

**DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
THURSDAY 10<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2014**

**VENUE AND TIME OF THE MEETING:  
ST ALDHELMS SCHOOL, DOULTING @ 7.30pm**

		Present: Cllrs Paula Fidge (Chair), Ros Wilkins, Tony Blaker, Barry Clarke, Ann Crowcombe, John Shepherd; also in attendance Barry Newman (voluntary footpaths warden), Darren Pearson and Nicola Housely (A&S Const) and Alan Butcher (Clerk).	
	1	<u>Apologies for absence.</u> Gloria Cawood.	
	2	<p><u>Public Forum:</u> The Chairman adjourned the meeting for a maximum of 10 minutes to allow public participation. Four members of the public were present.</p> <p>Mary Newman asked for clarification of the note on the agenda indicating that only matters on the agenda can be discussed during the public forum. Cllr Fidge advised that items referring to each agenda heading could be raised. Mary Newman then raised the issue of large tractors using narrow lanes around the village.</p> <p>A letter of thanks regarding grants had been received from the village hall.</p> <p>Cllr Blaker on behalf of his wife raised the issue of her recent correspondence with Chris Betty at Highways and proposals to increase 20 mph road markings and signage. The clerk had also received information direct from Chris Betty. Cllr Blaker felt that the proposals would be ineffective and that the money would be better spent on a proper traffic calming scheme. It was agreed that the matter should be raised with Cllr Ham and also Cllr Harvey Siggs for consideration later in the year.</p>	Clerk

3	<p><u>Declarations of Interest:</u> Cllr Clarke declared an interest in item 12a of the agenda.</p>	
4	<p><u>Acceptance of the Minutes of previous meetings:</u> Minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014 were agreed and signed as a true record.</p>	
5	<p><u>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting:</u> a: Outside table tennis: in hand, this item to be included under the Glebeland item. b: Clerk to speak to Parish Magazine editor re: article. In hand. c: Dangerous parking in village hall car park (item 7), Cllr Fidge to arrange meeting with school. In hand after the Easter break d: Sign for the Well. Stone obtained and sign to be positioned in due course. e: Clerk to arrange dog waste bin with Mendip DC. Awaiting a response from Mendip DC. f: Flooding at Maesdown Road. Highways had been contacted. g: Letter to school re: blocked footpath. Letter drafted, to be sent after the Easter break. h: Verge damage in Kings Road, Chelynych. It was generally agreed that little could be done to solve this problem.</p>	<p>Clerk  PF/RW  JS Clerk  Clerk</p>
6	<p><u>Council Reports:</u> a: Somerset County Council. No report b: Mendip District Council. The Report was read by the clerk, to be circulated to councillors and attached to these minutes.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
7	<p><u>Police Report (this item was taken after item 3):</u>  There had been a total of four calls about the size and speed of tractors on local roads, there had been a broken down vehicle reported and a suspicious vehicle seen in Merryfield Lane on 22<sup>nd</sup> March.</p>	

		<p>In response to a question about the speed of tractors it was confirmed that action was unlikely unless the speed was at least 30mph over the limit. It was confirmed that new motor cycles would soon be in operation with speed monitoring equipment on board. Dean Brewis at camera enforcement could be contacted if there was a continuing problem. Cllr Wilkins confirmed that she had the speedwatch equipment and would be conducting an early morning operation in the near future with Cllr Blaker.</p> <p>Cllr Fidge raised the issue of parking on the pavement at Prestleigh and the matter of pavement parking on the A361 was also mentioned. It was confirmed that the police require evidence that such parking caused an obstruction and would need to witness the vehicles actually driving onto the pavement to park.</p> <p>There was a suggestion that a “No Lorry” sign should be placed at Farrington Lane.</p>	RW/TB
	8	<p><u>Footpaths Report.</u></p> <p>Barry Newman reported that a large tree branch was overhanging the road in a dangerous position at the lane of the lane from Maesdown Road and Brottens Road; clerk to contact highways.</p> <p>Following his meeting with Clare Haskins, the works proposed to improve the footpath between the well and the ponds had been completed very satisfactorily. He had also received thanks from Julia Massey. Clerk to write to Clare Haskins with thanks.</p> <p>He raised the issue of the request for a written report he had received from the clerk from May onwards and he concerned about the request for the report ten days before the meeting and that there had been no discussion on the matter. Cllr Fidge advised that changes were being introduced to streamline council meetings and this was part of this process.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

