

**DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL**

<b>MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2016</b>	
<b>VENUE AND TIME OF THE MEETING: THE PRESTLEIGH INN, PRESTLEIGH @ 7.30pm</b>	
	<p><u>Present:</u> Cllrs Paula Fidge (Chair), Ann Crowcombe, Sarah Goff, Barry Clarke, John Shepherd; also in attendance David Van Dyk (MDC) and Alan Butcher (Clerk)</p>
1	<p><u>Apologies for absence.</u> Cllr Ros Wilkins, PCSO Nicola Housley.</p>
2	<p><u>Public Forum:</u></p> <p>The Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow the Principal of Mendip School, Emily Massey to address the meeting and take questions.</p> <p>Before she spoke the proceeds of a charity event which had been held at The Prestleigh Inn were presented to Emily Massey as a donation toward the swimming pool fund at the school.</p> <p>She thanked all involved for the donation and then gave an informative resume of progress on the construction of the school and the plans for the school once occupied. She advised on initial pupil numbers, staffing and the programme of education followed by students. She hoped for a long and happy relationship with the local community and confirmed that some of the school facilities would be available for the use of the local community. The Chairman thanked her for her attendance at the meeting.</p> <p>The Chairman advised that she would adjourn the meeting as appropriate to allow public comments on planning and licensing applications included later on the agenda and asked for any public comments on other matters.</p> <p>Some 12 members of the public were in attendance. Tony Blaker raised the matter of the diversion of traffic associated with the recent Bath and West Show through Doultling which had caused considerable disruption. It was noted that there had been no liaison with the Parish Council over such arrangements.</p> <p>The matter of overgrown roadside hedges and un-cleared roadside pavements was raised. It was felt that Somerset CC had abandoned its responsibility in this regard. Residents who cleared debris off of pavements were left with its disposal although it was noted that the responsibility for this was with Mendip DC.</p>
3	<p><u>Declarations of Interest:</u> None.</p> <p>The clerk advised that Cllr Goff had been granted a continuing dispensation in respect of Doultling Village Hall.</p>
4	<p><u>Acceptance of the Minutes of previous meetings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016 were agreed and signed as a true record with two minor amendments: correction of “of” to “on” at the bottom of page 1 (item 8) and the inclusion of the words “in principle” after agreed in item 19 iv).</li> <li>ii) Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2016 were agreed and signed as a true record with the addition of “Quarry Liaison” to Cllr Clarkes responsibilities.</li> </ul>

5	<p><u>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting not covered elsewhere:</u></p> <p>i) Post Office for Doultling – there had been no further information on this; clerk to check progress with Matt Wall before the next meeting.</p>
6	<p><u>Planning:</u></p> <p><b>i) Application 2016/1202/FUL and /1203/LBC</b> – Conversion of barn to self-contained dwelling house occupied ancillary to The Old Stables. The Old Stables, Hurlingpot Farm, Kings Road, Doultling BA4 4PY for Mr and Mrs Simon Tuxworth. Councillors agreed to leave the determination of this application to the planning officer.</p> <p><b>ii) Application 2016/1259/FUL</b> – Erection of an automated milking parlour and associated facilities to include operational building, slurry store and silage store. Beard Hill Farm, Fosse Way, Pylle for Kingshay Farming and Conservation Ltd. Councillors unanimously agreed to support this application and to include the comment that this application represented a significant investment into the local economy.</p> <p><b>iii) Application 2016/1347/HSE and /1348/LBC</b> – demolition of outbuilding and erection of single storey rear extension and the installation of 2 No Velux rooflights in main pitched roof. 47 Church Lane, Doultling for Mr and Mrs O Mann. Councillors agreed to leave the determination of this application to the planning officer.</p> <p><b>iv) Application 2015/2631/FUL</b> – a number of works including portable buildings, shipping container, horticultural works, wind turbine, upgrading access, etc at Wellspring Grove, Well lane, Doultling for Peter Osborne.</p> <p>The Chairman adjourned the meeting at this point to allow the applicant and members of the public to speak about aspects of application 2015/2631/FUL. Mr Osborne gave an outline of the proposals including his desire to return the area to natural planting and to grow vegetables and salads, plant fruit trees and use poly tunnels to grow mushrooms. A new hedge would be planted and improvements to the access into the area made. A wind turbine would be included to assist with the growing process. This would be 15m to the tip of the blades above the ground.</p> <p>Adjoining owners expressed concern about the lack of notification of the application. It had been three years since the applicant had moved onto the site and they were concerned about some of the activities which had taken place, vehicles using the narrow Well Lane and continued pedestrian safety. They were worried about the possible odours from the mushroom growing operation.</p> <p>In response to questions Mr Osborne advised that he was intending to create a small horticultural industry and that the proposed caravan would provide welfare facilities for workers only. He disagreed with the comments about the use of Well Lane and stated that the proposal would create a small vehicle footprint.</p> <p>It was noted that there were 105 documents included with the application on the Mendip website and that there had been no formal neighbour notification. Cllr Van Dyk to speak to the planners about this lack of notification. Cllr Clarke was concerned that he had been told that the application had not been validated on 11<sup>th</sup> June when, in fact, it had already been sent out for consultation. It was noted that the date for responses to the application was 29<sup>th</sup> June 2016. The meeting then re-convened.</p>

