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DYMOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Ordinary Meeting held on

Tuesday, 8th July at 7.30pm in Dymock Parish Hall

Present: Cllrs T Eagle (In the Chair); N Fairburn; G Kilmurray; J George; T Blandford; B Rose.

In attendance: Rachel Freestone - Clerk
Jackie Tweedale – Footpaths Officer

Public: 5

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

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 thanked the parish council for the strimming and weed control recently undertaken by a volunteer from the parish council.

4. **Reports:**

a. To receive a report from County Councillor Gill Moseley: Report received following Agenda item 6.
The Robin bus service has been launched. A public consultation has also been launched on the upcoming Local Government reorganisation, running from the 1st July to the 9th August. The consultation asks which GCC services are valued and which use. It does not ask for preferences on the final organisation model. *Cllr Eagle asked about current council buildings and how Planning Departments are likely to be organised?* Current buildings likely to be used as hubs and each area likely to have own planning committees rather than one that covers all.
GCC will be completing a cleaning and pick-up of road signs, hoped to be at the same time as the grass cutting.

b. To receive a report from District Councillor Gill Kilmurray:
There has been no FoDDC meeting since the last parish council meeting so nothing more to report.

5. **Minutes:**

a. Members considered the minutes of the Parish Council Ordinary Meeting held on the 10th June 2025. **It was RESOLVED:** to approve the minutes as a correct record. They were duly signed by the Chair.

6. **Beauchamp Arms:**

a. To receive an update on the progress of the Building Control submission to FoDDC:
Cllr Kilmurray confirmed that there is still no response from FoDDC. To chase and keep monitoring.

b. To consider the quotes received for the Oil Tank:
Cllr Eagle informed that two quotes have been received, awaiting the third. **It was RESOLVED:** the BAWG to appoint the most reasonably priced once third quote received.

c. To consider Legionella testing requirements:
It was agreed that this is the tenants responsibility, the BAWG to help as required.
19.37 Gill Moseley arrived.

d. To consider any other maintenance/matters arising:
Cllr Eagle informed members that a quote is being obtained for possible work to the chimney.

e. To receive a report from the FOBA representative:
In her absence Cllr Eagle informed members that Paws on the Green is taking place on the 19th July. Offers of help and support on the day would be appreciated. A detailed Risk Assessment has been provided and shared with members.
Agenda item 4a.

7. Common Land/Assets:

a. Members NOTED the playground inspection for June. The only outstanding item is the work required to the embankment slide, this needs addressing urgently. Needs welding on site. The Clerk expressed concern that the slide should be taken out of action again in the meantime. The item is a popular piece of play equipment and the Chair consented to keep it open pending the work being completed. **It was RESOLVED:** Cllr Eagle to address the work required to the slide as soon as possible.

b. Members considered the email received from a resident regarding the condition of the grass/hedge area at the Winding Pool carpark. Cllr Fairburn reported that he had met with Greenfields to look at options and they will provide a quote. However, this small secluded area could be considered by the Biodiversity Group as a wildlife sanctuary? **It was RESOLVED:** the Biodiversity Group to consider this at their meeting tomorrow and report in September.

c. Members noted that Cllr Eagle has sprayed the weeds around the Winding Pool area and Western Way. *A member mentioned that residents of Winding Pool pay a service charge, what is this for?* It is for the pond. GCC Highways will only address invasive weeds. County Cllr Moseley added that it is common for Parish Councils to take responsibility to keep the parish looking tidy.

d. Members NOTED that the Defibrillator pads at the Brooms Green defib are due for renewal on the 27th July. **It was RESOLVED:** to approve the purchase of replacements at £145 net.

e. Members NOTED that the Defibrillator at the Village Telephone Box was used and replacement pads have been ordered. **It was RESOLVED:** to purchase replacements at a cost of £54 net.

8. Biodiversity:

a. Members NOTED the date of the next meeting as the 9th July, 7pm in the Parish Hall.

9. Planning:

a. To comment on Planning Applications for Determination by the Forest of Dean District Council:
   - P0694/25/FUL Woodview Cottage, Four Oaks. Erection of an outbuilding for use as an annexe. **It was RESOLVED:** to Support the application with consideration to the colour of the fence so as to be sympathetic to the environment.

b. Memebrs NOTED the Planning Response Submitted between Meetings under Devolved Powers:
   - P0597/25/PQ3PA Normansland Change of use. Support

c. Members NOTED that no Planning Decisions made by Forest of Dean District Council:
   Cllr Fairburn updated members on P0453/25/OUT. Documents submitted to the Planning Portal include criticism of the Biodiversity net gain and issues raised by Highways and with regards to drainage. The application has not been dropped and the applicant is considering the queries raised. FoDDC Local Plan to be added to the September agenda, the PC response is due on the 11th September. All councillors have received the information and need to respond. County Cllr Moseley added that there will be a consultation event on the 19th August in Newent, details yet to publicised.

