

DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL

<p>MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 10th JULY 2014</p> <p>VENUE AND TIME OF THE MEETING: ST ALDHELMS SCHOOL, DOULTING @ 7.30pm</p>

		<p>Present: Cllrs Ros Wilkins (Chair), Tony Blaker, Barry Clarke, Ann Crowcombe, John Shepherd; also in attendance Gloria Cawood and Alan Butcher (Clerk)</p>	
	1	<p><u>Apologies for absence.</u> Cllr Paula Fidge, Mary Newman, Nicola Housley.</p>	
	2	<p><u>Public Forum:</u> The Chairman adjourned the meeting for a maximum of 10 minutes to allow public participation. 18 members of the public were present.</p> <p>A number of parishioners spoke against the proposed housing development in Chelynch Road, Doultling.</p> <p>In summary the following concerns were raised:</p> <p>The development of 40 houses would substantially increase the size of the village, currently 81 homes. The character and identity of the village would be radically altered.</p> <p>The draft of the local plan had suggested that Doultling as a secondary settlement should have an additional 15 homes of which 4 had already been built.</p> <p>The increase in traffic would greatly exacerbate the current problems with access onto the A361, parking and traffic movement at peak times and the speed of traffic through the village.</p> <p>The current village infrastructure and amenities would struggle to cope with the increase in the village population and the school was already full to capacity.</p> <p>The sewage system, already overloaded, would be inadequate for the new development.</p> <p>Gloria Cawood advised that parishioners should write individually to the planners before 18th July. She noted that comments already made had not been put onto the planning website.</p>	

		Two letters of objection had also been received which reiterated the comments made during public participation. No matters, other than those on planning were raised.	
	3	<u>Declarations of Interest:</u> None	
		Item 12 – Planning was taken at this point but for the purpose of continuity of these minutes have been left in agenda order.	
	4	<u>Acceptance of the Minutes of previous meetings:</u> Minutes of the meeting held on 12 th June 2014 were agreed and signed as a true record.	
	5	<u>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting:</u> a: Dangerous parking in village hall car park, Cllr Wilkins to arrange meeting with school; in hand b: Clerk to arrange dog waste bin with Mendip DC; the clerk had brought the new bin to the meeting; Cllr Shepherd agreed to fix the bin on the wall adjoining the Padfield Green notice board. c: Traffic calming in Doulting: the email had been sent to highways and an acknowledgement received. d: Joint meeting with other Parishes to discuss traffic issues suggested by Cllr Ham; awaiting details of arrangements.	RW JS
	6	<u>Council Reports:</u> a: Somerset County Council; no report. b: Mendip District Council: Cllr Cawood had circulated a report. She highlighted problems with Mendip planning dept including lack of consultation. She referred to the application for Ingsdon Farm which was to go to planning board where she had not been consulted. It was agreed to write to Mendip Council to highlight the apparent problems and express the councils concern. The rural forum on 21 st July was mentioned; Cllrs Crowcombe and Clarke to attend to express Parish Council disquiet. She also mentioned the B&W LDO and the need to ensure that the new system of voting registration is taken up.	Clerk AC/BC
	7	<u>Police Report:</u> An email report highlighted a minor traffic accident on Doulting Hill and materials stolen from West Bodden Farm.	

