

**DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
THURSDAY 8<sup>th</sup> MAY 2014**

**VENUE AND TIME OF THE MEETING:  
PRESTLEIGH INN, PRESTLEIGH @ 8pm.**

**(The meeting started at 7.30pm after the Annual Parish Meeting.)**

		Present: Cllrs Paula Fidge, John Shepherd, Tony Blaker, Barry Clarke, Ann Crowcombe; also in attendance Alan Butcher (Clerk)	
	1	<u>Apologies for absence:</u> Cllrs Ros Wilkins, Philip Ham and Mary Newman.	
	2	<u>Election of Chairman:</u> Cllr Paula Fidge was proposed, seconded and elected unanimously. Cllr Fidge signed the acceptance of office and took the chair.	
	3	<u>Election of Vice Chairman:</u> Cllr Ros Wilkins was duly elected.	
	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.  Barry Newman (in attendance) raised the matter of articles in the parish magazine. The clerk had the draft of an article for the magazine for comment later. Dates for meetings also to be included. The deadline for the next magazine is 22 <sup>nd</sup> May.  Clerk to pass details of Parish website to John Lees.	
	3	<u>Declarations of Interest:</u> Cllr Clarke advised a personal interest (neighbour) in item 12b	

	4	<u>Acceptance of the Minutes of previous meetings:</u> Minutes of the meeting held on 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2014 were agreed and signed as a true record with a minor amendment to the action column against item 5c.	
	5	<u>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting:</u> a: Clerk to prepare article for Parish Magazine on dog fouling: The clerk read out a draft article on dog fouling which was agreed with the addition of The Glebeland, etc which is to be mentioned. Clerk to also provide details of meeting dates, etc. b: Dangerous parking in village hall car park, Cllr Wilkins to arrange meeting with school. c: Sign for the Well: this was in hand. d: Clerk to arrange dog waste bin with Mendip DC: Clerk to chase Mendip DC e: Letter to school re: blocked footpath: Done f: Overhanging tree Brottens Road area: see item 11. g: Traffic calming in Doulting: The clerk had drafted a letter which was read out; it was agreed to wait until after the meeting on 15 <sup>th</sup> May concerning the proposed development in Chelynch Road before finalising and sending the letter.	
	6	<u>Council Reports:</u> a: Somerset County Council: A written report had been received which included mention of a Healthy Eating grant to Doulting School; the report is attached to these minutes. b: Mendip District Council: No report received.	
	7	<u>Appointment of Proper Officer:</u> Alan Butcher was appointed.	
	8	<u>Appointment of Responsible Financial Officer:</u> Alan Butcher was appointed.	

9	<p><u>Appointment of Parish Council Committees:</u>  <b>a: Glebeland Committee:</b> confirmation of membership of committee. This was deferred until after the next Glebeland meeting (23<sup>rd</sup> July 2014 – 10am at St Aldhelms School, Douling) where Terms of Reference would be reviewed.</p> <p><u>Appointment of Representatives to Outside Bodies:</u>  <b>a: Village Hall Committee</b> – one representative: this was deferred until the next PC meeting.</p>	
10	<p><u>Police Report:</u> No report received.</p>	
11	<p><u>Footpaths Report:</u> Barry Newman had provided a report was had been circulated.</p> <p>Barry Newman advised that he was still concerned about the continued flooding in Maesdown Lane.</p> <p>He had contacted Highways regarding the overhanging branch and this had been removed shortly after his call.</p> <p>There was an issue with the footpath from St Aldhelms Wells to the two ponds which tended to become overgrown; Shaun Patterson had agreed to clear the path as required.</p> <p>He advised that he had decided to stand down as footpath warden with immediate effect and would hand over the tools he held which would require a receipt from the council.</p> <p>Cllr Fidge thanked him for his work over the years which was endorsed by all councillors.</p>	
12	<p><u>The Glebeland and Padfield Green:</u>  a: Report on meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2014: The draft minutes had been sent to the clerk for circulation.</p> <p>A review of the signs to be conducted; there may need to be a different focus with the advent of the proposed housing; thanks to George Knapp and his sons and Tobias Crouch for their work in clearing up the skate park; another plant survey had also been conducted.</p> <p>b: Outside table tennis: awaiting the positioning of the rocks which would be delivered shortly</p>	

