28/25-26

DYMOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Ordinary Meeting held on

Tuesday, 14th October at 7.30pm in Dymock Parish Hall

Present: Cllrs Tony Eagle (In the Chair); Gill Kilmurray; Ian Bruce; Nick Fairburn; Becky Rose; John George and Trevor Blandford.

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

Public: 7

1. **To receive and accept apologies for absence:**
The Footpaths Officer, Jackie Tweedale had provided her apologies which were accepted.

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

3. **Public Participation:**
A member of the public referred to Agenda item 10c. The speed limit through Tillers Green is 60mph with the adjoining A roads being 50mph, he questioned the logic of this. The assumption is that vehicles will drop their speed according to the nature of the road but some do not. *A member commented that it is a matter for GCC Highways but the issue would need to be reported through the parish council. A member responded that we will try to obtain a radar for a likely period of 2 weeks as was provided at Greenway to obtain the data needed to move it further forward.*

4. **Reports:**

a. County Councillor Gill Moseley asked if anyone was using the new Robin bus service? It is only funded for the first year at present so need to ensure is used.
With regards to road safety, she questioned whether Dymock parish council had responded to the Safer Roads Initiative Expression of Interest? *A member responded that we hadn't as did not feel that it was achievable.* County Cllr reminded members that it addresses not just 20's plenty but desired safer road initiatives. There is an extension to the deadline for another week. *A member commented that Dymock parish council have arranged and paid for two Auto Speedwatch cameras which are providing data and would question why GCC Road Safety is not also picking up this data?* County Cllr Moseley responded that it is not automatic that the police contact the council. She added that the information received from the Expressions of Interest is necessary for County to allocate a Safer Roads budget for next year.
Gloucestershire has one of worst records for serious injury and deaths on the roads.
On October 22nd the new tranche of the Grassroots Community Fund will become available for Health and Wellbeing projects.
The Highways Local fund is available to spend on local projects, part was spent clearing the path to the Cricket Ground.
Some of the road signs have been cleaned and vegetation cut back, this is being done when the teams are in situ for other jobs. A member added that we have also paid for vegetation to be cleared around signage. She asked that any abandoned signage be reported to Fix my Street with photos if can.
GCC provide a Newsletter and everyone can sign up for this on the GCC website.
A member asked whether there is any additional information on the Local Plan? This is the responsibility of the District Council but County Cllr Moseley will update on Unitary/Devolution plans at the next full meeting.

b. District Councillor Gill Kilmurray reported that there hasn't been a full council meeting since July with the next one scheduled for November to discuss the Unitary plan and the Local plan for housing.

5. **Minutes:**

a. Members considered the minutes of the Parish Council Ordinary Meeting held on the 9th September 2025.
It was RESOLVED: to approve the minutes as a correct record. They were duly signed by the Chair.

6. To receive a report from David Keep the Auto Speedwatch Coordinator:

David was welcomed to the meeting.

Autospeedwatch started in Brooms Green and the parish council now have two fixed cameras in Brooms Green and Dymock of which he is the coordinator. The information (photo of any car travelling over 36mph) from the cameras goes to him. The 10 worst offenders from each area each month are reported to the police. The process is two letters and then a visit from the police if repeat offend. Brooms Green in general has good adherence to the speed limit but Dymock does not. 33000 vehicles passed through Dymock in September with only medium speed adherence. Emergency vehicles/SAS are removed from the statistics. The system also picks up those with no tax and/or MOT. All the Autospeedwatch cameras in Gloucestershire are linked for data so repeat offenders are traced not just in the parish but across county. *A member added that the purpose of Autospeedwatch is to force down the number of speed offenders through the village and focusses on persistent offenders. A member asked whether commercial vehicles get caught?* Yes they do, with one in ten commercial vehicles travelling too quickly. Tractors are harder to read number plates. *A member added that we have not paid for any postage as yet for the letters being sent by the police and he will clarify.* David was thanked for his time.

7. Policies and Procedures:

a. IT and Email Policy (previously circulated). **It was RESOLVED:** to approve the policy.

20.20 5 members of the public left.

