

**DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL**

| <p align="center"><b>MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON<br/>THURSDAY 11<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2015<br/>VENUE AND TIME OF THE MEETING: THE PRESTLEIGH INN, PRESTLEIGH @ 7.30pm</b></p> |   |  |
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|  |   | Present: Cllrs Paula Fidge (Chair), Ros Wilkins, Ann Crowcombe, Sarah Goff, John Shepherd, Barry Clarke; also in attendance David Van Dyk (MDC), Nicola Housley and another (A&S Police) and Alan Butcher (Clerk)  |
|  | 1 | <u>Apologies for absence.</u> Mary Newman.   |
|  | 2 | <p><u>Public Forum:</u> The Chairman will adjourn the meeting for a maximum of 10 minutes to allow public participation. Five members of the public were present.</p> <p>A number of issues were raised in connection with the proposed school at the Bath and West showground which included the need for personal objections to be submitted and the continuing support of the Parish Council in objecting to the proposals at the showground which seemed to “taking over” Prestleigh. The matter of utilities for the proposed school were also raised where there were likely to be problems with the disposal of sewage. The speed of broadband in the area was also mentioned, this to be added to forthcoming agendas as an item which generally effects the Parish.</p> <p>Tony Blaker asked that unfulfilled agenda items by carried on the agenda until completion, he also queried attendance at “Glebeland” meetings. A proposal from Evercreech PC about the provision of a cycle path from Evercreech to Shepton Mallet was also noted.</p> |
|  | 3 | <p><u>Declarations of Interest:</u> None.</p> <p>All Councillors returned Register of Interest Forms. at this meeting.</p>   |
|  | 4 | <p><u>Acceptance of the Minutes of previous meetings:</u></p> <p>Minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2015 were agreed and signed as a true record.</p>  |
|  | 5 | <p><u>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting:</u></p> <p>a: Shelter for school children – clerk to contact Cllr Ham and the Police Commissioner about grants.</p> <p>b: Post Office for Doultong – clerk to seek feedback via Notice Boards, website and an article in the Parish Magazine.</p> <p>c: Councillors responsibilities: Councillors to oversee and act as point of contact as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Padfield Green – Cllr Wilkins.</li> <li>ii) Glebeland – Cllr Crowcome</li> <li>iii) Quarries – Cllr Crowcombe</li> <li>iv) Highways – Cllr Clarke.</li> </ul>   |

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| 6  | <p><u>Planning:</u></p> <p><b>a: Application 2015/0464/FUL</b> – Planning Board on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015. Parish Council representation. Cllr Fidge to speak on behalf of the Parish Council; clerk to book slot with Mendip. Cllr Crowcombe suggested she might speak on the educational aspects of the proposal; Cllr Van Dyk to check if this could be arranged with Planning Board chairman.</p> <p><b>b: Application 2015/1111/FUL</b> – Extension to office creating and ancillary kitchen and WC and an extension to the existing garage. Ashdene, Cranmore Road, Doulling BA4 4QQ for Mr Adrian Forsey. This was approved with the comment that this was a much needed improvement by an established local business.</p> |  |
| 7  | <p><u>Speedwatch Report:</u> Cllr Goff reported that there had been two watches recently.</p>  |  |
| 8  | <p><u>Council Reports:</u></p> <p>a: Somerset County Council – no report. Clerk to write to Cllr Ham to advise meeting dates.</p> <p>b: Mendip District Council – Cllr Van Dyk introduced himself and advised on the District Councils actions in respect of future reductions in government funding which included identifying assets and the possibility of setting up a commercial company to deal with various parcels of land owned by the council.</p>   |  |
| 9  | <p><u>Police Report.</u> Nicola Housley reported incidents including two motor vehicle accidents, a fallen cable, inappropriate parking, bikes using Beacon Hill Wood and a van selling machinery. The theft of a lawn mower was reported at the meeting. She would advise the clerk of surgery dates. She had also raised the issue of reporting of incidents in Prestleigh.</p>  |  |
| 10 | <p><u>The Glebeland</u></p> <p>a: Stones – Cllr Crowcombe had selected the stones and circulated photos of same. These would be delivered shortly.</p> <p>b: Fencing stakes, etc as previously discussed had been purchased.</p> <p>c: The condition of the picnic tables was discussed. It was agreed that all three tables should be replaced; Cllrs Crowcombe and Shepherd to research price for both round and square tables from local suppliers. Cllr Fidge had ordered some dog fouling information posters to be posted around the area.</p>   |  |
| 11 | <p><u>Padfield Green.</u></p> <p>a: Conditional Grant Offer – All paperwork had been completed and the final confirmation was awaited.</p> <p>b: Proposals for replacement equipment and fencing – Cllr Wilkins had obtained a price for the supply of equipment including safety provisions from Vita Play for £10,800. In addition, outdoor gym equipment could be purchased although the location of this was to be confirmed.</p>  |  |