	<p>Cllr Clarke felt that since his meeting with Mr Osborne in May 2014 there had been many changes to the proposals for the site and that, in fact, the current application was of an indeterminate nature and was likely to change over time. He was concerned about the wind turbine sited adjacent to the conservation area and listed buildings. He supported that comments and objections from neighbours and reiterated that the scope of application allowed for little control over what was actually done.</p> <p>Cllr Crowcombe felt that the proposal was mainly concerned with horticulture and would be of low impact.</p> <p>Cllr Goff noted that the application had a great passion for his proposal but was worried about the size and direction of the what was proposed and the impact on neighbours. She enquired about where Mr Osborne intended to sale the produce, would this be at the site. He responded that this was not the intention.</p> <p>Cllr Shepherd noted that the portable buildings already on site did not need planning permission.</p> <p>Cllr Fidge was pleased that the application had been received at last and felt that consideration needed to be given to neighbour’s concerns.</p> <p>A vote was taken and councillors voted 3 in favour, 2 against to support the application.</p> <p><b>v) Permissions granted:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 2016/0578/LBC Beacon Farm, Bolters Lane, Doulting – Wooden cladding</li> <li>b) 2016/0628/APP Ingsdon Farm, Bodden – approval of materials.</li> <li>c) 2016/0788/PAA The Barn, Honeysuckle Cottage, Bodden – change of use; permission not required.</li> <li>d) 2016/0783/FUL Retrospective for erection of agricultural building, West Bodden Farm, Bodden.</li> <li>e) 2016/0857/APP reserved matters re: 2016/0464/FUL Land at bath and West Showground.</li> </ul> <p>These were noted.</p>
7	<p><u><i>New and On-going Parish Council Matters:</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Shelter for school children – a number of suggested styles were discussed for the proposed shelter including some form of “imitation wood”; further information to be sought. The matter of funding was discussed and Cllr Crowcombe asked if the Parish Council were members of the Community Council for Somerset. The clerk thought that the council were not current members but would check back to see if they had previously been members. Cllr Crowcombe suggested a joint membership with Cranmore PC. It was generally agreed that the Parish Council should become members of CCS.</li> <li>ii) Matter concerning a donation toward the refurbishment of Padfield Green. In December 2015, the Parish Council received the offer of a donation from Wainwrights toward the refurbishment of Padfield Green. This was accepted in February 2016 although, to date, no monies have been received by the Parish Council. Subsequently, the Parish Council discussed a planning application from Wainwrights for replacement tips at Moons Hill Quarry and narrowly voted to object to the application. Procedurally, the offer of the donation should have been declared by the Parish Council before discussing the planning application and dispensations granted even though no monies had been received.</li> </ul>

