

DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 10th SEPTEMBER 2019 VENUE AND TIME OF THE MEETING: DOULTING VILLAGE HALL, DOULTING @ 7.30pm	
	<p><u>Public Meeting</u></p> <p>This part of the meeting is intended to allow public participation on a number of matters prior to the commencement of the Parish Council meeting proper.</p>
	<p>Elaine Carney Community Council for Somerset and Village Agent gave a presentation about her work in supporting older members of the local community through a variety of initiatives. She gave details of a Good Neighbour scheme and local events to promote the services available. She also outlined the CCS role in supporting carers and those leaving hospital where ongoing support could be time limited. The chairman, Cllr Crowcombe, thanked her for attending the meeting.</p>
	<p><u>Forum:</u></p> <p>Seven members for the public were present.</p> <p>The former chair of the Produce Show committee advised the meeting that four of the six committee members had resigned following the 2019 show and that new members were needed to take the event forward. She outlined difficulties with the village hall which had been double booked for the set-up of the event on Thursday evening and where preparations had been further disrupted by building work during Friday. There had also been a problem with security with doors being left unlocked. There had been difficulties in contacting anyone from the village hall committee to discuss the difficulties encountered. The chairman, Cllr Crowcombe, thanked everyone involved for their work and hoped a positive way forward could be found. She had spoken to the school who had apologised for the disruption during the Friday. Cllr Crewe was disappointed that the chairman felt it necessary to resign. Members of the public at the meeting also thanked her for all her work over many years.</p> <p>Members of the public raised the following matters:</p> <p>Concerns were raised about the village hall committee following recent events and the continuing issue of transparency.</p> <p>The problem of overgrown hedges obstructing the footpath and the need to advise landowners of their responsibility to cut back offending hedges.</p> <p>The question of fencing on Doultling Hill at the back of the footpath to prevent pedestrians falling down the steep slope was discussed, Cllr Crewe agreed to investigate if such a fence was needed.</p> <p>It was noted that there had been a spate of accidents in traffic queues during the recent roadworks on Doultling Hill.</p> <p>The question of leaves in Church Lane was raised again given the impending onset of autumn. There was also a query about the proposed works to trees in the church yard.</p> <p>The council were requested to investigate if another councillor could be added to the existing six members of the current Parish Council.</p>

	<p>The recent planning application to remove and later replace a hedge on Prestleigh Hill was noted and another request made for roadside hedges to be cut back to improve highway safety. A recent theft from a van was also reported.</p>
	<p><u>Reports and Comments from County and District Councillors</u></p> <p>Cllr Hayden (in attendance) advised that he was seeking to resolve the matter of the damaged wall on the A361 where ownership was unclear and had spoken to SCC on the matter.</p> <p>He had responded to the consultation about the Old Wells/Old Frome Road proposals and suggested that the whole link should be given a name and additional signage placed to encourage the use of the link by HGV's. Works were required at Long Cross to facilitate this and a suggest made that traffic lights should be installed at each end of the link, especially at Beacon Hill.</p> <p>He had responded to a query about the felling of trees at the Scania site at Waterlip where Scania had apologised for the loss of the trees. He also advised that the matter was with planning enforcement.</p>
	<p><u>Police Report</u></p> <p>A brief report had been received advising of two traffic accidents on the A361.</p>
	<p><u>Planning Applications:</u></p> <p>There were no public comments on the following planning applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Application 2019/1928/LBC – Proposed demolition of existing boundary wall and re-build at 26 Doultling Hill to Farrington Lane, Doultling. ii) Application 2019/2011/FUL – Conversion and change of use of redundant agricultural buildings into a dwelling house and change of use of field to domestic curtilage at Plot adjacent to second barn, Prestleigh Lane, Prestleigh. iii) Application 2019/2120/TPO – Proposed works to Tree Preservation Order M1234 – T1 – Beech Tree at School House, Doultling Hill to Farrington Lane, Doultling.
	<p>Closure of public participation and Commencement of the Parish Council Meeting. Members of the public may not speak during the meeting unless requested to do so by the Chairman.</p>
	<p><u>Present:</u> Cllrs Ann Crowcombe (Chair), Ros Wilkins, Jan Crewe, John Shepherd, Sarah Goff (arrived during the meeting); also in attendance Cllr Francis Hayden (MDC) and Alan Butcher (Clerk)</p>
1909/1	<p><u>Apologies for absence.</u> Cllr Paula Fidge.</p>
1909/2	<p><u>Declarations of Interest:</u> None.</p>
1909/3	<p><u>Confirmation of the Minutes of previous meetings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Meeting held on 9th July 2019 were agreed and signed as a true record.