8. Beauchamp Arms:

a. To receive a report from the Beauchamp Arms Working Group: Cllr Eagle reported that both the boiler and the oil tank have now been replaced. *A member asked about the crack in the concrete?* This was looked at and was due to the hot weather, not felt to be of concern. Outstanding work includes the fitting of doors to the oil tank and where the boiler was originally located needs making good with panelling and a cupboard. The chimney needs removing as causing damp. One quote has been obtained with another contractor approached but not interested. The vents will remain. **It was RESOLVED:** to approve the quote for £2508 net from Ekhaya Developments Ltd for the chimney removal. The Clerk to contact them to confirm. The BAWG still need to provide an action plan/ budget for 2026/27 and will do that before the next meeting.

b. To receive a report from the FOBA representative: The pub quiz was sold out last month and another has been arranged for the 2nd November. FOBA would like to hold the Tree of Light on Friday 5th December and request permission to erect the Christmas Tree on Wintours Green ahead of the event. **It was RESOLVED:** to approve the Christmas tree on Wintours Green.

9. Common Land/Assets:

a. Members NOTED the playground inspection for September and the work completed by Greenfields. The ground repair has been completed with the Annual Playground Inspection due at the end of October.

b. Members NOTED that permission had been granted by FoDDC to cut back the tree at the Parish Hall. The work is now completed and they have done a good job.

c. Members NOTED the service of the Parish Clock on the 8th October with no issues arising. John Shaw was thanked for all his work to ensure the clock now runs smoothly.

d. **It was RESOLVED:** to approve the purchase of a mobile phone and pay as you go sim for the Clerk with costs to be shared between 3 councils.

e. Members NOTED that the Defibrillator batteries at the Telephone box have been replaced.

f. Members NOTED the purchase of a laptop for the Clerk at a cost of £395.04net/£474.05 gross and its addition to the asset register and that the previous laptop has been written off.

10. Biodiversity:

a. Biodiversity Working Group Draft Terms of Reference**. It was RESOLVED:** to approve the Terms of Reference.

b. Members received a report from the Biodiversity Working Group (previously circulated). Cllr Eagle commented that the bank looks good and very grateful for the help of volunteers at the weekend. Cllr Rose added that the grass seed has been put down. The Biodiversity Working Group would like to buy some perennial wildflower seeds and trays so that have plants in the spring rather than seeds which failed in the

hot weather this year. Green Farm Seeds have provided specialist advice on which seeds to purchase. Propose an additional £80 for seeds, £60 trays and £50 compost. The Working Group would also like to buy wild daffodil bulbs as it takes a long time to grow from seeds and people want to see the flowers. They have received a quote for £195 plus delivery for 500 bulbs. **It was RESOLVED:** to purchase as proposed.
She added that the Biodiversity Working Group are looking at an Action Plan and prioritising what want to do prior to presenting to full council.

11. Planning:

a. Members considered the Planning Applications for Determination by the Forest of Dean District Council:
   - P1134/25/FUL – Leadon Vale Farm. Erection of agricultural building to cover existing manure storage area. **It was RESOLVED:** to SUPPORT.

b. Member NOTED the Planning Response Submitted between Meetings under Devolved Powers:
   - P1049/25/LD1 Riverside Nurseries Application under Section 191 to establish whether occupation of a dwelling without compliance to agricultural condition is lawful. – NO COMMENT.

c. Members NOTED there are no Planning Decisions made by Forest of Dean District Council.

d. Cllr Fairburn provided an update on P0453/25/OUT, the outline application for 24 dwellings and associated works. The application will be considered by the FoDDC Development Management Committee on Tuesday 11th November. A member added that Highways were seen in the village completing a safety audit of the bridge. County Cllr Moseley added that a member of the parish council is able to attend the Committee and speak during the allotted time. Comments can be made on specific conditions if there is anything extra required. Cllr Fairburn expressed an interest in attending.

