18/25-26

DYMOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Ordinary Meeting held on

Tuesday, 10th June at 7.30pm in Dymock Parish Hall

Present: Cllrs Tony Eagle (in the Chair); N Fairburn; I Bruce; G Kilmurray; T Blandford; B Rose.

In attendance: Rachel Freestone – Clerk
Gill Moseley – County Councillor

Public: 4

1. **To receive and accept apologies for absence:**
Apologies had been received and accepted from Cllr John George.

2. **To receive any declarations of interest or written applications for dispensation from Councillors on agenda items:**
There was none.

3. **Public Participation:**
A member of the public mentioned that it is good news that the road through the village is being resurfaced.

4. **Reports:**

a. To receive a report from County Councillor Gill Moseley:
County Cllr Moseley reported that the Liberal Democrats are 1 short of a cabinet majority so hopes decisions will move forward more easily. They will address the 20mph speed limits with parish councils to be asked for any expressions of interest. The 20mph speed limit will not be a blanket change but in places where requested. She added that the Robin bookable bus service is now running. No timetable but is booked via their website or a phone call. It stops at all known bus stops and recognised places, Monday – Saturday between 7am and 7pm. Its aim is to link rural areas with the main bus route links. It will not cross into different regions. *A member of the public asked how big the bus is?* Between a minibus and service bus. The details of the service can be found on the GCC website.

b. To receive a report from District Councillor Gill Kilmurray:
District Cllr Kilmurray report attached as Appendix 1.

5. **Minutes:**

a. Members considered the minutes of the Extra Parish Council Meeting held on the 8th May 2025. **It was RESOLVED:** to approve the minutes as a correct record. They were duly signed by the Chair.

b. Members considered the minutes of the Parish Council Annual Meeting held on the 13th May 2025. **It was RESOLVED:** to approve the minutes as a correct record. They were duly signed by the Chair.

6. **NDP and Community Action Plan:**

a. To receive an update on the Community Action Plan: Cllr Fairburn commented that there is nothing further to add currently.

7. **Beauchamp Arms:**

a. To receive an update on the progress of the Building Control submission to FoDDC: Cllr Kilmurray informed members that nothing heard as yet.

b. To consider any quotes received for the Oil Tank: Cllr Kilmurray informed members that the oil tank is the priority with the tank now drained of fuel and the tenant using solely electricity. Waiting for a second quote. Cllr Eagle commented that the original plan was to move the gas cylinders but it is difficult to find someone registered for both gas and oil. *Cllr Bruce asked if the contacts he had forwarded had been approached?* Confirmed they had not. **Action:** Clerk to send the contractor list to Cllr Kilmurray. Cllr Kilmurray added that there had been a number of instances of water in the oil tank with water then drawn into the boiler causing it to malfunction. The tenant has paid a number of invoices to Greenman and has requested that the costs be split 50/50 with a possible reduction in rent of £500? The oil tank has been drained of fuel so is an ideal time to replace it. *A member asked if there is a need to move the gas now?* No, it is aesthetics. **It was**

RESOLVED: Cllr Kilmurray to obtain a third quote. **It was RESOLVED:** The monthly rent to remain unchanged. The Clerk to contact the tenant to request an invoice for £500 to contribute to the boiler costs.

c. To consider any other maintenance/matters arising: Cllr Kilmurray informed that need to get 3 quotes for the chimney stack as there is damp in the bedroom. *A member queried whether the damp is coming in from the chimney?* Not certain but likely. **It was RESOLVED:** the BAWG to obtain 3 quotes.
The flooring in the back bar is being addressed, the tenant has agreed to pay for this. There are 27 issues on the spreadsheet arising from the Health and Safety Audit with only 5 outstanding and being addressed. Legionella testing had been assumed as a job for Greenman however, there may be better more cost effective options.

d. To receive a report from the FOBA representative:
Tricia Greenwood, on behalf of FOBA, commented that not much to report. A request for permission to use Wintours Green for the dog show/Proms on the Green had been sent to the Clerk. They have completed a Risk Assessment for the event and will provide a copy to the Clerk. Thanks were given to FOBA.

8. Common Land/Assets:

a. Members NOTED the playground inspection for May.

b. Members considered the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 1 (commonly known as 'Martyn's Law') which became law on the 1st June and how it affects events held on Wintours Green. **It was AGREED** that it is prudent to start looking at it. Need further information on how applies to events held on Wintours Green and attendance at the GAPTC training will hopefully clarify this. To complete robust Risk Assessments for any events on Wintours Green in the meantime.

c. Members considered the permission request from FOBA to hold a dog show, fete, bbq and Proms on the Green on Wintours Green on the 19th July. **It was RESOLVED:** to give permission.

d. Members NOTED the completion of the work to the telephone box in the Village with comments that it looks much better and the door opens more easily. Cllr Bruce added that some paint is left and could consider using for the Hallwood Green phone box if the budget allows.