1909/4	<p><u>Matters from the Minutes of previous meetings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Parish Council Policy for posting of banners. The clerk had posted the policy on the Chelynch Road notice board with a advisory notice on the railings. The website was to be updated to include the details. It was agreed to post another advisory notice on the railings. ii) Churchyard trees. Cllr Crewe and Mary Newman to investigate this matter. iii) Hearing loop. A request for funding had not been successful. The clerk had also spoken to a supplier who had sent details and information about funding sources. iv) Emergency Planning – update. Deferred until next meeting.
1909/5	<p><u>Parish Council Response to Planning Applications</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> iv) Application 2019/1928/LBC – Proposed demolition of existing boundary wall and re-build at 26 Doulling Hill to Farrington Lane, Doulling. Councillors agreed unanimously to support the application. v) Application 2019/2011/FUL – Conversion and change of use of redundant agricultural buildings into a dwelling house and change of use of field to domestic curtilage at Plot adjacent to second barn, Prestleigh Lane, Prestleigh. Councillors agreed unanimously to support the application. vi) Application 2019/2120/TPO – Proposed works to Tree Preservation Order M1234 – T1 – Beech Tree at School House, Doulling Hill to Farrington Lane, Doulling. Councillors agreed unanimously to support the application. The following applications had been considered during the summer break: vii) Application 2019/1929/TPO – Proposed works to trees at Fig Tree Cottage, Well Lane, Doulling. Councillors had agreed to confirm their decision on a previous application (1904/5i) and leave the matter to the planning officer. viii) Application 2019/1743/HDG – Hedgerow removal and replacement at Prestleigh Hill, Prestleigh. Following consultation with other councillors, the chairman agreed that the council would make no comment on the application. ix) Application 2018/2861/FUL – Change of use and alterations at Three Arches, Bodden Lane, Bodden. Confirmation of permission granted was noted.
1909/6	<p><u>Parish Council Matters requiring a decision:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Safety Notice in Church Lane. Cllr Crewe advised that the matter was being discussed by the diocese in October but that the church wardens were happy with the suggestion. ii) Parish Forum on 12th September 2019. Cllrs Crowcombe, Crewe and Goff to attend.
1909/7	<p><u>Parish Councillors comments and updates relating to the following matters:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Highways and traffic – SCC Improvement scheme for Old Wells and Old Frome Road – the response had been submitted. Low kerb on A361 – SCC are aware of the problem with the kerb and the matter of pedestrian safety.

	<p>Damaged wall on A361 – as per Cllr Hayden’s report. Barrier on Doultling Hill – Cllr Crewe to check. Drainage on Doultling Hill – re-surfacing of the road was planned in 2020/21 but it was noted that water run off across the road was extremely dangerous in icy conditions. Cutting back of hedges for highway safety – Cllr Crewe to advertise the need to cut back hedges via village media.</p> <p>ii) Footpath matters</p> <p>a) School footpath. Cllr Crewe was discussing this with the school. b) Parish Paths Liaison Officer. SCC had been advised of Cllr Crewe’s appointment. c) Other footpath matters</p> <p>iii) Speedwatch. There had been a number of watches recently although the road works on Doultling Hill had curtailed activities. The Speedwatch AGM had been attended and a meeting with the police was scheduled.</p> <p>iv) SID’s. Nothing to report.</p>
1909/8	<p><u>Reports from Parish Council Representatives to Village Organisations:</u></p> <p>i) Village Hall and Social Group. It was noted that there was a need for all parties to get together to discuss recent problems with the produce show. The Social Group had posted a newsletter advising of forthcoming defibrillator training and other planned events. Thanks were extended to the person who had refurbished the phone box.</p> <p>ii) Beacon Hill Woods Society – Mary Newman advised about discussions with the Woodland Trust and future events including a Fungus Foray on 20th October.</p>
1909/9	<p><u>Matters relating to The Glebeland</u></p> <p>i) Replacement fencing rails. In hand. ii) New date for a meeting of the Glebeland Committee – this was agreed as 24th September 2019. iii) The treatment of the wooden tables was raised.</p>
1909/10	<p><u>Matters relating to Padfield Green.</u></p> <p>i) Replacement of Defective Equipment and safety surface. Cllr Wilkins was still seeking letters of support from local organisations. ii) Dog fouling – this had diminished but there was still instances of fouling around the village. iii) Playground Safety Training Course. Cllrs Wilkins and Fidge to attend.</p>
1909/11	<p><u>Matters relating to Prestleigh, Bath and West Showground and Waterlip.</u></p> <p>i) NASS event. A report on a meeting held on 5th August was given and a number of comments about poor traffic management and anti-social behaviour made. It was noted that NASS have an on-going licence. Cllr Hayden advised that Mendip licensing would be reviewing the licence before the 2020 festival. ii) Truckfest – deferred until next meeting iii) Six monthly invite to representatives of the Bath and West. Clerk to invite representative to the next meeting iv) Waterlip – It was noted that the culvert at Waterlip needed to be cleaned out..</p>

1909/12	<p><u>Financial:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) Clerks salary and expenses. £689.28 (two months). This was agreed and a cheque raised.ii) SPFA Safety Inspection fee £150.00. This was agreed and a cheque raised.iii) SALC Training Events (two invoices) £50.00. This was agreed and a cheque raised.
1909/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none">iv) Donation to St Aldhelms Church toward church yard maintenance £850.00. This was agreed and a cheque raised.v) The annual affiliation fee to SALC had been received. This was £166.12. This was agreed and a cheque raised. <p>Update of Financial Regulations and Risk Assessment (papers circulated for adoption at the next meeting). These had been circulated; the clerk to issue updated financial regulations before the next meeting.</p>
1909/14	<p><u>Matters of Report</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) The question of the extra councillor to be discussed at a future meeting; clerk to advise of procedure and any other relevant details.ii) Cllr Goff advised that a letter had been received regarding the recent problems with the hall booking to which she would respond.iii) Cllr Crewe advised that a Fire and Rescue consultation was in progress and an end date of 20th September. It was agreed that she would prwpare a draft response for circulation to other councillors.iv) Cllr Crewe put forward suggestions about the refurbishment of Parish fingerpost signs. She had been in contact with Shepton Mens Shed who would be able to carry out the works. She suggested that the Parish Council could pay for Health and Safety training to enable the Mens Shed to undertake the works. Cllr Crowcombe advised that any proposals needed to be included on the agenda for the next meeting.
1909/15	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</u> The next meeting will be on 8th October 2019, 7.30pm at The Prestleigh Inn, Prestleigh.</p>

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

Alan Butcher,
Parish Clerk,
20th September 2019
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