

DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 14th
AUGUST 2014
VENUE AND TIME OF THE MEETING: PRESTLEIGH INN, PRESTLEIGH @
7.30pm**

		Present: Cllrs Paula Fidge (Chair), Ros Wilkins, Tony Blaker, John Shepherd, Ann Crowcombe, Barry Clarke; also in attendane Alan Butcher (Clerk)	
	1	<u>Apologies for absence.</u> Nicola Housley (A&S Police)	
	2	<u>Public Forum:</u> The Chairman will adjourn the meeting for a maximum of 10 minutes to allow public participation. Two members of the public were present in respect of the planning application 2014/1013/FUL and the chairman advised that their comments would be taken before discussion of the application.	
	3	<u>Declarations of Interest:</u> None.	
	4	<u>Acceptance of the Minutes of previous meetings:</u> Minutes of the meeting held on 10 th July 2014 were agreed and signed as a true record with a minor correction to item 2 regarding concerns about the proposed housing development; 5 houses had been built not 4 as stated.	
	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: To be arranged at the start of the new school year. b: Dog waste bin at Padfield Green: This had been fixed. c: Speed watch issues: The clerk had written to Tony Drake with no response and the police had also been contacted. d: Joint meeting with other Parishes to discuss traffic issues suggested by Cllr Ham: Cllr Ham was still engaged with flood issues but was hoping to arrange the meeting as soon as he was able. Item 12 Planning was dealt with at this point but these minutes have been left in agenda order for clarity.	

	6	<p><u>Council Reports:</u> a: Somerset County Council: no report. b: Mendip District Council: no report.</p>	
	7	<p><u>Police Report.:</u> An email report advising of a shed break in at Chelynch Road on 1st August had been received.</p>	
	8	<p><u>The Glebeland</u> a: Glebeland meeting – 23rd July: Report of meeting: concern was expressed about the proposal to purchase goal posts for the central area and the possibility of the balls striking other users including children. The proposal to be reviewed b: Recommendations: i) That the new Terms of Reference as circulated be adopted. This was agreed unanimously. ii) That David Kimber, Mary Newman, Margaret Hare and Emma Hill be co-opted onto the Glebeland Committee: it was agreed unanimously that those named be co-opted. Co-options to be on an annual basis. b: Replacement signs and budget: There was some discussion about the replacement signs and it was agreed that more information about type and cost of signs was required. Clerk to update wording as discussed.</p>	
	9	<p><u>Padfield Green:</u> a: Replacement fencing: see c: below. b: Replacement of signs: to be taken together with Glebeland signs project. c: The proposal for the replacement of the equipment was discussed including grant funding. An overall proposal for the replacement of the equipment to include the fencing to be prepared and grant funding sought.</p>	
	10	<p><u>St Aldhelms Well:</u> The question of council liability in respect of the fencing was discussed and options including removal considered. Clerk to seek advice from SALC on the matter.</p>	
	11	<p><u>Parish Council Matters:</u> a: Website update: the clerk had experienced problems with his broadband and only limited updates had be possible. b: Asset register and risk assessment – finalisation of draft documents: deferred until next meeting.</p>	

		<p>c: Highways matters: Clerk to chase up highways about the Doultling Hill footpath.</p> <p>Cllr Crowcombe raised the issue of speeding lorries and traffic at Waterlip and there was a discussion about the continued use of Waterlip as a rat run rather than the Balls Green Link road which was underused.</p> <p>There was a general discussion about the continuing issues with traffic at Doultling and the seeming failure of Somerset CC to consider any of the several proposals put forward to address the situation.</p> <p>It was agreed that a wish list should be prepared for use at the forth coming meeting proposed by Cllr Ham.</p> <p>d: Footpaths Report: nothing to report.</p>	
	12	<p><u>Planning:</u></p> <p>a: Application 2014/1013/FUL. Erection of three replacement poultry buildings. Beard Hill Farm, Fosse Way, Pylle for Steanbow Farms.</p> <p>Neil and Michael Christianson attended the meeting and gave an outline of proposals and responded to queries from councillors including the disposal of waste. A statement from Lee Wright was also read by the clerk.</p> <p>The application was approved unanimously with the comment that the proposal would benefit the local area and economy.</p> <p>The clerk had been asked to write to Mendip DC about problems with the planning process. He had, in fact, raised the issue with Cllr Nigel Taylor and expressed the Parish Councils concerns on the present difficulties with the planning department.</p> <p>Cllrs Crowcombe and Clarke had attended the Rural Forum recently and noted that there was now a Clerks Forum where issues of mutual concern could be raised.</p>	
	13	<p><u>Financial:</u></p> <p>a: Bank signatories: Cllr Wilkins to be added: The relevant forms were duly completed and signed and the resolution continued on the form in respect of the existing mandate duly agreed unanimously.</p> <p>b: Annual Return and accounts: The accounts for year ended 31st march 2014 had been circulated and were approved.</p> <p>The annual return and statement of governance were completed, accepted and signed.</p>	

		<p>c: Arien Signs invoice for Glebeland sign £720.00. This was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p>d: SPFA invoice for annual safety inspection £150.00. This was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p>e: Clerks salary and expenses for June and July £663.41. This was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p>f: The clerk circulated interim accounts to 31st July 2014 including details of cheques raised at the meeting.</p>	
	14	<p><u>Prestleigh/ Waterlip</u></p> <p>a: Bath and West meeting: This had been postponed. In clarification it was noted that the proposed Mendip Free school had been looking at the B&W site as a possible location. A large solar array proposed near Pylle had been the subject of discussion as the application had not been properly notified although both Evercreech and Pylle had voted against.</p> <p>b: Cllr Crowcombe noted problems with the delivery and installation of large Portacabins at Waterlip during the night which had caused a noise nuisance.</p>	
	15	<p><u>Village Hall, Doultong:</u></p> <p>Confirmation of Parish Council role as custodian trustee on village hall committee and continuing representation on committee.</p> <p>Concern was expressed about the interpretation of the VAT rules governing the installation of disabled facilities at the hall. It was agreed that as the Parish Council were aware of the situation the matter needed to be resolved without further delay. The clerk to draft a letter to the village hall committee asking for the matter of the VAT to be resolved. It was agreed that Parish Council representation on the committee be suspended for the present until the matter was resolved.</p>	
	16	<p><u>Beacon Hill Wood Society:</u> The poster about a forthcoming talk by Steve Tofts to be displayed on the website.</p>	
	17	<p><u>Correspondence:</u> None.</p>	
	18	<p><u>Matters of Report:</u> Councillors had received correspondence from the developers of the houses in</p>	

		<p>Douling seeking a meeting. This was not thought to be appropriate until the planning application had been determined. It was agreed that, if possible, further discussions could take place about highway matters at a later and more suitable time.</p> <p>Cllr Fidge sought clarification about some of the comments made when the application was considered and it was subsequently agreed that whilst more homes were needed it might not be as many as the 40 proposed at present.</p>	
	19	<p><u><i>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</i></u> The next meeting is on Thursday 11th September 2014 at St Aldhelms School, Douling commencing at 7.30pm.</p>	

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Alan Butcher,
Parish Clerk,
19th August 2014
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