

**DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
THURSDAY 13th MARCH 2014**

**VENUE AND TIME OF THE MEETING:  
THE PRESTLEIGH INN, PRESTLEIGH @ 7.30pm**

		Present: Cllrs Paula Fidge (Chair), Ros Wilkins, Anne Crowcombe, Tony Blaker, Barry Clarke, John Shepherd; also in attendance Cllr Gloria Cawood, Cllr Philip Ham, Barry Newman (Voluntary footpath warden), Mary Newland (Beacon Hill Wood) and Alan Butcher (Clerk)	
	1	<u>Apologies for absence.</u> Nicola Housley, Claire Leonard (A&S Police)	
	2	<u>Public Forum:</u> The Chairman adjourned the meeting for a maximum of 10 minutes to allow public participation. Five members of the public were present.  The matter of the proposed LDO for the B&W Showground was raised (item 14) and concern expressed about unintended consequences for the showground including closure and the likelihood of transport problems.  Mary Newman commented on the item raised at the last meeting regarding the overhanging hedge (minutes 13d).	
	3	<u>Declarations of Interest:</u> None.	
	4	<u>Acceptance of the Minutes of previous meetings:</u> Minutes of the meeting held on 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2014 were agreed and signed as a true record with the addition of apologies from Mr and Mrs Newman which had been given before the meeting.	

5	<p><u>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting:</u></p> <p>a: Cllr Crowcombe/Wilkins to investigate grant for outside table tennis: this was awaiting the placing of the rocks so that the area available could be established.</p> <p>b: Clerk to speak to Parish Magazine editor re: article: the clerk asked for confirmation of the subject of the article, this was confirmed as dog fouling and the consequences of allowing same.</p> <p>c: Dangerous parking in village hall car park (item 7), Cllr Fidge to arrange meeting with school: a planned meeting was postponed until a date to be agreed.</p> <p>d: Mrs Newman to arrange sign for the Well: the sign had been completed and was shown to the meeting; Cllr Shepherd to arrange for the sign to be fixed in place.</p> <p>e: Clerk to arrange dog waste bin with Mendip DC: this had been done via the Mendip website and a response was awaited.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>PF</p> <p>JS</p> <p>Clerk</p>
6	<p><u>Police Report.:</u></p> <p>Report attached to these minutes.</p> <p>Vehicles in village hall car park: Cllr Blaker had been in touch with the Crime Commissioner on the issue and noted that cars were also using the entrance to the quarry, he had spoken to the quarry owner on the subject.</p> <p>Parking on the pavement on the A361: this was still a problem but the police were aware of the issue.</p> <p>Problems with large tractors using the Chelynch Road were noted; the police had been dealing with the matter.</p>	
7	<p><u>The Glebeland and Padfield Green:</u></p> <p>a: Sign near entrance: the final sign was awaited; Cllr Crowcombe to circulate details of the sign to be erected.</p> <p>b: “No dog” signs: these were to be fixed.</p> <p>c: Membership of “Plantlife”: it was agreed to join the organisation at an annual cost of £30.</p>	<p>AC</p>

		<p>d: Travelling expenses of 30 miles @ 45p were agreed for Emma Hill for a trip to Cheddar Garden Centre. It was also agreed to purchase twelve stacks for trees; cost to be confirmed.</p> <p>e: Cllr Crowcombe had attended a quarry liaison meeting at Torr Works and had had a chance to discuss the rocks for the Glebeland.</p> <p>f: The clerk raised the issue of the signs around The Glebeland which had the incorrect address for the clerk; Cllr Blaker and Crowcombe to review the signs.</p> <p>g: It was noted that a number of trees need to be “pollarded” later in the year.</p> <p>h: Padfield Green: Cllr Wilkins reported that the grass had been cut and the area was in use. She asked that no areas be sprayed this year as this had caused a problem in 2013.</p>	<p>AC</p> <p>TB/AC</p>
	8	<u>St Aldhelms Well:</u> The clerk noted that the fences were in need of attention.	
	9	<p><u>Council Reports:</u></p> <p><b>a: Somerset County Council:</b> Cllr Ham reported that council tax would not be increasing and that the council had lost their Chief Executive. A healthy eating grant of £800 had gone to Doulling School. He had attended the meeting about the B&amp;W LDO and noted concerns about traffic, the need for road improvements and speed restrictions. He advised that Coleford tip would be closing. He had been involved in the production of the 20 flood plan for the Somerset Levels.</p> <p><b>b: Mendip District Council:</b> Cllr Cawood had prepared a report which had been circulated and is attached. There was discussion about a number of points in the report.</p>	
	10	<p><u>Parish Council Matters:</u></p> <p>a: Website: a basic website was now online with further details to be added over the coming weeks. Cllr Cawood advised of changed contact information; clerk to change details on website.</p>	Clerk