9	<p><u>The Glebeland:</u>  <b>a: Sign near entrance – final draft circulated:</b>                  This had now been agreed and an updated quote requested for the supply and erection of the new sign. There was a discussion about the existing signage and it was agreed to review all signs at the next Glebeland meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> April. Cllr Shepherd noted that he had the new dog fouling signs to hand but would await the forthcoming discussion about signs before fixing them.  <b>b: Membership of “Plantlife”-</b> documentation; this was passed on by the clerk.  <b>c: Glebeland meeting:</b> Cllr Crowcombe noted that the next Glebeland meeting was on 30<sup>th</sup> April, 9.30am at St Aldhelms Church, clerk to post agenda and notice. The clerk advised that he would be away on that date and that a member of the committee should take the minutes, he would type them up and circulate them. The clerk to check on existing Terms of Reference for the Glebeland Committee with a view to updating as required.</p> <p><u>Padfield Green:</u>                  The green was looking in good condition. The clerk had received the March inspection report which highlighted two broken fence posts; Chris Brown to be contacted to effect a suitable repair or replacement. The report also noted that the swings should be serviced although it was agreed that this had been completed within the last eighteen months; situation to be monitored.</p>	<p>Glebeland agenda</p> <p>Clerk</p>
10	<p><u>St Aldhelms Well:</u> The new sign awaits fixing.</p>	
11	<p><u>Parish Council Matters:</u>  <b>a: Website update:</b> The accounts and annual return for the year ending March 2013 had been added to the website. A couple of small typo errors to be corrected.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

		<p><b>b: Asset register and risk assessment:</b> The clerk to circulate existing asset register for councillors to review.</p> <p><b>c: Standing Orders</b> – New version circulated, councillors to review prior to final adoption in June.</p> <p><b>d: Highways matters.</b> The drain near The Poachers Pocket still required attention. Cllr Crowcombe noted that one particular drain at Waterlip was seemingly repaired on a monthly basis. Signs placed at Barton Lane to prevent lorry access had been subsequently removed.</p> <p><b>e: Arrangements</b> for Annual Parish Council meeting and Annual Parish Meeting: Annual PC meeting to take place on 8<sup>th</sup> May starting at 8pm with the Annual Parish meeting to take place on the same date starting at 7pm. Cllr Fidge to organise speaker for the meeting. Both meetings to take place at The Prestleigh Inn.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>All</p> <p>PF</p>
	<p>12</p>	<p><u>Planning:</u></p> <p><b>a: Application 2014/0487/HSE:</b> Installation of sash window to provide fire escape to second floor extension approved under 2013/2620/HSE. Manor Cottage, Well Lane, Doultling for Mr Barry Clarke. This was approved.</p> <p><b>b: Application 2013/1221.</b> An appeal has been lodged against the refusal of the single wind turbine at The Bath and West Showground, Shepton Mallet by Dr Jane Guise. Representations have to be submitted by 9<sup>th</sup> May 2014. Information for a submission to the Inspector to be collated by Cllr Fidge from objectors and other information given at the time of the planning application.</p> <p><b>c: Proposed housing development</b> at Chelynch Road, Doultling. Invitation from Mark Crosby for a briefing on proposed development. It was proposed to hold an extraordinary meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> April for the suggested briefing, Clerk to contact Mr Crosby.</p>	<p>PF</p> <p>Clerk</p>

13	<p><u>Financial:</u>  a: Salary and expenses for Alan Butcher for February and March 2014. A cheque in the sum of £593.76 was raised.  b: Invoice from Valley Sawmills for sign: this had not been received.  c: Invoice from SALC: £152.00: A cheque was raised in this amount.  d: Payment to HMRC: £107.20: A cheque was raised in this amount.  e: Internal Auditor, Timetable for accounts and Annual Return. Clerk to contact Mr Caple, the internal auditor.  f: Bank signatories: Cllr Wilkins to visit Natwest Shepton Mallet to complete formalities; similarly the clerk to complete this process.  g: A subscription invoice for the LCR Magazine had been received and a cheque for £17.00 raised.</p>	Clerk  RW/Clerk
14	<p><u>Prestleigh/Waterlip:</u>  Cllr Fidge reported continuing problems with parking on the pavement at Prestleigh, she had contacted a number of residents to gauge their opinion.  There was likely to be a village meeting about the turbine appeal.  There was to be a meeting about the B&amp;W LDO in two week time.</p>	
15	<p><u>Village Hall, Doultong:</u>  Cllr Wilkins advised that she had stood down from the committee and that a new PC representative was required.</p>	Agenda
16	<p><u>Beacon Hill Wood Society;</u> Nothing to report.</p>	
17	<p><u>Correspondence:</u>  The clerk had today received information from Somerset Playing Field and about the proposed Shepton Mallet Health Campus. Items to be circulated to councillors.</p>	Clerk

18	<u><i>Matters of Report:</i></u> A letter from Stuart Brown dated 9 <sup>th</sup> April concerning flooding had been circulated and required a response by the end of May; to be included on the next meeting agenda.	Agenda
19	<u><i>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</i></u> The next scheduled meeting is the Annual Parish Council meeting on Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2014 commencing at 8pm at The Prestleigh Inn, Prestleigh preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm.	

The meeting closed at 9pm

Alan Butcher,  
Parish Clerk,  
16<sup>th</sup> April 2014  
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