	<p>The clerk had raised the matter with the monitoring officer at Mendip DC who advised that, in the interests of transparency, the matter should be recorded in the minutes. She also advised that it would be prudent to decline the donation. Councillors voted unanimously to decline the donation; clerk to write to Wainwrights to explain the situation.</p> <p>iii) Wall and hedge at Padfield Green. The clerk had spoken to Mendip Housing who confirmed that the wall was in their ownership and that they would attend to the loose copings as soon as possible. The clerk had sought to clarify the ownership of the hedge adjoining Greystones without success. It was agreed that the parish Council should cut back the hedge in the short term until the ownership could be clarified.</p> <p>iv) School, Village Hall and Parish Council meeting regarding traffic. Cllr Crowcombe advised that this had been a productive meeting, the details of which were included on an email she had circulated. Councillors were happy with the proposals put forward; a further meeting to be arranged to include Philip Ham and highways.</p> <p>v) Adoption of updated Assets Register. Deferred until the next meeting.</p>
8	<p><u>Highways and Traffic:</u></p> <p>i) Highway and Footpath matters. Cllr Clarke had been in touch with Andrew Tranter over the proposed Balls Green Link signs. There was much concern over the traffic management for the recent Bath and Werst Show where large numbers of vehicles had been diverted through Doultling causing large tail backs. The lack of a liaison committee for the showground had undoubtedly contributed to the situation.</p> <p>ii) Speedwatch and SID's. Cllr Goff was still endeavouring to organise volunteers for speedwatch; it was suggested that she further liaise with Cllr Wilkins. She hoped to organise watches during July and August. She was also liaising with Cranmore over the use of Doultling's more modern speedwatch equipment. Cllr Van Dyk advised that the software was now in place for the SID's and that a meeting had been arranged to take this over.</p>
9	<p><u>Reports:</u></p> <p>i) Somerset County Council – no report.</p> <p>ii) Mendip District Council – Cllr Van Dyk reported that Donna Nolan and Tracy Aarons had been appointed deputy chief executives at Mendip DC. The changes to Building Control had now been put in place with local councils sharing resources.</p> <p>iii) Police – a brief report summarising recent minor incidents had been received from Nicola Housley.</p> <p>iv) Village and Parish Organisations – Cllr Goff reported on recent and proposed refurbishments at the village hall and proposals to update the booking system. She confirmed that the hall was now employing cleaners.</p>
10	<p><u>The Glebeland:</u></p> <p>i) Replacement picnic table. In hand, Cllr Shepherd to discuss prices with Valley Sawmills.</p> <p>ii) Inspection report. Clerk to forward SPFA report when received.</p>
11	<p><u>Padfield Green.</u></p> <p>i) New play equipment – there new equipment had been installed, awaiting suitable weather to lay safety surfaces.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ii) Picnic tables and bases. In hand.</li> <li>iii) Replacement signs. The clerk to circulate contact sign prior to sending to Arien Signs.</li> <li>iv) Inspection report. To be forward when received.</li> </ul>
12	<p><u>Prestleigh, Bath and West Showground and Waterlip.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Bath and West matters including proposed meeting with Chief Executive. It was suggested that the next three Parish Council meetings should be offered as dates for the meeting with the Chief Executive.</li> <li>ii) Two licensing applications for Soul Survivor and Boomtown Winter Gathering at the Bath and West Showground. The impact of the Soul Survivor event was known but there was concern over the Boomtown winter event. It was suggested that councillors and members of the local community should view the Boomtown website. Clerk to contact the organisers to arrange a meeting with the local community.</li> </ul>
13	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) SALC invoice for Planning Training - £300.00 – this was agreed and a cheque signed.</li> <li>ii) ICO renewal - £35.00 – this was agreed and a cheque signed.</li> <li>iii) Clerks salary and expenses - £636.36 – this was agreed and a cheque signed.</li> <li>iv) St Aldhelms Church – village planting £88.00 – this was agreed and a cheque signed.</li> </ul>
14	<p><u>Matters of Report</u> None.</p>
15	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</u> The next scheduled meeting is on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at Doultling Village Hall.</p>

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

Alan Butcher,  
Parish Clerk,  
21<sup>st</sup> June 2016  
01749 870358,  
doultlingclerk@gmail.com.