9. Planning:

a. To comment on Planning Applications for Determination by the Forest of Dean District Council:
- P0597/25/PQ3PA Normansland Farm, prior approval for the change in use of an agricultural building and land within its curtilage to form one dwelling. **It was RESOLVED:** Cllr Fairburn to look at the application in more detail with a response to be sent under devolved powers.

b. Members NOTED the Planning Response Submitted between Meetings under Devolved Powers:
- P0453/25/OUT Outline application for the erection of up to no 24 dwellings, response sent following the Extra meeting 8th May 2025.
Cllr Fairburn added that having checked the planning portal there are a number of items to be revisited by the applicant with regards to Highways and Ecology. Drainage is onto a third parties land and that permission will be withheld. The FODDC planning officer is likely to agree an extension to give the applicant time to respond/ revise their plans to address the concerns raised. There may be a re-consultation if the developer returns with fundamental changes.

c. Members NOTED the Planning Decision made by Forest of Dean District Council:
- P0243/25/FUL 1 Elmbridge Villas, Ryton Road. Erection of new double garage PERMISSION GRANTED.

10. Highways/Footpaths:

a. To receive a report from the Footpaths Officer: In her absence the Clerk informed that the Footpath Officer had reported a number of issues to GCC and there is continued frustration of overgrown footpaths on farming land**. It was RESOLVED:** to ascertain from the map which landowners need contacting re paths and crops.

b. Members received a report from Cllr Bruce. He has requested a road safety camera to back up the Autospeedwatch camera. The parish council have received notification that the B4215 is being resurfaced at the end of July. There is a question over why the road is being resurfaced as far as planned as parts were resurfaced a couple of years ago and remain in good condition. **It was RESOLVED:** Cllr Bruce to contact Highways to question. *Cllr Bruce asked County Cllr Moseley how Ringway will be held to account?* She replied that the last administration had awarded them another 4 year contract. The new cabinet member is

Joe Harris, very dynamic and she has every confidence that he can do something about it. Ringway is owned by a French
company. She informed that the chair of Kempley PC has asked to meet Joe Harris to discuss alternative resurfacing techniques used by the French holding company. **It was RESOLVED:** Cllr Bruce to contact Kempley PC Chair to ask to join this meeting. County Cllr Moseley expressed an interest to also attend. A member of the public asked if there is any Autospeedwatch camera data on how many letters been sent out and what it is recording. **It was RESOLVED:** Cllr Bruce to find out and report.

11. Finance:

a. Members NOTED the Bank Reconciliation and total Bank Statement Balances of £56543.42 on the 31st May 2025. Cllr Kilmurray as a non-bank signatory duly checked and signed the statements, invoices and bank reconciliation as a true record.

b. **It was RESOLVED:** To approve the following invoices for payment:

- GAPTC Internal Audit £285 gross
- GAPTC Biodiversity Training £45 gross
- Gareth Kemp – Public Conveniences Cleaning £140
- Greenfields £655 net/£786 gross
- Andrew Kingaby – telephone box/noticeboard paint £880
- Smiths of Derby Parish Clock 3 year agreement £819net/£982.80 gross

c. **It was RESOLVED:** To ratify the following payments made between meetings:

- Clerks Expenses – printer ink £43.17net/£51.80 gross

d. Members NOTED the regular payments made between meetings and Cllr Kilmurray checked and signed the schedule:

- WaterPlus DD May £44.45
- Gloucestershire Playing Field Assoc S/O £50
- PWLB BA Loan £2108.22
- Unity Bank Monthly Charges £6

e. Members NOTED the income received:

- Beauchamp Arms Rent May £1890net/£2268gross

f. Members NOTED the virements made between meetings:

- Current to Instant access savings £15000

g. Members NOTED the PWLB Liabilities statement for 2025/26.

12.Training:

a**.** Cllr Rose informed members that she had received GAPTC Biodiversity training and would forward some informative slides to members. **It was RESOLVED:** to defer to the next meeting for a full report. GAPTC are holding a Martyns Law webinar on June 25th 6-7pm. **It was RESOLVED:** Cllr Eagle and the clerk to attend. The clerk to book.

13. Correspondence:

Members NOTED the following correspondence received:

- GAPTC AGM reminder invitation – Tuesday 12th July Toddington Village Hall.
- Parishioner email regarding weeds in the alley way (Greenfields contacted for a quote) and large trees on Western Way managed by Two Rivers (email sent). Volunteers to clear the weeds.
- FoDDC Travel survey – link on the DPC website until 20th June.

14. To consider items for the next meeting:

War Memorial, Biodiversity.

15. Members NOTED the date of the next meeting as being the 8th July 2025.

Signed: *Tony Eagle*…….. Date:……*08.07.2025* ……..
Chair

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Appendix 1

FoDDC Council Update – May 2025

Chief Executive's Update

- LGR talks ongoing with Shire Hall & central government
- Full council briefing expected in June
- IT upgrades successfully completed
- Updated Constitution now live on member portal

Constitutional Integrity in Question

- Constitution quoted strictly when helpful—ignored when
- Long-standing clauses enforced now, but not in previous terms
- Call for open review, "If not fit for purpose, fix it—don't bend it."

Committee Appointments Confirmed

- All key committees now filled: Audit, Development, Licensing, Scrutiny, Constitution, Member Development
- But concems raised over inconsistent application of rules
- Appendix 2 (6.4) discretion used differently depending on who benefits
- Process questioned: Are rules being followed or repurposed?

New Councillors Welcomed

- Jonathan Beeston (Conservative)
- Stewart Graham (Reform)

€750K Investment Secured

- Funding awarded to 5 Acres
- Major þoost for local sport & youth facilities

Planning Motion Passed – Local Voice Restored

- 3-minute speaking limit on ward councillors removed
- FoDDC was only council in Glos with this restriction

Audit Report – Accountability Reinforced

- First Annual Audit Report delivered
- Identified areas where officer recommendations not followed

Cllr Gill Kilmurray