		c: Repairs to fence posts Padfield Green: clerk to chase SML. .	
	10	<u>St Aldhelms Well:</u> New sign in hand.	
	11	<u>Parish Council Matters:</u> a: Website update: Cllr Crowcombe advised that she had photo's and other information for the website. Cllr Fidge had information to include. Links to the school and village website to be included. b: Asset register and risk assessment: this had been circulated, to be reviewed at the June meeting. c: Standing Orders – New version circulated: to be reviewed at the June meeting. d: Highways matters: Cllr Shepherd advised that an increase in heavy traffic was due to work at Ham and Doultling Quarry. It was noted that the A371 would be closed at the Leyton Lane junction for three nights from 12 <sup>th</sup> May for re-surfacing. There were still problems with blocked drains at The Poachers Pocket junction and near Hither Broadpool Farm.	
	12	<u>Planning:</u> a: Application 2014/0544/OTA: Outline application for the erection of an agricultural workers dwelling and erection of agricultural building. Ingsdon Farm, Bodden Lane, Bodden for Mr C Keevil. This was approved.  b: Application 2014/0633/HSE: Erection of single storey side extension. Fig Tree Cottage, Well Lane, Doultling for Mrs Reeves. This was approved.  c: Application 2013/1221. 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.	

		<p>The clerk circulated the response he had sent to the Planning Inspectorate.</p> <p>d: Proposed housing development at Chelynch Road, Douling. Invitation from Mark Crosby for a briefing on proposed development. Proposed extraordinary meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2014. This to be at 7.30 at St Aldhelms School, Douling; agenda to be circulated on 9<sup>th</sup> May.</p> <p>e: Application 2013/1244: Refusal of permission for four wind turbines adjacent to Torr Works.</p>	
	13	<p><u>Financial:</u></p> <p>a: Invoice from Valley Sawmills for sign: this had not been received; clerk to chase.</p> <p>b: Bank signatories: this was in hand.</p> <p>c: A letter was received from St Aldhelms PCC requesting a grant for churchyard maintenance was received. To be circulated by clerk and discussed at the June meeting.</p>	
	14	<p><u>Prestleigh/Waterlip:</u></p> <p>Nothing to report from waterlip.</p> <p>The proposed meeting regarding the LDO at The Bath and West Showground had been cancelled at short notice and was now re-scheduled for the last week in May.</p>	
	15	<p><u>Village Hall, Douling:</u> Appointment of PC representative had been deferred.</p>	
	16	<p><u>Beacon Hill Wood Society:</u> Mary Newman had advised that a bluebell trail had been set up.</p>	
	17	<p><u>Correspondence:</u> There had been previous correspondence about the funding for a proposed new rivers board.</p>	

18	<p><u>Matters of Report:</u> Concern was expressed about apparent unauthorised developments taking place on land off Well Lane known as Hidden Valley. Prefabricated building had been erected and major earthworks undertaken. It appeared that a badger set may have been damaged. There appeared to be no services on site. Cllr Clarke and Margaret Harding (in attendance) had spoken to the person on site, one Peter Osbourne, who appeared to be the owner. He advised that he was setting up an education facility and that up to 20 cars could be coming to the site each day. David Woodridge from planning enforcement had visited site and expressed concern that some of the work could need planning permission. Clerk to write urgently to the chief planners officer at Mendip DC to raise the matter and ask for action to be taken. Clerk to email Margaret Harding who would be able to send photo's of the works. Cllr Blaker advised that he had some PC papers from a previous clerk. The clerk to liaise to view/collect same.</p>	
19	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</u> The next scheduled meeting is on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2014 commencing at 7.30pm. The extraordinary meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2014 is at 7.30pm at St Aldhelms School, Doultling.</p>	

The meeting closed at 9pm.

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