

DUNCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

S.C. TURNER
CLERK TO THE COUNCIL
54 Cawston Lane
DUNCHURCH

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE DUNCHURCH FIRST SCHOOL ON
MONDAY 17th June 1974 AT 7.30 P.M.

PRESENT Cllr. J.E.F. Barford - Chairman
" Mrs. J. Coling - Vice Chairman
" H. Bark
" P.H. Barnwell
" Mrs. W.L.S. Douty
" S.J. Watts
" H.J. Wiggins
" Mr. S.C. Turner - Clerk

MIN. 73/66 - APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. P.T. Gray, D. Cale-Morgan
B. Atkinson and Borough Cllr. E.A. Goode.

MIN. 73/67 - CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th May, previously circulated to all
members, were signed as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING

Min. 70/27 - Public Toilets

The Clerk read a letter from the Secretary and Solicitor, Rugby Borough
Council indicating that the Council were carrying out further research into the question
of public toilets at Dunchurch, and the matter will be placed before the Committee for
Environmental Health at their meeting on 24th June. He also read a letter from the
County Engineer which indicated that the Department of Environment had agreed to the
preparation of a scheme for public conveniences at Thurlaston Island. Details for the
structure had to be finalised and then it is hoped the scheme could proceed without
further delay. Councillors expressed satisfaction that some progress was being made,
and the provision of toilets at Thurlaston roundabout would help the situation.

Min. 67/133(b) - Parking

The Clerk confirmed that he had written to the W.C.C., concerning the
general parking situation in the village, and also with special reference to Nos. 14 and 16
Southam Road. This letter had, so far, only been acknowledged. He had also written
to the occupiers of the aforementioned addresses. He had written to the Chief Technical
Officer of the Rugby Borough Council regarding the signs restricting parking in the
centre of Dunchurch, who had replied that the matter was forwarded to the County Council
for the necessary legislation by the R.D.C. as a result of a meeting on the 24th Sept. 1973.
He suggested that a letter to the Traffic Dept., at Shire Hall would expedite the matter.
It was resolved that a letter be sent to the W.C.C., Traffic Dept.

Cllr. Barnwell said that he wished to raise once again the suggestion that
there was space available at the Dun Cow to provide parking facilities. After a discussion
a resolution that the Clerk write to the Rugby Borough Council suggesting that serious
consideration be given to the redevelopment of the land at the rear of the Dun Cow Hotel,
for their own parking and public parking be made. The resolution was carried with one
vote against, and one abstention.

Min. 70/114(L) - Arkwright Recreation Ground

The Clerk gave details of correspondence with the police who said they were
aware of the problem and would continue to give the matter attention.

J. E. F. Barford

Min. 70/95(a) - Open Space Galliford Estate

The Clerk confirmed that he had written to the Rugby Borough Council and had received an acknowledgement from the Secretary and Solicitor which said he hoped to reply shortly.

Min. 70/152 - Rugby Road Playing Field

The Clerk reported that nothing further had been received from the Sports Field Committee in reply to his letter intimating that upon receipt of detailed costs the Council might well look favourably at recommending a grant.

Min. 70/156(d) - Plant a Tree Scheme

The Clerk confirmed that he had received a cheque for £13. in respect of trees planted on land owned by the R.D.C.

Min. 70/175(a) - Street Lighting Improvements

The Chairman said it was unfortunate that publicity had not been given in the local newspaper, and the member of the press present confirmed that he had submitted a report, but that it had been excluded by the Editor. After a short discussion Councillors felt that suggested improvements had been given sufficient publicity for any one who felt strongly to make a protest, and it was resolved that the matter be referred back to the Street Lighting Committee to make progress. The Clerk drew the Council's attention to the fact that the suggestions would have to be submitted to the W.C.C., for final approval.

Min. 70/180 - Site for Scout Hut

The Clerk gave details of a letter which he had written to the 1st. Dunchurch Scouts, and it was resolved that this matter be referred to the Planning Committee.

Min. 73/13 - Sign for New School

Nothing to report.

Min. 73/21 - Parking on the Greens

The Clerk read correspondence with the Chief Technical Officer of Rugby Borough Council which intimated that the signs were on order from the Royal Label Factory, and delivery should be made by the end of June. He said erection would be carried out as soon as the signs were received. The Chairman pointed out that the Borough Council were also taking action in removing untaxed cars.

Min. 73/24 - Dutch Elm Disease

The Clerk read correspondence with the Divisional Surveyor in which the Council's complaints were noted, and the Divisional Surveyor said that the copper beeches were as large as possible for transplanting, and he would keep an eye on the seeded area. He had also confirmed that the two elm trees near the War Memorial were injected on the 24th June.

The Chairman said that the judges of the Best Kept Village competition had expressed their disgust at the state of the green where the elms were felled, and had commented particularly regarding the stones which had been left on the surface. Several Councillors supported this criticism, and it was resolved that the Clerk write once again to the Divisional Engineer regarding this matter.

