

DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12th APRIL 2016	
VENUE AND TIME OF THE MEETING: DOULTING VILLAGE HALL, DOULTING @ 7.30pm	
	Before the meeting, a presentation was given by David Entwistle about his proposals for the Edge Tool Works.
	<i>Present:</i> Cllrs Paula Fidge (Chair), Ros Wilkins, John Shepherd, Sarah Goff, Ann Crowcombe, Barry Clarke; also in attendance David Van Dyk and Alan Butcher (Clerk)
1	<i>Apologies for absence.</i> None.
2	<i>Public Forum:</i> The Chairman will adjourn the meeting for a maximum of 10 minutes to allow public participation. 10 members of the public were present. The majority of the public participation session was postponed until item 6 Planning.
3	<i>Declarations of Interest:</i> Cllr Crowcombe re: 6b – she had also discussed the matter at Cranmore Parish Council. Cllr Goff re: 6b – a relative worked for the company. The declarations did not prevent the councillors from taking part in the debate on the matter.
4	<i>Acceptance of the Minutes of previous meetings:</i> Minutes of the meeting held on 8 th March 2016 were agreed and signed as a true record with the addition of the word “valid” to item 6b – last sentence.
5	<i>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting:</i> a: Shelter for school children: response from Knightstone Housing – the clerk thanked Tony Blaker for sourcing the maps of the area in question. He was in touch with the Knightstone housing officer as there was the need for a written confirmation about the land and that Knightstone were happy with the proposal. b: Post Office for Doultong – clerk to circulate final details of questionnaire. c: Queens Birthday celebrations and possible beacon. It was agreed that this would not now go ahead.
6	<i>Planning:</i> a: Application 2016/0578/LBC – Wooden Cladding over gable end on west elevation at Beacon Farm, Bolters Lane, Doultong for Mr J Britten. It was agreed to leave the application for the planners to determine. b: Application 2016/0665/CNT – Construction of three replacement tips at Moons Hill Quarry, Stoke St Michael. The Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow for public participation on the application. Nick Haskins, a resident of Three Ashes, gave a presentation about the proposals highlighting the size and extent of the tips, the environmental impact and the long term disruption to local residents. The possibility of increased traffic movements was also raised. Tony Blaker queried the figures and details given and felt that the presentation exaggerated the impact of the proposals. Cllr Clarke raised the matter of the surface water which would be effected by the construction of the tips. The meeting then re-convened.

	<p>There was much concern about the way that the application had been handled by Wainwrights, there had been little consultation with either the local residents or Parish Councils. There had been little advertisement of the application and the residents felt “let down” with the whole process.</p> <p>Despite the large volume of paperwork submitted with the application, councillors felt that they were not getting the full story about the proposals and there were concerns about the impact on the landscape, environment, local people and on traffic if output from the quarry increased.</p> <p>The effect of tip “A” on the hamlet of Three Ashes was discussed and it was noted that some of the details included in the application were incorrect. The size of the proposed tip and its proximity to houses was considered to be unacceptable.</p> <p>It was generally agreed that the local quarries provided both employment and income into the local economy and that the Parish Council was not anti-quarry but it was felt that the nature and handling of this application did not reflect well on Wainwrights.</p> <p>There was also some dissatisfaction with Mendip District Council who appeared not to have consulted fully with residents or Parish Councils before reaching a decision on the matter. It was proposed that the Parish Council object to the application citing reasons detailed above. A vote was taken with three in favour of objecting and three against. The matter was decided on the Chairman’s casting vote in favour of objecting. Clerk to prepare response based on the various issues raised during discussions.</p> <p>c: Application 2016/0783/FUL – Retrospective application for the erection of an agricultural building, West Bodden Farm, Bodden for Mr W Davis. It was agreed to leave the application for the planners to determine.</p> <p>d: Unauthorised works – Well Lane. Cllr Van Dyk advised that the planners were still working with the applicant is that a valid application could be submitted.</p> <p>e: Application 2016/0146/HSE – Erection of timber framed garden room at The Barn, Bodden Lane, Bodden for Mr and Mrs Douglass – permission granted.</p> <p>f: Application 2015/2420/APP – Land at Farm Road, Doultling – approval of details reserved by conditions.</p>
7	<p><u>Speedwatch:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Speedwatch report – Cllr Goff had placed an item in the Parish Magazine seeking further volunteers. ii) Speedwatch collaboration with Cranmore. A meeting had taken place to discuss the collaboration. iii) SID’s, report, training and other matters. A laptop had been purchased and the sum of £62.50 agreed to load the software onto the machine.
8	<p><u>Council Reports:</u></p> <p>a: Somerset County Council – no report.</p> <p>b: Mendip District Council – Cllr Van Dyk advised that the devolution bid was now in and that there would be changes to the management structure in the coming weeks. Two Syrian families had been housed in the Mendip area.</p>
9	<p><u>Police Report.</u> Cllr Fidge reported a break-in at the Prestleigh school site.</p>
10	<p><u>The Glebeland</u></p> <p>a: Report and recommendations from Committee meeting 12th April 2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) The survey report from Dr Chris Smith had been finalised and would be distributed shortly. ii) The proposal to remove the boules court fence rather than repair it was agreed.

