

DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 8th MARCH 2016**

VENUE AND TIME OF THE MEETING: DOULTING VILLAGE HALL, DOULTING @ 7.30pm

	<u>Present:</u> Cllrs Paula Fidge (Chair), Ann Crowcombe, Barry Clarke; also in attendance David Van Dyk and Alan Butcher (Clerk)	
1	<u>Apologies for absence.</u> John Shepherd, Sarah Goff and Ros Wilkins.	
2	<u>Public Forum:</u> The Chairman will adjourn the meeting for a maximum of 10 minutes to allow public participation. Eight members of the public were present. Mary Newman mentioned the Post Office questionnaire and that repair works had been carried out on the A361. She thanked Tony Blaker for his input on this matter. Tony Blaker raised issues concerning school admissions policy, the proposed bus shelter, speeding vehicles and tractors and repair works on the A361. He also mentioned the posting of village hall minutes in the village hall and the hedge at the junction of the A361 which obstructed visibility and which Chris Brown was prepared to cut back if required.	
3	<u>Declarations of Interest:</u> None.	
4	<u>Acceptance of the Minutes of previous meetings:</u> Minutes of the meeting held on 9 th February 2016 were agreed and signed as a true record with an amendment to item 2 (Well Lane) and item 6a, correction of name.	
5	<u>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting:</u> a: Shelter for school children: response from Knightstone Housing. The clerk had written seeking clarification of the ownership of the land and advising of the proposal. Tony Blaker advised that he had obtained maps which appeared to show the extent of the land. b: Post Office for Doultong: Questionnaire results. Mary Newman advised that there had been 111 responses to the questionnaire of which 62 were positive. Additionally, two small businesses and the school had expressed interest. Clerk to collate answers and matter to be pursued. c: Mendip Community Transport – minibuses. Posters to be displayed advising of this facility. d: Queens Birthday celebrations and possible beacon. Chris Norman suggested that a basket style beacon would be possible, further details to be confirmed.	
6	<u>Planning:</u> a: Application 2016/0146/HSE – Erection of timber framed garden room at The Barn, Bodden Lane, Bodden for Mr and Mrs Douglass. This was approved. b: Unauthorised works – Well Lane. Cllr Van Dyk had spoken to the owner who had an unorthodox way of approaching thematter. He was to be given one more opportunity to make an application.	

7	<p><u>Speedwatch:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Speedwatch report – no report ii) Speedwatch collaboration with Cranmore – no report iii) SID's, report, training and other matters. – nothing to report. 	
8	<p><u>Council Reports:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a: Somerset County Council – no report. b: Mendip District Council – Cllr Van Dyk advised that there would be a 1.79% increase in Council Tax for the coming year. Consideration had been given to the requirement to pay the living wage in future years. A process to re-select contractors from 2017 was expected to bring in savings. 	
9	<p><u>Police Report.</u> PCSO Housley was currently on sick leave; clerk to contact A&S constabulary about an alternative contact. Cllr Fidge advised of an incident in Prestleigh.</p>	
10	<p><u>The Glebeland</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a: Replacement fencing to boules court – awaited. b: Fixing of new signs – clerk to liaise with Cllr Crowcombe. c: Contact details for annual inspection of skate park – SPFA to be advised of Cllr Clarkes contact details so that he could attend the inspection. d: The next Glebeland meeting to be on 12th April. e: The trees had now been felled, three log piles had been created with another temporary notice fixed. 	
11	<p><u>Padfield Green.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a: Replacement equipment b: Children's Gym equipment c: Replacement fencing. d: Base for picnic tables e: Replacement signs f: Letter re: donation and further funding – it was noted that a grant of £5000 had been obtained from an anonymous source. 	
12	<p><u>St Aldhelms Well</u></p> <p>Meeting re: Edge Tool works. Cllr Clarke to contact Mr Entwhistle to arrange for him to speak before the next PC meeting on 12th April.</p>	
13	<p><u>Parish Council Matters:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a: Highways and Footpath matters arising from last meeting. There was a continuing problem with speeding tractors and verge damage in Kings Road and Newmans Lane with contractors coming from other areas to access the fields. b: Hedges and footpath on A361 – this had been completed although there were still problems with drainage. c: Footpath at Prestleigh – this had been cleaned although the path was very muddy in places. Thanks to be passed onto highways for their prompt action. d: St Aldhelms School admissions arrangements – it had been proposed by the governors that a meeting to discuss the problems with traffic and parking to held with all relevant parties. Mary Newman had reported by the head teacher about the issues and an item had been included in the newsletter. 	

14	<p><u>Financial:</u> a: Clerks salary and expenses for February £383.00 – this was agreed and a cheque signed. b: Landscape Group inspections £66.85 – this was agreed and a cheque signed. c: BT annual invoice £+360.00 – this was agreed and a cheque signed. d: The insurance renewal from Came and Company had been received in the sum of £411.97 – this was agreed and a cheque signed.</p>	
15	<p><u>Waterlip.</u> Nothing to report.</p>	
16	<p><u>Prestleigh</u> a: Bath and West Showground – Changes to Framework Document – there was no further information about these “changes”. b: Bath and West Showground - Other matters. Cllr Van Dyk reported on recent discussion with the planners about the overview of the works to the school and had expressed concern about the lack of overview once permission had been given. c: Mendip Free School – construction nuisance, planning matters and other matters raised. The situation with the school contractors had significantly improved and good communications had been established. There was concern about the proposed roadworks, no formal notification had been received from Somerset CC and the tight schedule could mean that night working could take place. Whilst communications had improved Cllr Fidge was concerned about the “uneven” distribution of the newsletter and the likelihood of unannounced night working.</p>	
17	<p><u>Village Hall, Doultong</u> The AGM is on 6th April; the matter of the display of the minutes was noted.</p>	
18	<p><u>Beacon Hill Wood Society:</u> Nothing to report.</p>	
19	<p><u>Correspondence:</u> Information on a commemorative medal for the Queen’s birthday had been received and was discounted.</p>	
20	<p><u>Matters of Report</u> a: Cllr Crowcombe had recently attended a meeting of Frome Town Council and had been impressed with councils wish to join forces with other councils on mutual matters of interest. Details of further meetings to be circulated. b: The new Doultong notice board to have the security screws removed and a new header fixed. c: It was noted that fibre broadband had arrived in Doultong.</p>	
21	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</u> The next scheduled meeting is on 12th April 2016 at Doultong. Before the meeting there will be a presentation regarding the Edge Tool Works commencing at 7pm.</p>	

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Alan Butcher,
Parish Clerk,
22nd March 2016
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