		<p>b: Updated asset register and insurance values: the clerk advised that the asset register and risk assessments should be updated and it was agreed that a review of assets should be conducted within three months and insurance values amended as necessary. The renewal premium to hand to be paid in the interim.</p> <p>c: The clerk noted that changes to the financial regime and external audit procedures were taking place and it was agreed that an update of all aspects of the financial regulations and standing orders should be considered in June.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>11</p>		<p><u>Planning:</u></p> <p>a: <b>Application 2014/0184/REM:</b> Application for variation of conditions, Brambleditch Cottage, Doultong BA4 4RE for Mr Adam Underwood. There were no objections to this application.</p> <p>b: <b>Application 2014/0147/HSE:</b> Demolition of Hen House and erection of timber framed building comprising double garage, store room, lean-to wood store and widening existing southern-most access, resurfacing track and creation of additional parking area, Mill House Farm, Prestleigh Lane, Prestleigh BA4 4NG for Mr Ben Riley. There were no objections to this application.</p> <p>c: <b>Proposed housing development</b> at Chelynch Road, Doultong: A number of councillors had attended the presentation on 26<sup>th</sup> February and it was noted that the size of the proposed development required consideration of things like the provision of gas and a suitable level of broadband. Among the concerns about the proposed development were too many entrances, too many house and too little parking. The question of public transport was also raised.</p> <p>Approvals received:</p> <p>d: Application 2013/2320FUL: Erection of ground mounted solar panel arrays together with associated ancillary development. Farncombe Farm, Prestleigh Lane, Prestleigh, BA4 4NG for Mr and Mrs D Selman.</p>	

12	<p><u>Financial:</u></p> <p>a: Salary and expenses for Kay Smith to end of January 2014: £226.01; this was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p>b: Insurance renewal; Came and Co: £425.84</p> <p>c: Invoice from NALC: £132.00; this was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p>d: Krystal Hosting (paid by clerk) £77.99; this was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p>e: BT payphone invoice (in advance payment to 22/02/15) £360.00; this was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p>f: A cheque for £13.50 was raised to Emma Hill for travelling expenses as previously agreed.</p> <p>g: A cheque for £30.00 for the Plantlife subscription was raised as previously agreed.</p> <p>h: The clerk to contact Valley Sawmills to request an invoice for the Well sign.</p>	Clerk
13	<p><u>Highways and Footpaths</u></p> <p>a: Letter from Julia Massey regarding footpaths (passed to Mr Newman): Barry Newman was dealing with this.</p> <p>b: Barry Newman raised the following highway issues:</p> <p>The flooding reported at the January meeting in Farm Road had been dealt with.</p> <p>There was a continuing problem with flooding in Maesdown Road near the railway bridge; to be reported to highways.</p> <p>The blocked footpath at the back of the school reported at the January meeting had been dealt with; clerk to write letter of thanks to the school.</p> <p>The footpath near the Well was in a poor state and he had met with Claire Haskins from Mendip and a number of remedial works agreed.</p> <p>He asked for clarification about the minute in the January meeting minutes (item 6) concerning the footpath access at the bottom of Church Lane. Cllr Clarke confirmed that this referred to an arrangement for vehicles to turn and not the footpath itself.</p>	Clerk  Clerk

		The problem of verge damage in Kings Road between The Poachers Pocket and The Waggon and Horses was raised. This was due to a lack of passing places and the use of the road by large vehicles; Highways to be contacted on the matter. The problem of parked vehicles outside the Poachers Pocket was also raised. Cllr Blaker left the meeting at this point.	Clerk
	14	<u>Prestleigh/ Waterlip</u> a: Meeting 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2014 regarding LDO at the B&W Showground attended by Cllr Fidge. The minutes of the meeting had been circulated. The question of transport issues was discussed. Further meetings are planned. b: Parking on the corner of Prestleigh Lane; the question of placing a 900mm – 1200mm flower tub and suitable bench to be discussed with highways and a site meeting held to position the proposed items.  There was nothing to report from Waterlip.	PF/BC
	15	<u>Village Hall, Doultling:</u> Concern was expressed about the cancellation at very short notice of the AGM.	
	16	<u>Beacon Hill Wood Society:</u> Nothing to report.	
	17	<u>Correspondence:</u> This had been circulated.	
	18	<u>Matters of Report:</u> It was noted that there was a meeting to be held in Wells Town Hall on 19 <sup>th</sup> March on section 106 agreements.	
	19	<u>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</u> The next scheduled meeting is on Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2014, 7.30pm	

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Alan Butcher,  
Parish Clerk,  
20<sup>th</sup> March 2014  
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doultlingclerk@gmail.com