

DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 10th MARCH 2020
VENUE AND TIME OF THE MEETING: DOULTING VILLAGE HALL @ 7.30pm**

	<p><i>Public Meeting</i> 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><u><i>Forum:</i></u> Twelve members of the public were present.</p> <p>The invoice for venue hire was queried and comments made about the lack of high speed broadband in the area. A suggestion that a local person offered an internet connection via the 4G mobile phone network was put forward.</p> <p>The need for compatibility with the proposed hearing loop was raised.</p> <p>A number of comments were made about the possible closure of the MIU at Shepton Mallet Hospital. There is currently a consultation taking place which will end before the next council meeting. It was agreed that the clerk will circulate details to councillors who will respond individually.</p> <p>A query as to the exact status of a recent planning application was raised, clerk to check on application.</p> <p>The absence of two councillors was noted; the chairman responded that one councillor was unwell and the other was detained at work.</p>
	<p><u><i>Reports and Comments from County and District Councillors</i></u></p> <p>No reports were received; Cllr Hayden had given apologies due to illness.</p>
	<p><u><i>Police Report:</i></u></p> <p>No report received before the meeting.</p>
	<p><u><i>Planning Applications:</i></u> Public comments on the following planning applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) Application 2020/0311/VRC – Vary condition 2 (drawings) of 2017/2952/FUL (Replacement of a barn previously approved for residential conversion with a new dwelling) at Plot east of Honeysuckle Cottage, Bodden Lane, Bodden. There were no comments from members of the public.
	<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>

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	<u>Present:</u> Cllrs Paula Fidge (Chairman), Jan Crewe, Ann Crowcombe and John Shepherd; also in attendance Alan Butcher (Clerk)
2003/1	<u>Apologies for absence.</u> Cllrs Wilkins and Goff (who had advised that she was detained at work). Cllr Hayden (MDC) had also sent apologies.
2003/2	<u>Declarations of Interest:</u> None were made.
2003/3	<u>Confirmation of the Minutes of previous meetings:</u> i) Meeting held on 11 th February 2020 were agreed and signed as a true record.
2003/4	<u>Matters from the Minutes of previous meetings:</u> i) Hearing loop. The Village Hall committee were to meet with the school to discuss the use of the main room before a final decision can be made about the loop. Cllr Wilkins had advised Cllr Fidge that she was finalising applications for funding and it was agreed that she should liaise with the clerk to finalise the paperwork. ii) Emergency Planning. The clerk had sent out the letters requesting the use of various venues in an emergency. Cllr Crewe was continuing to identify vulnerable person to be included in the plan. iii) Fingerpost signs. The clerk had received a verbal quote for the refurbishment of the sign at the top of Doulling Hill which required two new fingers and its post and one finger repainting. Cllr Wilkins had identified funding for this work; clerk to liaise with Cllr Wilkins. iv) VE Day celebrations – 8 th May 2020. Cllr Crewe advised about local events including one at Chilcompton; she would be preparing a poster to give details. v) Safety Notice in Church Lane. A quotation had been received for three signs and it was hoped that the wording, etc would be approved at the next PCC meeting. It was agreed to increase the size of the directional arrow signs. Once approval is received, clerk to order signs including enlarged arrow signs. vi) Response to Shepton Mallet United Charities request for information. Cllr Crewe to include details in the next newsletter.
2003/5	<u>Parish Council Response to Planning Applications</u> i) Application 2020/0311/VRC – Vary condition 2 (drawings) of 2017/2952/FUL (Replacement of a barn previously approved for residential conversion with a new dwelling) at Plot east of Honeysuckle Cottage, Bodden Lane, Bodden. Councillors agreed to support the proposals but commented that they now resembled a new dwelling rather than a barn conversion.
2003/6	<u>Parish Councillors comments and updates relating to the following matters:</u> i) Highways and traffic – SCC Low kerb on A361 and damaged wall on A361. Confirmation was still awaited as to when these works would be undertaken.