10. Highways/Footpaths:

a. Footpaths: The Chair read a brief report provided by the Footpaths Officer. 'There isn't much to report except some issues have been sorted - GDY83 the rotten stile has been replaced with a metal pedestrian gate. This path is behind Mayploe Farm, GDY15, crops growing across the path has been sorted, GDY 45 crops growing across path have been sorted, GDY31 steps have been replaced. There is a temporary closure on GDY41 the telegraph pole bridge is being significantly undermined to a point where Will Saunder is concerned a serious accident could occur. The riverbank needs to be rebuilt and a 12 metre metal bridge requiring fabrication. He's not sure when the works will go ahead due to budget restraints. The path could be close for while. Is there anyway some funds could be put aside for repairs and could we look into asking Gill Mosely for some funding please? We've had a lot of repairs and work carried out by Will and his team.
   The closed path is near Crowfield Lane. There may be some possible funding through County Cllr Moseley. **It was RESOLVED:** to obtain costings and send to her.

b. Highways Working Group: Cllr Bruce commented that he hopes a suitable sub base is used for the resurfacing work scheduled 20th -28th October. Members considered a response to the Safer Roads Expression of Interest. **It was RESOLVED:** to send a response to the initiative.

c. Cllr Bruce added that he is awaiting a date for the rescheduled meeting with Jo Harris and County Cllr Moseley.

d. To consider the parishioner email expressing concern on the vehicle speeds through Tillers Green and to request a reduction in the speed limit. Addressed in Agenda Item 3.

11. Finance:

a. Members NOTED the Bank Reconciliation and Bank Statement Balances to 30th September 2025 with a total balance of £53296.47.

b. Members NOTED that the insurance has been purchased through Clear Councils at a cost of £1117 under a 3 year LTA.

c. Members NOTED the grant requests received from St Mary's Church and Dymock Cricket Club. An article arranged for the Windcross October issue and grant requests to be considered at the meeting in November.

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

• Greenfields	£673.50net/£808.20gross
• Green Farm Seeds – Biodiversity Verge seed mix	£27.00
• Clerk Expenses - Biodiversity – Scales	£26.57net/31.88gross
• Clerk Expenses Printer ink colour/B&W	£45.41net/£54.49 gross
• Gareth Kemp	£175.00

- Quedgeley Computer Services NDP website £15
- Greenfields Playground repairs £1193.69net/£1432.43gross
- PATA salary calculations £15
- Dymock Parish Hall (£140 PC/£60 Biodiversity) £200.00

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

- Imperative Training – Defib battery £300net/£360gross
- Clerk Expenses – HP Laptop £395.04net/£474.05gross
- Bullseye Boiler Services – Beauchamp Arms £595net/£714 gross
- Bullseye Boiler Services - Beauchamp Arms £6235net/£7482gross
- Bullseye Boiler Services - Beauchamp Arms £525net/£630 gross
- Clerk Expenses Microsoft Licence £49.99net/£59.99 gross
- HMRC VAT payment £381.44

f. Members NOTED the regular payments made between meetings and to check/sign the schedule:

- WaterPlus DD September £53.53
- Clerks Salary September as per contract
- Unity Bank Monthly Charges Aug and Sept £12

g. Members NOTED the income received:

- Beauchamp Arms Rent September £1890net/£2268gross
- Precept £17500
- Credit Interest £275.69

h. Members NOTED the virements made between meetings:

- Instant Access to Current 31.08.25 £4500.00
- Instant Access to Current 10.09.25 £1500.00
- Current to Instant Access 26.09.25 £8000.00

12. Councillor Emails - Practitioners Guide Assertion 10: Digital and Data Compliance:

a. Members NOTED Councillors must not use personal email addresses to comply and should adopt the gov.uk email addresses provided previously. The Clerk to assist in setting up the email addresses.

13.Training:

a**.** To receive feedback from any training undertaken and to consider any training needs. There was none.

14. Correspondence:

Members NOTED the new Daffodil Line hourly timetable.

15. To consider items for the next meeting.

To include the Budget, Parish website. Armed Forces Covenant.

16. Next meeting: Members NOTED the date of the next meeting as being the Tuesday 11th November 2025.

Confidential Item

17. Members NOTED the end of year appraisal completed with the Clerk. It was duly signed by the Chairman.

Signed:……*Tony Eagle* ……. Date:……11.11.2025 …….
Chairman

Meeting closed at 20.52