

Draft minutes subject to acceptance at the next meeting.

DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 11th JANUARY 2022 AT DOULTING VILLAGE HALL COMMENCING AT 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Sarah Goff (Chairman), Ann Crowcombe, Jan Crewe and John Shepherd; also in attendance Alan Butcher (Clerk)

2201/1 - *Apologies for absence.* Cllrs Paula Fidge and Ros Wilkins.

2201/2 - *Declarations of Interest:* Cllr Crowcombe declared an interest in item 2201/5iii

2201/3 - *Public Forum:*

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for public participation on matters included on the agenda only. Six members of the public were present.

- i) Public comments on Planning Applications. Concerns were raised about application 2021/2775/HSE and the inclusion of solar panels in the proposed works given that the site was within the conservation area.
- ii) Matters on the Agenda.
The matter of local community bus services was raised and an example of a more efficient means of providing local buses given with a request that this should be raised with the Bus Partnership.
The wording of Parish Council policies adopted at the last meeting was queried; the clerk to review the documents.
The re-marking of white lines on the south side of the A361 was queried.
- iii) Reports from District and County Councillors.

2201/4 - *Confirmation of the Minutes of previous meetings:*

- i) Minutes of Meeting held on 14th December 2021 were agreed and signed as a true record with the correction of three minor typographical errors in 2112/6iii.

2201/5 - *Parish Council Response to Planning Applications*

- i) Application 2021/2775/HSE - Demolition of an existing single storey structure and the erection of a replacement single storey side extension and internal alterations. Well House Well Lane Doultling Shepton Mallet Somerset BA4 4QE. There was some discussion about extent of the conservation area and the inclusion of solar panels in the proposal. Councillors had no objection to the proposed extension itself but were less certain about the inclusion of the solar panels. It was therefore agreed unanimously to leave the decision to the planning officer noting the concerns about the solar panels in the response.
- ii) Application 2021/2759/NMA - Application for a non-material amendment to permission 2020/2469/HSE for the removal of existing oil tank and installation of a new oil tank. 1 Manor Farm Cottages Farm Road Doultling Shepton Mallet Somerset BA4 4QG. The was approved unanimously.

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- iii) Application 2021/2522/FUL - Demolition of single storey timber building to be replaced by temporary 2 storey Portakabin building for a period of 260 weeks. Waterlip Quarry Ball Lane To Piers Road Waterlip Shepton Mallet Somerset BA4 4RN. Cllr Crowcombe left the meeting at this point. Councillors had no concerns about the application although Cllr Shepherd mentioned the 5 year period requested. Councillors voted unanimously to approval the proposals.

2201/6 - Parish Council Matters.

- i) Highways and traffic – SCC
 - a) Cllr Crewe would check on the white lining on the A361
 - b) Cllr Crewe had reported the drainage grips in Ball Lane.
- ii) Parish Paths Liaison Officer report.
 - a) Cllr Crewe had reported the insecure signs in Prestleigh
 - b) Cllr Crewe noted a recent circulation from Somerset about reporting of rights of way problems
 - c) The clerk would endeavour to secure the loose fence post in the Glebeland
- iii) Suggested Parish Council Facebook page and Social Media Policy. The clerk had circulated a draft Social Media policy. Councillors raised several points, clerk to review the draft version and the matter to be discussed further at the next meeting. Cllr Crewe to look at suggested Facebook page and to seek advice from a parishioner who had experience in setting up such pages.
- iv) Village Hall representatives report. Cllr Goff reported slow progress on resolving matters concerning the problems caused by the installation of the new heating including flood damage and loss of income. A meeting was to be arranged shortly to discuss and arrange the AGM.
- v) Fire Service Consultation closes 14th January 2022. Councillors had made individual responses to the consultation.
- vi) Somerset Bus Partnership Mendip. Cllr Goff reported no further correspondence but advised that the matter of local buses was one of the items being put forward for discussion.
- vii) Bus shelter clean. This had not been done, clerk to chase up.
- viii) Speedwatch – nothing to report.
- ix) Climate and Eco Emergency actions. Cllr Crewe reported that further litter picking events would be arranged for the spring. She was also in the process of updating the Parish emergency plan.
- x) Queens 75th Jubilee. A number of suggestions for Doultling were made including decorations around the village, a party for children and a “Big Lunch”, Cllr Crewe to liaise with the social committee and school. Details of events in Prestleigh to be confirmed.
- xi) New Unitary Authority matters. It was noted that there is a meeting on 17th February 2022.

2201/7 - Matters relating to The Glebeland:

- i) Mary Newman reported that the skate park had been cleared up and that a problem with the gate padlock had been resolved thanks to Cllr Shepherd. It was noted that SM Landscape would be cutting back the brambles along the Glebeland wall. The next meeting is on 25th January 2022.

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2201/8 - Matters relating to Padfield Green.

- i) Replacement equipment. Funding still being sought in addition to that already raised.
- ii) Fencing against adjoining property. Quotes were awaited for these works.
- iii) Cllr Wilkins had advised that she was unable to continue with the inspection of equipment. It was hoped that a parishioner would be able to assist along with the clerk.

2201/9 - Matters relating to Prestleigh, Bath and West Showground and Waterlip.

- i) Invite to Bath and West management to next meeting on 8th February 2022. Awaiting details of new management representatives.
- ii) Cllr Crowcombe commented on the high level of light pollution at Quarry Way and the ES Railway.

2201/10 - Financial:

- i) Payment of Clerks Salary and expenses for December (£354.03) This was agreed.
- ii) Quarter Three tax payment to HMRC (£252.80) This was agreed.
- iii) Payment of invoice from Doultling Village Hall (£36.00) This was agreed.
- iv) Payment of invoice from Cranmore PC for SID Solar panel. (£295.32) This was agreed
- v) Annual Grant to St Aldhems Church for grounds maintenance. (£850.00) This was agreed.
- vi) Interim Accounts to 31st December 2021 and updated budget for 2022/23. This had been circulated and an updated accounts summary presented following the receipt of the latest bank statement allowing the accounts to be reconciled. Councillors agreed unanimously to accept the proposed budget for 2022/23 which included £5000 election expenses and £5000 for capital projects.
- vii) Setting of precept for 2022/23. Councillors agreed to set the precept at £14,500.00 as included on the agreed budget.

2201/11 - Matters of Report.

- i) Mary Newman reported a forthcoming litter pick at Beacon Hill Woods.
The meeting closed at 8.45pm

2201/12 - Date and Time of Next Meeting:

Tuesday 8th February 2022. Councillors expressed concern about the current situation with Covid and it was agreed to hold the meeting at Doultling Village Hall where social distancing could be achieved.

Alan Butcher,
Parish Clerk,
17th January 2022
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