

Draft Minutes subject to acceptance at the next meeting.

DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10th July 2024 AT DOULTING VILLAGE HALL COMMENCING AT 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs Sarah Goff (Chair), John Shepherd, Simon Baker, Jan Crewe, Bruce Yoell and Les Greaves; also in attendance Alan Butcher (Clerk)

2407/1 - Apologies for absence. None, all present.

2407/2 - Declarations of Interest: No declarations were made.

2407/3 - Public Forum:

The Chairman will adjourn the meeting and allow a maximum of 15 minutes for public participation on matters included on the agenda only. Seven members of the public were present. The Chairman apologised to those who were attending to discuss the recent notification of the approval of all planning applications for Doultling Stone Quarry. This notification had been received beyond the date that it was possible to include items on the agenda. She confirmed that an extraordinary meeting of the council would be called to allow the approval of the applications to be discussed and to allow time for the conditions attached to the approvals to be considered. See also agenda item 2407/11 - Matters of Report.

i) Matters on the Agenda

The matter of poor bus services serving Doultling was raised.

It was noted that the flower troughs along the Padfield Green fence needed attention, a request for volunteers to be posted on Facebook and the website.

ii) Somerset Councillors reports – circulated.

2407/4 - Confirmation of the Minutes of previous meetings:

i) That the Minutes of Meeting held on 12th June 2024 be agreed and signed as a true record. This was so agreed unanimously and the minutes were signed by the Chairman.

2407/5 - Parish Council Response to Planning Applications:

No applications were received prior to the publication of this agenda.

2407/6 - Parish Council Matters.

i) Councillors individual responsibilities. These were agreed as follows:

Village Hall – Cllr Baker.

Speedwatch and SID's – Cllrs Crewe and Greaves.

Parish Paths – Cllr Crewe.

Quarry Liaison – Cllr Yoell.

Highways matters – Cllr Greaves.

Emergency Plans – Cllrs Goff and Crewe.

ii) Somerset Council Highway Service Devolution proposals. No further information on these proposals.

iii) Somerset Council matters

a) Next LCN meeting – no meetings are currently scheduled. It was hoped that a Parish Council representative would attend the next meeting.

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- iv) Highways and traffic –
 - a) Doulling Hill drainage and signs. No further action on these matters.
 - b) A number of potholes required reporting.

- v) Parish Paths Liaison Officer report.

Cllr Crewe reported that she had attended a virtual meeting with Somerset Rights of Way. More volunteers were needed to keep paths clear and an Adopt a path scheme was suggested.

A new “strimmer man or woman” was required. It was suggested that a maintenance man or woman could be employed to deal with jobs around the parish.
- vi) Speedwatch. Cllr Crewe reported there had been four watches and a comment was made about the large volume of traffic passing during the watches.
- vii) SID’s information, requirements and grant. Cllr Crewe reported that she was awaiting the reopening of grants for the SID’s.
- viii) Village Hall matters. Cllr Baker reported that booking were increasing.
- ix) Dog Poo bin on Chelynch Road. On hold awaiting conformation of collection arrangements.
- x) Bus shelters cleaning. The clerk reported he was trying to find someone to do this work.
- xi) Playground and skate park inspections.

The annual inspection had taken place and three items of equipment at Padfield Green required the replacement of chains. Cllr Shepherd to establish what is required.

The report noted that vegetation required cutting back around equipment in the Skate Park.
- xii) Flood and Emergency Plans. Cllr Goff reported that this was in hand.
- xiii) Local Plan (Sites and Policies) update consultation. There were no sites identified in the parish.
- xiv) Better Buses for Somerset correspondence. Information to be collated as requested.

2407/7 - Matters relating to The Glebeland:

- i) Coral fencing – Cllr Baker had prepared a specification and was seeking local companies to quote for the work. Cllr Shepherd suggested an alternative to the wooden fencing.
- ii) Shepton mallet Landscapes to cut back brambles and discuss the widening of some paths.

2407/8 - Matters relating to Padfield Green.

- i) Commemorative Tree planting. The tree is still awaited.
- ii) Sun shading structure and hedge proposals. To be considered at the September meeting.

2407/9 - Matters relating to Prestleigh, Bath and West Showground and Waterlip.

- i) Prestleigh Hill speeding and enforcement. The possibility of a Speedwatch was being considered although volunteers were still be sought.
- ii) Showground licensing application. Clerk to circulate details of the application for New Wine Trust.
- iii) Waterlip Caravans – Cllr Shepherd asked for clarification of the Enforcement requirements. These were that one caravan could be retained in a new location and one had to be removed by 27th May 2025.

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2407/10 - Financial:

- i) Payment of Clerks Salary and expenses. £495.88. This was agreed and a cheque raised.
- ii) Payment of HMRC Tax. £107.00. This was agreed and a cheque raised.
- iii) Valley Sawmills. Cllr Shepherd advised that the cost of a new bench for the Glebeland as previously discussed was £378.00 inc. This was agreed and a cheque raised. Cllr Shepherd to collect the bench and pass the cheque to Valley Sawmills.
- iv) Cllr Baker presented an invoice for the new code lock to the Glebeland as previously agreed. The cost was £12.98 which was agreed and a cheque raised and handed to Cllr Baker.

2407/11 - Matters of Report:

- i) The decision to approve the planning application for Doultling Stone Quarry was discussed and concern expressed about the way the applications had been approved without reference to the planning board.
It was agreed that an extraordinary meeting be held on 30th July 2024 to allow the matter to be discussed and public comments received. It was suggested that the local MP be contacted and invited to the meeting
- ii) It was noted that The Poachers Pocket pub would be re-opening in August.
- iii) There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm

2407/12 - Date and Time of future Parish Council Meetings

Wednesday 11th September 2024 at Doultling Village Hall.

Normally there is no meeting in August.

Extraordinary Meeting to be held on Tuesday 30th July 2024.

Meetings commence at 7.30pm

**Alan Butcher,
Parish Clerk,
16th July 2024
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