Min. 73/31 - Adoption of Standing Orders

It was proposed by Cllr. S.J. Watts and seconded by Cllr. H.J. Wiggins that the standing orders be adopted. The Clerk was requested to compile and circulate a list of dates for the Sub Committee Meetings, and each Committee was to appoint its own Chairman. The Planning Committee Meetings are to take place before the Plans Sub Committee of the Borough Council and the Chairman and Clerk will decide which items to be considered by the Council should be allocated to the respective Committees. The Clerk was asked to circulate the dates of Sub Committees to the Press.

Min. 73/47(a) - Bye-Law, Control of Dogs

The Clerk read a letter from the Home Office concerning a model bye-law regarding the control of dogs. It appeared that it would be very difficult to implement a stringent bye-law and it was resolved that the matter be referred to the Recreation and Amenities Committee.

John E. F. Barford

Min. 73/47(b) - Provision of Allotments

The Clerk gave details of correspondence with the Rugby Borough Council. It was resolved that the Clerk write to the Thurlaston Pools Plot Charity to see if they have any plots available.

Min. 73/50(r) - Best Kept Village Competition

A representative of the Youth Club said that they were willing to clean down the Lord John Scott Memorial, and also to tidy up the surround. He said they had got all the equipment necessary and a Friday afternoon was a suitable time to do the work. He was asked to contact the Clerk when the work was to be put in hand in order that the police could be asked to display warning signs. A number of Councillors suggested that bulbs should be planted around the statue, and the Clerk was asked to write to the Divisional Engineer regarding. The Clerk also reported a letter ~~of~~ from the Chief Technical Officer indicating that his department would be responsible for emptying litter bins in Dunchurch and cleansing and repairing most roads, with the exception of the A.45.

The Clerk also read a letter from Mr. W. Baker of the Estate House giving views on how the village centre could be improved. It was resolved that the Clerk thank Mr. Baker for his interest and intimate the various things which the Council were doing, some of which coincided with Mr. Baker's views.

Min. 73/60(c) - Salvage Campaign

The Clerk read correspondence with the County Engineer, and a further letter from Mr. Lynn. It was resolved that this matter be kept under consideration.

Min. 73/60(d) - Funds for Dunchurch Silver Band

The Chairman declared his interest, and Cllr. Mrs. J. Coling, Vice Chairman took the chair for this item.

The Clerk gave details of correspondence with the Secretary of the Dunchurch & Thurlaston Educational Foundation, which indicated that they had made a grant of £500. to the band, subject to the instruments being purchased being suitable for the use of the younger members. After some discussion it was resolved that the band be asked if they will give two or three concerts a year on the open space by the Galliford Estate which would perpetuate the concerts which used to be given on the Village Green, but which had to be abandoned because of traffic problems. A further reminder would be a concert on Wake Sunday, traditionally the first Sunday after July 12th. It was felt that these concerts might create a considerable interest and give the band a chance to carry out collection. The Council would review the matter when compiling next year's estimate.

Min. 73/60(f) - European Architectural Heritage Year 1975

The Clerk gave details of the projects put forward to the W.R.C.C., in respect of European Heritage Year 1975. He was pleased to report that these were considered ideal propositions, and they were being forwarded to the Historic Buildings Council for consideration for grant aid under the scheme.

Min. 73/60(n) - Planning Applications

The Clerk reported that he had contacted the Rugby Borough Council and that both the alterations at Chalon House, and at Dunsmore Cottage were merely minor building improvements.

Min. 73/60(p) - Meeting of Rugby Borough Council

The Clerk reported on a meeting he had with the Clerks of Clifton and Long Lawford, when they had met the Chief Technical Officer together with two senior members of his staff Mr. Green and Mr. Belham. They had discussed all the main aspects of the Borough Council Agency for the W.C.C., in respect of most of the roads in Dunchurch, and a plan had now been received which indicated precisely where the boundaries were. The Clerk felt that it had been a very successful meeting, and the Chief Technical Officer was making every endeavour to provide a good service.

John E. F. Barford

Min. 73/60(q) - Stall on Green

The Clerk reported that the stall on the Green for the Dunchurch Silver Band would be held on Saturday 22nd June.

Min. 73/65(a) - Bus Shelter Roof

The Clerk confirmed that he had written to Mr. Storer on 13th May asking for attention to be given to the bus shelter roof. It was reported nothing had been done and he was asked to hasten the matter.

Min. 73/65(c) - Rate Increases

The Clerk gave details of correspondence and reported on a meeting he had attended at the Shire Hall Warwick between representatives of the Parish Councils, the Chairman, Policy & Resources Committee, the Chairman of the County Council together with their chief officers and an accountant from the Severn Trent River Board.

Min. 73/65(d) - Footpath Southam Road

The Clerk gave details of correspondence which indicated that the Chief Technical Officer would bear this matter in mind when compiling his estimates for next year.

Min. 73/65(e) - Footpath rear of Cawston Lane

The Clerk read correspondence with the Chief Technical Officer whose opinion it was that the only real solution would be to surface the path with macadam, and this also would be borne in mind when next year's estimates were prepared. It was resolved that the matter should be referred to the Recreation and Amenities Committee for further consideration as it was felt that something should be done to improve the path before next Winter by providing a temporary surface if possible.

