

DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 10th OCTOBER 2017 VENUE AND TIME OF THE MEETING: DOULTING VILLAGE HALL @ 7.30pm	
	<p><u>Present:</u> Cllrs Paula Fidge, Ros Wilkins, Barry Clarke, Sarah Goff and Ann Crowcombe; also in attendance Alan Butcher (Clerk)</p>
1710/1	<p><u>Apologies for absence.</u> Cllrs John Shepherd and David van Dyk.</p>
1710/2	<p><u>Public Forum for matters included on the agenda:</u> The Chairman will adjourn the meeting for a maximum of 10 minutes to allow public participation.</p> <p>The Public Forum started with a presentation from Rupert Cox about recent events and future plans for the Bath and West showground.</p> <p>Mr Cox outlined recent events including the Bath and West Show where he was pleased to welcome two councillors before the event for a tour of the show and which he felt had been a good show. He mentioned the New Wine event, the European Mounted Games and the Diary Show all of which had been well supported and also he NASS event which had been better organised and with less problems than before. He mentioned the monthly newsletter which gave details of forthcoming events and other showground information.</p> <p>He advised that, apart from the Wild Beer Co application, there were no current development plans for the showground and that there were no current plans for the LDO or Food Enterprise Zone. He responded to questions about the WBC application and advised that it could not be included as part of the LDO and also responded to queries about the siting of the proposed brewery.</p> <p>He outlined the Societies charitable activities in giving grants to young people and the progress with the Rural Enterprise Centre. He advised that they would soon be making a planning application to refurbish the food and drink area. He felt that the showground was now set up for the show for the next few years. He responded to Cllr Fidge who asked about the proposal for a turning lane into the blue area indicating that there were no current plans for this. Mary Newman asked about the ecological scheme for the showground and noted that there was some pollution to the stream below the showground. Mr Cox indicated that works were to be carried out during the winter. In response to Chris Norman, Mr Cox indicated that there were no plans for the “horse area” and associated LDO.</p> <p>Cllr Fidge thanked Mr Hooper who also attended and Mr Cox for his presentation; it was agreed that they would return in April 2018.</p> <p>On other matters, Mary Newman corrected the suggested usage for the phone box. Tony Blaker advised that he had obtained Cllr Goffs phone number from the Parish Magazine.</p>
1710/3	<p><u>Declarations of Interest:</u> None.</p>

1710/4	<p><u>Acceptance of the Minutes of previous meetings:</u> Minutes of the meeting held on 12th September 2017 were agreed and signed as a true record with the following addition to the end of 1709/7ii: “Abstentions – the two councillors abstained on the basis that they thought there was insufficient information in order to vote.”</p>
1710/5	<p><u>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) School footpath – Cllr Goff reported that there was no further information from the solicitor about the ownership of the path. Concern was also expressed about the overgrowth along the path. ii) Provision of litter bin next to bus shelter – the clerk had ordered the new bin for the bus shelter and would confirm if a new bin was required in the skate park. If a new bin was required, he would order a bin similar to the bus shelter bin. iii) Parish Council action in respect of village petition presented in November 2016 – Cllr Fidge advised that there was no change to the Parish Council position on this matter.
1710/7	<p><u>Planning:</u> No applications received at the time of publication of this agenda.</p> <p>The clerk advised that the Wild Beer Co application was being considered by the Planning Board on 18th October. It was agreed the Cllr Fidge should attend and speak on behalf of the parish Council; clerk to book Cllr Fidge to speak at the meeting.</p>
1710/8	<p><u>New and On-going Parish Council Matters:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Appointment of PC voluntary assistants – this matter was deferred. ii) Proposed joint highways advisory committee representatives. Cllr Clarke queried the need for this committee and whether existing councillors as volunteers already undertook too much work. He understood the need for a concerted approach regarding traffic in the area and on the A361 and also felt that there needed to be a wider approach to infrastructure issues but remained concerned about councillors workload. Cllr Crowcombe felt that a joint committee with Cranmore could offer a better consensus for the wider area traffic issues and would hold a greater sway. She was concerned that the works at Hinckley Point were leading to a greatly increased use of the A361 by larger lorries which was putting more pressure on the Doultling area. Cllr Goff advised that data from Speedwatch could be helpful in this regard. Cllr Clarke asked what Terms of Reference this committee would have and all agreed that these would be needed to take the matter forward. Cllr Fidge agreed that such a joint committee could provide a consensus to take matters forward and asked Cllr Crowcombe to draft a suitable set of Terms of Reference. iii) Future use of telephone box. Cllr Fidge advised that she had received correspondence about the telephone being removed from the phone box and it being converted to receive the proposed defibrillator. Cllr Clarke noted that in Bath some boxes had been made multi-purpose and that it was possible to mount external telephone devices for multi purpose use. Cllr Wilkins expressed concern about the removal of the telephone as a number of parishioners had expressed a wish to retain the telephone.

