

DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11th DECEMBER 2024 AT DOULTING VILLAGE HALL COMMENCING AT 7.30pm.

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

2412/1 - Apologies for absence. Cllrs Crewe and Yoell.

2412/2 - Declarations of Interest: No declarations were made.

2412/3 - 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. Two members of the public were present.

- i) Matters on the Agenda including planning.
A member of the public was concerned about the council's decision to defer the installation of the SID's on the A361. The Chairman noted that, in fact, the council had agreed to defer the allocation of funds until the final costs for the installation were known, it was still the intention to install the devices.
- ii) Somerset Councillors reports – circulated.

2412/4 - Confirmation of the Minutes of previous meetings:

- i) That the Minutes of Meeting held on 20th November 2024 be agreed and signed as a true record. These were agreed all in favour and the minutes were then signed by the chairman.

2412/5 - Parish Council Response to Planning Applications:

- i) 2024/2146/PAA - Prior Approval for a proposed change of use of agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (Class C3) and for associated operational development. Barn At 365182 141263 Holcombe Lane Evercreech Shepton Mallet Somerset (Notification only application). There were no comments on this application.
- ii) 2024/2147/HSE - Retrospective permission to convert and extend the existing detached garage for ancillary accommodation. Myrtle Cottage Prestleigh Hill Prestleigh Shepton Mallet Somerset BA4 4NL Councillors noted concern about access onto the A371 had been raised by Cllr Clarke. Councillors felt that access was adequate with on site parking and agreed to support the application.
- iii) Re-consultation on applications relating to Moons Hill Quarry. The clerk advised that further documents had been received immediately before the meeting. The closing date for comments was 10th January 2025 and it was agreed to defer discussion of the application until the next meeting on 8th January 2025.
- iv) 2024/1440/HSE – Manor Cottage, School Lane, Doultling: The application had been granted.

- v) Abbey Quarry, Farrington Lane, Doultong – tipping on site. Correspondence from planning enforcement was noted asking for the tipped material to be removed or a planning application made.
- vi) Somerset Council – Planning Validation Consultation. The clerk had looked through this extensive document which formalised the requirements for types of planning applications. No further comments were required from the Parish Council.
- vii) Doultong Stone Quarry:
 - a. Letter to Somerset Council and response. There had been no response and the clerk had now written to the local MP.

2412/6 - Parish Council Matters.

- i) Somerset Council Highway Service Devolution proposals:
 - a. Highway works commissioned by the Parish Council in accordance with Somerset schedule of charges and Enhanced Highways Maintenance.
 - b. Highways Working Group.
There were no further developments with either of the matters.
- ii) Somerset Council matters
- iii) a) LCN meeting reports. Non received.
b) Next meeting. No date had been set.
- iv) Highways and traffic –
 - a) Doultong Hill drainage and signs. There had been no further action on these matters; clerk to write to Highways.
 - b) Status of Well Lane. This lane is a class D adopted highway as far as the well and, as such, the Parish Council can take no action without Highways permission.
- v) Parish Paths Liaison Officer report. Cllr Crewe was not present.
- vi) Speedwatch. Nothing to report.
- vii) SID's information, requirements, grant and letter from Somerset Council.
Cllr Greaves had submitted an application for a grant from A&S Police fund and was continuing with the application the Somerset Council.
- viii) Village Hall matters:
A brief trustees meeting had been held. New trustees were to be appointed and another meeting held in the new year.
- ix) Flood and Emergency Plans. These were in hand.
- x) Somerset Local Plan. The initial survey had been completed and a recent call for sites had been circulated.
- xi) Neighbourhood Plan. In hand.
- xii) Public Space protection orders. These could not apply to the Glebeland unless some form of play equipment was in place.
- xiii) Fire and Rescue service precept consultation. This was noted.
- xiv)

Draft Minutes subject to acceptance at the next meeting

2412/7 - Matters relating to The Glebeland:

- i) Hedgelaying. This had been completed.
- ii) Tree survey. This had been completed and had been circulated. A number of actions had been identified and consideration of allowances in the forthcoming budget process noted.
- iii) Replacement/repair of Playwall. Cllr Shepherd to investigate the reinstatement of the existing wall with new supports.

2412/8 - Matters relating to Padfield Green.

- i) Padfield Green remedial works. These were in hand with Elite Playgrounds.

2412/9 - Matters relating to Prestleigh, Bath and West Showground and Waterlip.

- i) Prestleigh Hill speeding and enforcement. There was no further information on this issue.
- ii) Flooding issues. It was understood that a representative from a flood group had visited Prestleigh but no further details were available.

2412/10 - Financial:

- i) Payment of Clerks Salary and expenses. £616.36. This was agreed and a cheque raised.
- ii) Payment of HMRC Tax. £137.00. This was agreed and a cheque raised.
- iii) Invoice for parish tree survey £896.80. This was agreed and a cheque raised.
- iv) Invoice for Glebeland Hedging £300.00. This was agreed and a cheque raised.
- v) Parish Council Accounts to present and draft budget for 2025/26. The clerk tabled a set of draft accounts to 31st December 2024 and a draft budget for 2025/26. He reviewed the various changes to the budget and increased allowance for such items as works to trees, etc. The final budget to be agreed at the meeting on 8th January 2025..

2412/11 - Matters of Report:

- i) The Chairman noted a successful community afternoon tea event attended by 34 members of the community.
- ii) There was a general discussion about the emergency plan use during the recent storms.
There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm

2412/12 - Date and Time of future Parish Council Meetings

Wednesday 8th January 2025 at Doultling Village Hall.
Meetings commence at 7.30pm

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19th December 2024
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