

**DOWN ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023 in the Village Hall**

Present: Mr J. Tucker, Ms P. Rogers, Mr A. Clark, Mr M. Austin, Mr R. Hodgson, Mr S. Penny and Mr A. Martin [Clerk]

Apologies: Mrs. N. Letch and Mr P. Seller

[2023/7/1] The **Minutes** of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023 which had been circulated were amended and then approved.

[2] **Matters Arising:** There was a discussion about painting the bus shelter. Mr Barber had agreed to undertake this but had not yet done this nor replied to an e-mail. Agreed to give him a deadline of August. Mr Hodgson suggested the work could be done by a work party or another contractor. Further quotes to be obtained.

[3] **Public Conveniences.** MDDC would be issuing a new invoice. Action: Clerk to produce a list of invoices so far received. MDDC to be questioned about the reduced number of toilets, considering that the fee had not been reduced.

[4] **Village Green etc :** Mr Austin is to produce a map showing the proposed planting around the green. He suggested that a little section near the orchard should be used for a trial area. A notice would be put up to show what is planned so that any objections could be raised. This could be discussed at the September meeting.

Mr Austin suggested the planting of lavender to attract bees & butterflies. Mr Tucker said that daffodils could be planted along the verge of the trial area. Mr Austin said that other plants could be planted between the orchard trees.

Part of the stone wall at the top of the green was crumbling & needed repair.

The dog warden would be patrolling regularly. Action: This to be mentioned on the website and the Facebook page.

A new position for the dog-poo bin was agreed. This would be near the stile on Union Hill.

**[5] Finance:**

Current Account Balance as at 28/4/2023 .....£17,765.30

INCOME: None

Signed ..... Date .....

EXPENDITURE:

Cheques cashed :

408 Community First [Insurance].....	£189.85
409 Stapletons [Accountants] .....	£96.00
411 Ms P. Rogers [Rounders] .....	£32.99
412 Ms P Rogers [Scones] .....	£120.65
413 A. J Tucker [Hire of Loos] .....	£252.00
414 Mrs. M. Tucker [Clotted Cream] .....	£102.60
416 R. Hodgson .....	£ 96.54
417 Ms. J. Sey .....	£140.10

Current Account Balance as at 27/6/2023.....£16,734.57

Cheques issued:

410 Mike Leach [Grasscutting] .....	£200.00
415 A. Martin [Clerk's Salary] .....	£500.00
418 A.Martin [Flowers] .....	£40.00

Business Reserve Account Balance as at 5/5/2023 .....£11,627.26

Interest: May .....£11.29

Business Reserve Account Balance as at 7/6/2023.....£11,638.55

REQUESTS FOR PAYMENT:

M. Leach [Grasscutting May/June]..... £200.00

This payment was agreed.

6] **Planning:** Conversion of garage to living accommodation and single storey rear extension, raising of roof of house to create 2 bedrooms, erection of new garage and utility room with 2 bedrooms above Ellicombe House Morchard Road Crediton Devon EX17 5LS Ref. No: 23/01006/House

The Council had objections to this proposal. The extension seemed too big and the house was in a prominent position. They wondered if there was an agricultural tie on the building. More information was needed and the application should be deferred until there had been a site visit by a planning officer.

7] **Statutory Documents:** These were reviewed and re-approved.

Signed ..... Date .....

8] **Village Plan:** It was noted that Copplestone is growing. There is no infrastructure on the next area of the A377.

9] There had been reports of a car abandoned by the bus shelter. Ms Rogers and Mr Hodgson had since spoken to the owner.

10] Date of next meeting: Tuesday 12th September

**Further Dates for 2023:**

Tuesday 10th October, Tuesday 14th November, Tuesday 12th December

Anthony Martin, Clerk

28/8/2023

Signed ..... Date .....