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|    | <p>It was noted that the Mendip Local Legacy Fund could provide grants (minimum £5000) to promote fitness and sport in the community for children, adults and families. It was suggested that the outdoor table tennis table previously discussed could be included in this provision. The proposed fencing was discussed and it was confirmed that this would be about the same height as existing. Cllr Wilkins still finalising details of funding, etc.</p> <p>Cllr Fidge thanked Cllr Wilkins for her work on these matters which was reiterated by all.</p>  |  |
| 12 | <p><u>St Aldhelms Well</u>; Nothing to report.</p> <p>Cllr Fidge had been in contact with the owner of the Edge Tool Works who was intending to secure and improve the site. He had requested a meeting with the Parish Council which was to be arranged.</p>  |  |
| 13 | <p><u>Parish Council Matters:</u></p> <p>a: Highways and Footpath matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Blocked gullies – Doulting Hill – clerk to check if this had been actioned.</li> <li>ii) Other matters reported – concern was expressed about the possibility of the triangle below Prestleigh (Prestleigh Point) being removed and the road layout amended. It was noted that vehicles exiting Prestleigh Lane often turned left to avoid the awkward exit up the hill and then turned around at the triangle. This was also relevant if the proposed school was granted permission. Cllr Van Dyk noted that a strategy should be formulated if, indeed, the school was granted permission.</li> <li>iii) The matter of the wall at Longcross was raised; clerk to raise matter with highways again.</li> <li>iv) The question of street lighting in Prestleigh including the defunct light mounted on The Prestleigh Inn was raised; clerk to bring matter to highways attention.</li> </ul> <p>b: Additional Notice Board in Doulting – clerk to obtain quotation for both open fronted and glazed notice boards for public use.</p> |  |
| 14 | <p><u>Financial:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a: Change of bank signatories – this had been completed.</li> <li>b: ICO registration renewal £35.00; this was agreed and a cheque raised.</li> <li>c: Village planting St Aldhelms PCC £101.00; this was agreed and a cheque raised.</li> <li>d: Clerks salary and expenses for April £311.46; this was agreed and a cheque raised.</li> <li>e: Vita Play invoice for gym equipment £2250.00; this was agreed and a cheque raised.</li> <li>f: D and A Crowcombe for fencing £24.94; this was agreed and a cheque raised.</li> <li>g: HMRC quarter 1 tax £193.95; this was agreed and a cheque raised.</li> </ul>   |  |

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|  |    | h: Year-end accounts for 2014/15 – these were reviewed and agreed subject to audit. The clerk suggested that an extraordinary meeting would be required to finalise the annual return. It was generally agreed that a meeting would be difficult as a number of councillors would be working at the Glastonbury Festival. It was agreed to secure a short extension until the next scheduled meeting.   |  |
|  | 15 | <u>Prestleigh/ Waterlip</u> : Nothing to report from Waterlip.<br>Cllr Fidge reported that a meeting had been arranged with the Bath and West although the response was not entirely positive.  |  |
|  | 16 | <u>Village Hall, Doultong</u> : Clerk to check if monies previously given to the village hall were in the form of a grant or a loan.<br>Cllr Goff reported that there would be a meeting on 22 <sup>nd</sup> June.  |  |
|  | 17 | <u>Beacon Hill Wood Society</u><br>Nothing to report.   |  |
|  | 18 | <u>Correspondence</u> : None.   |  |
|  | 19 | <u>Matters of Report</u> :<br>The matter of broadband had been discussed at the recent rural forum and it was agreed to add this matter onto the agenda as there appeared to be a number of issues with the provision of “fast broadband” in the Parish.<br>Matthew Williams had confirmed at the forum that stage I of the Local Plan had been completed.<br>The forum had also clarified the question of pecuniary interests and the need for those with such interests to leave the room during discussions.<br>Cllr Wilkins raised the matter of the continuing speed of vehicles through Doultong especially early in the morning. |  |
|  | 20 | <u>Date and Time of Next Meeting</u> :<br>The next scheduled meeting is on 9 <sup>th</sup> July 2015 at St Aldhelms School, Doultong.   |  |

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

Alan Butcher,  
Parish Clerk,  
23<sup>rd</sup> June 2015  
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