MIN. 73/68 - CORRESPONDENCE

(a) The Clerk reported on a letter from the Customs and Excise which intimated that V.A.T. could be reclaimed by submitting an appropriate letter. It was resolved that this be done.

(b) The Clerk reported a number of leaflets received from W.C.C., regarding "Tree Planting on Farms". These were distributed to interested members.

(c) The Clerk read a letter from the Parochial Church Council applying for a grant towards the upkeep of the churchyard. It was proposed by Cllr. H.J. Wiggins and resolved that a cheque for £50. be sent to the P.C.C.

(d) The Clerk reported that the A.G.M., of the W.R.C.C., would be held at Tysoe on 22nd June when the guest speaker would be Lord Radcliffe on Canals.

The Clerk outlined the contents of a letter from the W.A.P.C. regarding Clerk's emoluments and members allowances. It was resolved that this matter be on the Agenda for the next meeting of the full Council, when it would be discussed with the public and press excluded.

(f) The Clerk gave details of planning applications in respect of erection of porch at Daventry Road, changing position of fence at Weston Close, and use of garage for pottery at Plum Tree Cottage, School St., together with some development at Vicarage Lane. The Chairman said that the manner in which the planning details were being submitted left a lot to be desired as it was virtually impossible to assess what was happening without visiting the Planning Office. It was resolved that the Clerk obtain more details concerning the Vicarage Lane development and arrange for it to be discussed by the Planning Committee in time to submit comments before the Rugby Borough Council Sub Committee which will be held on 10th July.

(g) The Clerk gave details of a circular letter from the W.A.P.C.

(h) The Clerk read a letter from the Ramblers Assocn. concerning the obstruction of footpaths and inviting Councillors to join a walk from Bilton Green at 7.30 on 17th July and from Dunchurch Green at 7 p.m. on August 14th. The Chairman invited a representative of the Assocn. to speak in support of their action and aims. The Chairman also reported that the gate of the bridleway opposite Keepers Cottage had been nailed up because it had been left open allowing the cattle to stay. It was also reported that the footpath to Thurlaston by the school was still not in a satisfactory state and the Clerk was requested to take action to get these matters righted.

John E. F. Barford

(i) The Clerk read a letter from the Rugby Borough Council which indicated that the Hackney Carriage Bye-laws, formerly applicable to the Borough were now extended to the revised boundaries.

(j) The Clerk reported that he had received minutes and agenda from the Rugby Borough Council. It was resolved that these be circulated.

(k) Cllr. H. Bark spoke in support of a letter he had written to the Clerk concerning the transfer of a plaque which commemorated Mr. Cooper a former Headmaster of Dunchurch School, who dies in 1902. Mr. Cooper had been a Chairman of the Parish Council and a Chairman of the Boughton Trust. He found that the plaque had been taken from the school, where it had inadvertently been put on one side and used as a backing for a notice board outside the premises of the Rugby Society for Mentally Handicapped Children at 27 Bilton Road. The Chairman said he supported Cllr. Bark and felt that the plaque should be brought back and put up in the school. The Clerk was asked to write to the Matron and ask for permission for Mr. Storer to remove the plaque, make good the sign and arrange for the plaque to be put up in the school.

(l) The Clerk read a letter from Cllr. Bark about the footpath from the recreation ground to Coventry Rd. The Clerk was requested to contact the garage owner. The Clerk was also asked to take the same action regarding the hedge at the corner of Cawston Lane and The Heath.

MIN. 73/69 - REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

(a) Dunchurch and Thurlaston Community Trust

Cllr. Mrs. Douty reported that they had been concerned with the making of a grant and with the upkeep of the cottages.

(b) Dunchurch & Thurlaston Educational Foundation

Cllr. Mrs. Douty reported that they had made a contribution of £500. to the Dunchurch Band, a further grant to a student and to a musician to help him to teach.

(c) Newcombe & Spiers Almshouses Charity.

The Clerk said that they were still in financial difficulties and asked that consideration should be given to an interest free loan of £200. by the Parish Council. He said that the Parish Council provided the majority of the trustees and felt that this would be preferable to the trustees realising their Reserve Fund at a time when they would lose at least one third of the investment due to the state of the market. It was proposed by Cllr. H.J. Wiggins and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council make an interest free loan of £ 200. to the trustees of the Newcombe & Spiers Almshouses Charity until the improvements were completed.

MIN.73/70 - PAYMENTS FOR AUTHORISATION

It was resolved that the following payments be authorised.

W.C.C.	Use of School	£2.73
	Petty Cash	£30.

MIN. 73/71 - PETTY CASH FOR AUTHORISATION

The following petty cash payment was confirmed -

Printing of Minutes	£1.77
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MIN.73/72 - ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) The Clerk was asked to discuss the opening of a Deposit Account with the Manager of Lloyds Bank in order that cash should not lie in the council's account when it could be earning interest.

(b) It was reported that a request had been received for the provision of a seat to be situated between Bilton and Cawston, now that the bus service along this road had virtually ceased, and the older residents of Cawston were finding it difficult to walk. This was referred to the Recreation and Amenities Committee.

John E. F. Barford