	<p>It was noted that a number of other siting options including the village hall had been suggested but had been discounted for various reasons. It was suggested that it might be possible to mount the defib and telephone in the box given certain modifications. Clerk to contact BT to discuss and report on options which may be available.</p>
1710/9	<p><u>Highways and Traffic:</u></p> <p>i) Highway Matters generally. “Kill your Speed” signs. Cllr Goff had attended a recent Speedwatch management meeting and had obtained four signs. It was agreed to fit one in Chelynch Road and one, possibly two, in Prestleigh. Flooding at Poachers Pocket. Cllr Clarke advised this was in hand with SCC. Cllr Clarke also advised that works to raise the kerb on the A361 were in hand. There was some discussion about the provision of a safety barrier on the bend on Doultling Hill to prevent vehicles leaving the road and going down the steep bank. Cllr Clarke to discuss with SCC. The question of the damaged wall at the top of Doultling Hill had been raised by Mary Newman who was concerned about the wall falling into the road. Cllr Clarke to check with SCC.</p> <p>ii) Footpath matters. Cllr Wilkins raised the matter of a rose bush causing an obstruction outside 44 Beech Close. It was understood that this had, in fact, been partly pruned back; Cllr Wilkins to monitor the problem.</p> <p>iii) Speedwatch and SID’s. Cllr Goff reported on a recent management meeting. She noted that a fundraiser had been appointed to seek funds for new equipment. She asked the representatives from Prestleigh to attend a meeting on 17th October at Doultling Village Hall. Cllr Fidge asked about the data from Speedwatch which had been expected. Cllr Goff advised that there had been problems with computers and software but David van Dyk was working to provide the data as soon as possible. Cllr Goff also advised that she was speaking to residents about traffic and road issues in Doultling.</p>
1710/10	<p><u>Reports:</u></p> <p>i) Somerset County Council – no report. ii) Mendip District Council – Cllr van Dyk had sent a brief report about new e-services available at Mendip DC. iii) Police – no report. iv) Village and Parish Organisations: a) Village Hall – Cllr Goff advised about changes to the hall including the provision of an internet booking system and regularisation of charges. A quote was being sought for changes to the heating system to allow independent use of the community room. There had been a meeting with the school about use of the school field. The website had been updated. b) Social Group – Cllr Goff reported that a quiz night was to be held on 27th October. Cllr Fidge noted that the letter mentioned in previous minutes had yet to be received. c) Beacon Hill Woods Society – Mary Newman reported that a fingsi foray was to be held on 15th October.</p>

1710/11	<p><u>The Glebeland</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Next meeting 31st October 2017(the date had been changed from 24th) Cllr Clarke tendered his apologies. ii) Cllr Crowcombe noted that a vehicle was still blocking the access to the Glebeland and access had been prevented for maintenance equipment. iii) Cllr Crowcombe noted that someone had cut down part of the new rear fence and that the gate had been tied closed to prevent access to grazing cattle. She also noted that a small amount of graffiti had appeared in the skate board park.
1710/12	<p><u>Padfield Green.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Equipment inspection report and actions – Cllr Wilkins noted that the edges of the matting were raised. She also noted that, following discussions, it was possible that the gym equipment needed to be separately enclosed. ii) Cllr Wilkins confirmed that the bushes blocking vision at the entrance had been cut back.
1710/13	<p><u>Prestleigh, Bath and West Showground and Waterlip.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Cllr Fidge reported continued concerns with the proposals for the brewery and visitor centre. ii) Licence application for “Westfest/Slammin Events.” – this was noted. iii) A licence application for the Wild Beer Company Christmas event was noted.
1710/14	<p><u>Financial:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Clerks salary and expenses. £355.40. This was agreed and a cheque raised. ii) Playground inspection – Idverde. £66.85. This was agreed and a cheque raised. iii) Audit fees – Grant Thornton invoice awaited. iv) Glasdon Ltd – Litter Bin. £276.40. This was agreed and a cheque raised. v) Quarterly accounts and reconciliation. The clerk was awaiting the bank statement to complete the reconciliation and would circulate the accounts when completed vi) Auditors comments from Annual Return. These concerned the timing of the public consultation period and were noted.
1710/15	<p><u>Matters of Report;</u> Cllr Fidge noted the SALC AGM on 28th October.</p>
1710/16	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</u> The next scheduled meeting is on 14th November 2017 at Doultling Village Hall.</p>

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Alan Butcher,

Parish Clerk,

26th October 2017

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