	<p>iii) A new picnic table was required, clerk to seek price from supplier of the tables installed in 2015.</p> <p>iv) A quote to be obtained from Chris Brown for a concrete base to the picnic table.</p> <p>v) A quote to be obtained from Chris Brown for a replacement fence to the north boundary to include a stile to allow access to the adjoining area for the retrieval of footballs, etc.</p>
11	<p><u>Padfield Green.</u></p> <p>a: Replacement equipment – the replacement panel was due to be fixed shortly.</p> <p>b: Children's Gym equipment – It was agreed to order this equipment from Vita Play as per their quotation, clerk to place order in order for equipment to be fitted w/c 16th May 2016.</p> <p>c: Replacement fencing. This to be included in the Vita Play order.</p> <p>d: Base for picnic tables – another picnic table to be ordered and Chris Brown to be asked to quote for concrete bases.</p> <p>e: Replacement signs. Clerk to prepare draft wording.</p> <p>f: Letter re: donation and further funding. A £5000 anonymous donation had been received and the grant from the Local Legacy fund was in hand.</p>
12	<p><u>St Aldhelms Well.</u> Nothing to report.</p>
13	<p><u>Parish Council Matters:</u></p> <p>a: Highways and Footpath matters. Clerk to write to highways about the proposed Bulls Green Link signs.</p> <p>b: Hedges and footpath on A361 - completed</p> <p>c: St Aldhelms School traffic and parking concerns. Deferred until next meeting.</p> <p>d: Confirmation of Annual Parish Meeting date and format. The meeting to be on 10th May</p> <p>e: Date and location for 2016 Annual Parish Council meeting. The meeting to be on 10th May, both meetings to be of similar format to the 2015 meetings,</p> <p>f: Dates and locations for Parish Council meetings in 2016/17 – this was required to advise the village hall of dates for the coming year. These were agreed as follows (D – Doultling; P – The Prestleigh Inn): 10th May D; 14th June P; 12th July D; 9th August D -provisional; 13th September D; 11th October P; 8th November D; 13th December D; 10th January 2017 P; 14th February D; 14th March D; 11th April P.</p>
14	<p><u>Financial:</u></p> <p>a: Clerks salary and expenses for February £383.00 – This was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p>b: Landscape Group inspections £66.85 – This was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p>c: Parrot Works invoice for works in the Glebeland: £390.00 – This was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p>d: Quarter 4 tax payment £193.95 – This was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p>e: Refund of 50% of training course fee received from Cranmore PC (£37.50) – noted.</p> <p>f: Confirmation of receipt of precept for 2016/17 - £12667 + £449.04 CTS grant.</p> <p>g: Draft end of year accounts – these were circulated at the meeting.</p>
15	<p><u>Waterlip.</u> Nothing to report.</p>

16	<p><u>Prestleigh</u> a: Bath and West Showground – Changes to Framework Document b: Bath and West Showground - Other matters. c: Mendip Free School – construction nuisance, planning matters and other matters raised. These items deferred until next meeting. Cllr Fidge noted that a meeting had been arranged with Cllr Tom Killen and local residents.</p>
17	<p><u>Village Hall, Doultong:</u> Nothing to report.</p>
18	<p><u>Beacon Hill Wood Society:</u> Nothing to report.</p>
19	<p><u>Correspondence:</u> None.</p>
20	<p><u>Matters of Report:</u> Cllr Clarke proposed a vote of thanks to Tony Blaker for his work in resolving highway matters. Cllr Clarke suggested that Tony Blaker be invited to handle highway matters on behalf of the council. Cllr Wilkins suggested that a written report should be given. This matter to be added to the agenda for the next meeting.</p>
21	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</u> The next scheduled meeting is the Annual Parish and Parish Council meetings on 10th May 2016 at Doultong.</p>

Alan Butcher,
Parish Clerk,
24th April 2016
01749 870358,
doultongclerk@gmail.com.