	8	<u>Footpaths Report.</u> Nothing to report.	
	9	<p><u>The Glebeland and Padfield Green:</u></p> <p>a: Outside table tennis. This was in hand. It was noted that brambles were growing over the wall from the road verge. It was agreed to ask SML to cut these back on an annual basis.</p> <p>b: Repairs to fence posts Padfield Green: the clerk advised that the fence was in a poor state and should be replaced; a quotation to be sought for this replacement.</p> <p>Cllr Wilkins had been looking at alternative types of play equipment to replace the existing. It was agreed that a style of wooden equipment should be investigated and Cllr Wilkins to seek possible grant funding.</p> <p>c: Signs and sign wording: the clerk had investigated playground signage and advised that the current disclaimer notices should be replaced with more appropriate wording. He suggested that a “Doultling PC style” should be adopted for all signs both in the Glebeland and Padfield Green. Glebeland signs to be discussed at the meeting on 23rd July. The Padfield Green sign to be updated and contact details to be included in both sets of signs.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>RW</p>
	10	<p><u>St Aldhelms Well:</u></p> <p>The clerk advised that there was an issue of liability with both the access from the lane and the fencing within the site.</p>	
	11	<p><u>Parish Council Matters:</u></p> <p>a: Website update – the clerk had received photo’s from Cllr Crowcombe and would be adding them onto the website shortly.</p> <p>b: Asset register and risk assessment – finalisation of draft documents: the clerk had circulated an updated asset register and risk assessment. The asset register was provisionally agreed, the risk assessment to be discussed at the next meeting. The storage of documents was discussed; clerk to obtain price for suitable fireproof cabinet.</p> <p>c: Highways matters:</p> <p>i) Footpath on Doultling Hill – clerk to write to advise that work still needs to be done.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	12	<p><i>Planning:</i></p> <p>a: Application 2014/0955/FUL. Demolition of hen house and erection of timber framed building comprising double garage, store room and lean-to wood store. Change of use of agricultural land to domestic use to facilitate proposed development. Mill House Farm, Prestleigh Lane, Prestleigh BA4 4NG for Mr Ben Riley. This was approved all in favour.</p> <p>b: Application 2014/0969/OTS. Outline application for the development of up to 40 dwellings with associated access and landscaping at land east of Chelynch Road, Doulting (access determined with all other detailed matters reserved) for David Wilson Homes.</p> <p>A summary of public comments are included under section 2 of these minutes.</p> <p>Cllr Blaker felt there was a need for more housing in the village.</p> <p>Cllr Crowcombe felt that, as a “secondary” village a smaller number of houses should be built.</p> <p>Cllr Clarke felt that more homes were needed to re-invigorate the village.</p> <p>Cllr Shepherd felt that more homes were needed and this would bring improvements to school and village infrastructure.</p> <p>Cllr Wilkins also agreed that more homes were needed.</p> <p>The clerk advised that the application was an outline application with all matters reserved except the access and that there was unlikely to be an opportunity to resolve current highway problems at a later date.</p> <p>A vote was taken with 1 in favour and 3 against the application. There was one abstention. The application was therefore rejected with the reasons cited as:</p> <p>Too many proposed houses causing a substantial increase in the number of homes in the village from 81 to 121.</p> <p>A major concern over traffic issues, parking, pedestrian safety and access onto the A361</p> <p>Concern over the effect of the development of the village infrastructure, school and utilities.</p>	
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	13	<p><u>Financial:</u></p> <p>a: Bank signatories – the clerk had now been added to the signatories; an appropriate form to be obtained for the addition of Cllr Wilkins.</p> <p>b: Annual Return and accounts: Bank statements had now been obtained and the accounts completed in draft. The internal auditor was not available until after 19th July to allow the accounts to be completed. The external auditor had agreed to allow submission of the annual return to be delayed until 19th August.</p> <p>c: Donation to St Aldhelms Church for churchyard maintenance (letter circulated): It was agreed, all in favour, to give donation of £850 for which a cheque was raised.</p> <p>A cheque was also raised for planting around the village in the sum of £79.00</p> <p>d: Payment to HMRC 1st Quarter: a cheque for £126.53 was raised.</p>	Clerk
	14	<p><u>Prestleigh/ Waterlip</u></p> <p>a: Bath and West meeting: details had been circulated, nothing to report.</p> <p>b: Waterlip: nothing to report.</p>	
	15	<u>Village Hall, Doultling:</u> nothing to report.	
	16	<u>Beacon Hill Wood Society:</u> nothing to report.	
	17	<u>Correspondence:</u> this had been circulated.	
	18	<u>Matters of Report:</u> No matters	
	19	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</u></p> <p>The next meeting is on Thursday 14th August 2014 at The Prestleigh Inn commencing at 7.30pm.</p>	

Alan Butcher,
Parish Clerk,
17th July 2014
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