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	<p>Barrier on Doultling Hill. An inspection had noted the safety issues but Highways had advised that no funding was available to carry out any works.</p> <p>Cutting back of hedges for highway safety. The clerk had yet to write to the landowner.</p> <p>Other items as noted. Cllr Crewe advised that the Highways arborist was inspecting ash trees on the A361 which would either be felled or reported to the landowner. Cllr Crewe advised that discussions were taking place regarding the varying speed limits through Dean, Cranmore and Doultling, it was suggested that a uniform speed limit could be introduced via a TRO. Cllr Crowcombe advised that Wainwrights were seeking suggestions for their annual litterpick; a number of locations were suggested.</p> <p>Cllr Crowcombe noted that during the recent closure of the A361, drivers from a particular quarry company had failed to respect the closure and diversion and had been speeding inconsiderately. Clerk to write letter to company.</p> <p>ii) Footpath matters</p> <p>a) Parish Paths Liaison Officer report. Cllr Crewe noted a number of trees down across footpaths. She had completed another path survey. She advised that the electric fence noted at the last meeting had been removed.</p> <p>b) Other footpath matters. Cllr Crewe noted a meeting on 18th March to discuss the school footpath. Cllrs Fidge and Crewe to meet in April to discuss the Prestleigh footpath. The clerk advised footpath closures around the showground for the game fair on 20/23rd March.</p> <p>iii) Speedwatch and SID's. Cllr Crewe noted watches in Chelynch Road at a new location. Regarding SID's, it was noted that Speed Enforcement Officers required information from the machines which was yet to be made available by Somerset CC. Cllr Crewe advised of a stricter regime put forward by the police regarding persistent speeders.</p>
2003/7	<p><u>Reports from Parish Council Representatives to Village Organisations:</u></p> <p>i) Village Hall and Social Group. Cllr Fidge advised that the open meeting had taken place and that details of the meeting would be published in the Parish newsletter. She noted that the AGM would be held on 30th March 2020. The Social Group had held a successful film night and other events were planned including a Ceilidh and a jumble sale.</p> <p>ii) Beacon Hill Woods Society – Mary Newman reported that a litter pick had taken place and that trees had been felled along the roadside. Apparently some of the felled timber had “disappeared”. The society AGM would take place on 8th April 2020.</p>
2003/8	<p><u>Matters relating to The Glebeland</u></p> <p>i) Dogs on Lead sign – the sign was in place on the back gate.</p> <p>ii) A quotation had been received for tree cutting, this was to be discussed at the next committee meeting.</p> <p>iii) Cllr Crewe had passed on tree guards she had purchased; the purchase of deer guards to be investigated. Cllr Crewe to submit invoice to the clerk.</p>

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2003/9	<p><u>Matters relating to Padfield Green.</u></p> <p>i) Replacement of Defective Equipment and safety surface. Cllr Wilkins was working on a project and had secured funding for a large part of the proposed project. She would liaise with the clerk regarding the applications.</p> <p>ii) Dog fouling was still a problem in the area. Clerk to contact Mendip DC and the police regarding the matter.</p>
2003/10	<p><u>Matters relating to Prestleigh, Bath and West Showground and Waterlip.</u></p> <p>i) Waterlip matters. Cllr Crowcombe advised that the grips in Ball Lane had yet to be cleared.</p> <p>ii) Prestleigh matters. Cllr Fidge advised that proposed tree cutting around electric cables had been delayed due to other works in the area.</p> <p>iii) Showground matters:</p> <p>a) NASS Consultation. Cllr Crewe would be attending the consultation on 10th June 2020.</p> <p>b) Mendip School swimming pool. Cllr Fidge advised no information had been yet been forthcoming.</p> <p>c) It was agreed to invite showground representatives to the next meeting.</p>
2003/11	<p><u>Financial:</u></p> <p>i) Clerks salary and expenses. £378.42. This was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p>ii) Clerks remuneration. Cllr Fidge had met with the clerk to conduct his review. She proposed a scale point increase in his salary to SCP26. This was agreed from April 2020.</p> <p>iii) Renewal of Parish Council Insurance – Came and Co. £502.38. This was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p>iv) Invoice for venue hire – Doultling Village Hall. £100.00. This was agreed and a cheque raised.</p>
2003/12	<p><u>Matters of Report</u></p> <p>None.</p>
2003/13	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</u></p> <p>The next meeting will be on 14th April 2020, 7.30pm at The Prestleigh Inn.</p>

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.

**Alan Butcher,
Parish Clerk,
13th March 2020
01749 870358,
doultlingclerk@gmail.com**

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