall costs. The Council thanked Cllr Mc Kenzie for her work to date on this challenging project.
- c) **D-Day arrangements:** Cllr K Light reported that she had contacted Hoppy Mare mobile bar who were able to provide drinks for the event. Jimmy Attlesey can provide a mobile generator; Cllr K Light is liaising with DRAC for the use of a marquee and arranging for the grass on the recreation ground to be cut. The beacon will be lit at 21.15hrs, there is sufficient wood for this. Cllr K Light also

hopes to engage a jazz band, Cllr McKenzie's partner may be able to provide posters. John Grabham is arranging for a tug of war or It's a Knockout type activity. Phil King may be able to compere, a PA system is required, this is under discussion.

d) DPC banking arrangements – see item 7

e) Speed Indicator Devices(SIDS) . Cllr McKenzie noted that during her meeting with Ilminster regarding speed limits through Sea, it had been noted that there is a community fund which may be able to contribute towards the cost of purchasing and installing SIDS in Donyatt. It was noted that the current DPC insurance policy will only cover the units and any resulting replacements/issues if the units are installed by qualified installers.

24/28 FINANCIAL: It was noted that the year-end projection is slightly lower than expected. The clerk is now receiving bank statements from Natwest, but there has been a gap since September 2023 until February 2024 which made producing and projecting expenditure challenging.

The schedule of cheques was approved and signed. The payment for a SIDS unit was deleted in view of the above information.

It was noted that SCC had not provided any relevant information regarding withdrawal of services, any financial implications for the coming years 2024/5 are therefore currently unknown.

24/29 Planning:

a) Sea Mills Ref: 24/00425/PAMB. Prior Approval Notification for the change of use of an agricultural building into 2 no dwellinghouses. Tabled and noted, no comment.

b) Willow Farm, Whitney Hill: 24/00263/FUL. Proposed demolition of an existing agricultural building and the change of use, conversion and extension of another agricultural building to a single dwelling with garage, store and garden curtilage. Tabled and noted – no comment.

c) Thurlbear Woods: Timber harvesting work at Thurlbear Woods. Tabled and noted – no comment.

d) Earth bank/slurry lagoon at Greenway Lane, Combe St Nicholas. Cllr D Light had emailed SCC planning department, mirroring the concerns raised by Combe St Nicholas. Concerns include the location, potential environmental impact and necessity for this development.

24/30 Bank Accounts: Due to ongoing issues with current account holders Natwest, it was unanimously agreed to ratify the resolution noted in the Agenda:
At the meeting held on the 13th March 2024 it was resolved to move all monies currently held with Natwest Bank plc to Unity Bank as soon as possible. The clerk was instructed to action this resolution.

- 24/31** **Drainage and Flood prevention:** The report from SCC was tabled and noted. Cllr D Light carried out site visits with Derek Davies from SCC and is awaiting a plan for Donyatt from Mr. Davies. Cllr McKenzie noted that there is a “flood resilience fund” which may be used to engage flood resilience wardens. It was noted that a culvert on the A358 is partially collapsed – SCC are aware.
- 24/32** **Road safety improvements through Sea** – see item 24/7a.
- 24/33** **Dates for:**
a) **Annual Parish Meeting** – 1st May 2024 @ 7pm in the Village Hall
b) **Annual Parish Council Meeting** – 1st May 2024 @ 7.30pm in the David Willis Room.
- 24/34** **Temporary closure of footpath CH11/Donyatt** – tabled and noted, no comment.
- 24/35** **DPC website** – the Clerk demonstrated progress to date on the new website, Further updated will be provided when available. Cllrs were supportive of the progress to date.
- 24/36** **Cllr updates:**
a) **Highways** – Cllr Porritt noted that SCC have yet to confirm their exact statutory obligations and service provision for the next financial year. No other matters of report.
b) **Footpaths** – Cllr D Light – nothing of note, see item 24/34.
c) **Donyatt Village Hall:** Cllr Porritt asked when the annual grant would be received. Historically this has been sent out after the precept has been received.
d) **Donyatt Recreation Area:** Nothing to report.
e)

Actions:

Clerk to contact Ilminster TC & SCC re funding for SIDS.

Cllr McKenzie – continue to seek further information regarding Flood Resilience fund/wardens

Clerk to contact Unity Bank after Council approval of minutes

Clerk – issue notices for Annual Meetings in accordance with legislation.

Cllr D Light – compiling list of volunteers to maintain/inspect footpaths.

Cllr Attlesey – arrange for graffiti removal at Donyatt Holt and Cold Harbour Bridge

Clerk – enquire regarding ownership of Donyatt Recreation Area and possible transfer of ownership.

A formal welcome was made to Mr. Steven Payne following his co-option onto the Council.

The meeting closed at 21.32hrs.

The next meeting, which is the Annual General Parish Council meeting will be held on the 1st May 2024 @ 19.30hrs.