10. Highways/Footpaths:

a. To receive a report from the Footpaths Officer: Jackie Tweedale thanked the PC for her equipment. She informed members that every month she sends the Clerk a report (forwarded to members) of issues raised. There are a number of paths that have not been reinstated and stiles that the volunteers have cleared. GCC have contacted the landowners but they are conscious that the rapeseed will be cut shortly. A group of volunteers are going to walk the less well known paths and also from Dymock to Much Marcle. The Chair thanked her for all her work.

b. To consider the Community 20's and Safer Roads Initiative and response required by the 19th September 2025. County Cllr Moseley commented that it is their version of 20's Plenty. Likely to take 2-4 years to complete and it is not a blanket limit but where communities want them. We have an email asking for expressions of interest. **It was RESOLVED:** to discuss with Cllr Bruce on his return.

c. Members NOTED that the resurfacing work to the B4215 has been postponed to December 2025.

d. Members NOTED that Cllr Bruce is organising a meeting/walk around with GCC Head of Highways and County Councillor Gill Moseley. County Cllr Moseley added that no walk around is planned currently. That could possibly be requested for a later date.

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11. Finance:

a. Members NOTED the Bank Reconciliation and the total Bank Statement Balances of £51530.32 to 30th June 2025. Cllr Kilmurray as a non-bank signatory duly checked and signed the statements, invoices and bank reconciliation as a true record.

b. Members considered the Budget versus Actuals report to June 2025 with no comments at this time.

c. **It was RESOLVED:** To publish an article in the Windcross and other communication forums to ask for requests for a grant by the October full meeting.

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

- Gareth Kemp £175gross
- Clerks Expenses – Footpath £80.24 net/£88.28 gross
- Greenfields £580net/£696 gross

e. **It was RESOLVED:** To ratify the following payment made between meetings:

- Matt Hill Oil tank/boiler contribution £500

f. Members NOTED the regular payments made between meetings:

- WaterPlus DD June £49.31
- Clerks Salary May and June as per contract
- PWLB Loan Playground £1653.27
- HMRC quarterly VAT return £651.83
- Unity Bank Monthly Charges £6

g. Members NOTED the income received:

- Beauchamp Arms Rent June £1890net/£2268gross
- Credit Interest £277.52

h. Members NOTED the virements made between meetings:

- Instant access savings to current 11.06.25 £2000.00
- Instant access savings to current 30.06.25 £1000.00

i. Members considered the quote for £900net/£1080 gross from Steve Allard for the tri-yearly maintenance of the War Memorial with a provisional date for the works of 16th October 2026. It was explained that the work is due in 2026 but due to his work schedule it needs to be booked now. Members NOTED that a 50% deposit is required immediately. A member of the public commented that it is natural stone which moves so there will be some pointing required. **It was RESOLVED:** to approve the work to be completed and the 50% deposit to be paid from the War Memorial Account.

12.Training:

a. Cllr Eagle had attended the online training along with the Clerk and a member of FOBA. Martyn's Law applies to any event with over 200 attendees, however organisers owe a duty of care to the public for any size of event. Risks need to be considered and all organisers/volunteers aware of actions required. FOBA have completed and provided to the PC a detailed Risk Assessment for the Paws on the Green event. *A member asked whether the Beauchamp Arms tenant needs to be informed/reminded of the need to complete a Risk Assessment for events?* He should be doing them anyway but Clerk to remind him. It was mentioned that FOBA in the past had a very detailed plan, they will share it with the new FOBA committee.

13. Correspondence:

Members NOTED the following correspondence received:

- Forest of Dean Recycling collection now includes plastic pots, tubs and trays.
- GCC Highways that they only carry out weed treatment to control noxious weeds such as Ragwort, Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed and others identified in the Weeds Act 1959.

14. To consider items for the next meeting:

Local Plan, tree in the Parish Hall Carpark, Community 20's and Biodiversity.

15. Members NOTED the date of the next meeting as being the 9th September 2025.

Signed……*Tony Eagle*……. Date:……09.09.2025……
Chair

Meeting closed at 20.30.