

DALWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Dalwood Parish Council held in Dalwood Village Hall on Monday, 13 March 2023 at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllr Mrs K GF Laing (Chairman), Cllr P H Lawrence, Cllr L P White, Cllr Mrs C M Wyatt, Hilary Horley (Minutes), Ct & Distr Cllr I Chubb and 5 members of the public were in attendance - Alex & Jeremy Frankpitt (Sunnylands Chicken Farm), Mark & Dawn Legge and Andrew Ross

Cllr Laing welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Laing reported apologies had been received from Cllr A P Benger, Cllr G J Perry and Owain Morgan (Footpaths Warden).

2. Minutes:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2023 having been circulated, were confirmed and signed.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

- 2a - Replacement of the Jubilee Oak - Cllr Laing reported it had been replaced with what Cllr Wyatt suggested was a Beech Tree. Cllr Laing recalled the Parish was going to be given a commemorative plaque, and she said she would ask Cllr Benger to pursue with EDCC.
- 2b - Road Warden Scheme - Cllr Chubb said he had volunteered to do a 2 day 'Check Road' training course down in Cornwall which would enable him to appraise the condition of a road and, where necessary, carry out work on the road. He said although he would be doing this for Kilmington, he would be prepared to include Dalwood as well. Andrew Ross reported he had continued to mark on Devon County Council's pothole reporting map, the positions of those potholes in Dalwood that were in need of repair. Of the 30 he had recently added, only 7 had been marked to be repaired. The remaining 23 had been removed. Now all 'triangle markers' had been removed, but none of those 7 potholes had been repaired. He questioned what had happened and advocated one of the Parish Councillors should assume responsibility for ensuring the repairs, once reported, were actually carried out, and if not, why not. Cllr Laing wondered whether Cllr Perry might volunteer but Cllr Lawrence felt it better to wait until after the elections in May and then decide who would take responsibility. Mark Legge suggested the Parish Council obtain a copy of the Schedule of Works. Cllr Laing undertook to contact Dave Ashford, Devon County Council's Highways Officer, and in the meantime urged everyone to continue reporting the potholes.

4. Financial Matters:

- 4a Cllr Laing reported she had received a bill for the new bus shelters on the A35, but Highways had stated the shelters did not comply with requirements' and may have to be removed. Cllr Chubb questioned whether a Planning Application had been submitted. Having checked 'on line', Cllr Hodges confirmed an Application had been made but there had been no comments from Highways, Devon County Council and the various other organisations affected, and it had accordingly been granted. He undertook to send Cllr Laing the 'link'. Cllr Lawrence agreed to pursue with Devon Highways. With regard to the £8k bill for the bus shelters, clarification needed to be sought from Alan Bright as to whether the bill received was an interim or final account.
- 4b Cllr Chubb informed Councillors of a planned road closure in Dalwood on 19 April to enable 'surface dressing', from Moorcox Cross to Burrow Corner. He added there would be a letter drop to the five properties affected.
- 4c Cllr Laing reported she had received a letter from TRIPP asking for a donation from Dalwood Parish Council. It was agreed the request be held in abeyance.

5. Ongoing Matters:

Update on Water Quality Monitoring Survey - Cllr Wyatt reported no phosphates had been found in the water.

6. Planning Matters:

- 6a Sunnylands Chicken Farm House - The owners, Alex and Jeremy Frankpitt, introduced themselves and said they had 'pulled' the previous planning application and submitted new plans. The Planning Officer had visited the site the previous week, and having viewed the revised plans, had warmed to the application. The owners hoped Cllr Chubb and the Parish Council would support the revised application. Cllr Hodges said he had viewed the new plans and had no objections. Cllr Laing the comment would be conveyed to East Team Planning, EDDC.
- 6b Cllr Wyatt explained the applicant's agricultural plans and said they had also applied for a temporary mobile home on site.
- 6c 4 Mowbars Hayes - Cllr Laing commented this was purely 'infilling' between the garage and the bungalow. No objections were raised.
- 6d Laurel Cottage - Cllr Hodges declared an interest as he was a friend of the applicants. He explained the building was in a dilapidated condition and the owners wished to restore and convert it into a dwelling, with a view to renting it out. The external appearance of the building would not be altered. Noted.

7. Parish Paths

Cllr Laing said she had been informed there were a lot of brambles that were blocking the water way in Haydon's Field. It was agreed she would ask Shaun Burns to clear them away.

8. Maintenance Matters:

- 8a Notice Boards - Cllr Laing said no problems had been reported.
- 8b Telephone Box - Cllr Laing said John Gostling would be repainting the kiosk.
- 8c Bus Shelters - Cllr referred to the discussion earlier in the meeting.
- 8d Trees, Seats & Rivers - There was a brief discussion about the laurels than had been planted at Hutchins Barton, but Councillors were mindful it was private land. Cllr Laing then informed the owner, Alan Guest, had reported a blocked drain to Devon County Council and an attempt had been made to clear the blockage but without success. However, Mr Guest would continue to pursue the matter, and Cllr Chubb said he would look into what had been a 'right of way' from Hutchins Barton to the other side of the river.
- 8e Boundary Stone - Cllr Laing said there was nothing to report.
- 8f Any Other Maintenance Matters - There were no other maintenance matters.

9. King's Coronation:

Cllr Laing said arrangements would be put in hand for a plaque commemorating the event to be added to the Memorial Stone by the bridge. She then reported the Dalwood Recreation Trust was planning, on the evening of the Coronation, a BBQ event for the Village on the Jubilee Field. She asked whether the Parish Council would contribute towards the cost of the food. Following some discussion, by a majority vote, it was agreed the sum of £250 be donated.

10. Public Forum:

- 10a Dawn Legge commented upon the gravel that had washed down the track next to Heronsmead into the road. Cllr White said he would arrange for it to be cleared.
- 10b Mark Legge referred to the scarcity of charging points for electric vehicles in the area, and said he would be happy to allow visitors to the village to use his point, and added he would donate the charges to the village. Cllr Hodges thought this was a good idea as he too had a charging point. He referred to the Plug Share App and said he would explore the feasibility.
- 10c Cllr Chubb said he would send his Devon County Report to the Parish Council. He then referred to the District Council Elections in May, and to the new requirement for voters to produce Photo ID at the Polling Station.