

DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 9th JUNE 2020 via ZOOM. The meeting started at 7.30pm	
	<u>Present:</u> Cllrs Paula Fidge, Ros Wilkins, Ann Crowcombe, Jan Crewe. Cllr Sarah Goff joined during the meeting. Also in attendance Cllr Francis Hayden and Alan Butcher (Clerk).
2004/1	<u>Apologies for absence.</u> Cllr John Shepherd.
2004/2	<u>Declarations of Interest:</u> Cllr Crowcombe noted that she had already discussed the planning matter 2004/5i at the meeting of Cranmore Parish Council the previous evening.
2004/3	<u>Public Forum:</u> One member of the public was present. i) Comments on planning applications. The clerk noted emails and a letter of objection to the application 2020/0908/FUL and also an email in support. ii) Reports from District and County Councillors. Cllr Hayden reported that meetings were re-starting at Mendip DC including planning board meetings. He noted that recycling centres were re-opening to take a full range of waste, both recycled and landfill and that green waste collections were re-starting on a different day to the normal waste bin collections. iii) Report from the Police. No report was received.
	The chairman reconvened the meeting
2004/4	<u>Confirmation of the Minutes of previous meetings:</u> i) Meeting held on 10 th March 2020 were agreed and signed as a true record. The chairman signed a hard copy of the minutes.
2004/5	<u>Parish Council Response to Planning Applications</u> i) Application 2020/0908/FUL – Change of use of agricultural land and engineering works to provide access and hardstanding for parking on land adjacent to Willmotts Business Park, Waterlip, Shepton Mallet BA4 4RN. Cllr Crowcombe outlined a number of issues with the application including the flooding of the site which was not mentioned on the application but was confirmed as a serious risk by many parishioners and others. She was concerned about the lack of “interceptor” drainage to prevent pollution of the adjoining lake where the surface run off drained into and had circulated a paper from the National Rivers Authority on the matter. She noted that the Local Plan suggested development could be allowed in the open countryside but felt this was not a site where this applied. She also noted serious light pollution from the existing site which would be increased by these new proposals. Cllr Wilkins also noted the problem with light pollution and asked the clerk if he had already mentioned the flooding issue to the planners as previously discussed, he confirmed that he had made this comment as agreed. Cllr Wilkins felt that the environmental issues were not being fully dealt with by the planners.

	<p>Cllr Crewe noted that the site was sited over a local aquifer and that there would be a footpath diversion which had not been applied for and that, also, there was CCTV on site apparently without the relevant advisory notice.</p> <p>Cllr Fidge noted that the works appeared to have already started and that the former meadow had been destroyed by the machines on site. She also referred to the flooding issue. Cllr Hayden noted that it was not, per se, illegal to commence the works before the grant of planning permission. The clerk advised the content of the letter and emails received including comments about flooding, pollution, light pollution and destruction of the meadow. An email in support noted opportunities for local employment and businesses. The chairman moved to a vote, none were in support, three objected, one abstained.</p> <p>Clerk to forward comments as noted above to the planners.</p> <p>Cllr Hayden commented that the application should be considered by the planning board and noted that there should perhaps be limits on the development within the existing site, that the drainage issue should be considered and that consideration should be given to creating additional car parking when Mendip DC were trying to reduce the use of private cars for commuting.</p> <p>ii) Application 2020/0925/FUL – Proposed demolition of existing agricultural buildings and erection of a three bedroom dwelling on plot adjacent to The Second Barn, Prestleigh Lane, Prestleigh, Shepton Mallet. Cllr Fidge noted a number of local objections to the proposals. She advised that the new application was considerably larger and more prominent than the previous proposals to rebuild the existing barns. In particular, the dwelling would cause a significant loss of light to The Second Barn and substantially effect the window to one bedroom. The question of access was also raised, larger vehicles would need to pull out onto the opposite side of the road to access the site on a dangerous bend and the increased traffic generated by the business established on the site would cause a significant traffic hazard. All councillors agreed with these comments and voted to object to the application unanimously - Five councillors voting to object to the application.</p> <p>iii) Application 2020/0992/FUL – Demolition of agricultural barn and erection of detached dwelling at Hurlingpot Farm, Kings Road, Doulling. Councillors noted the objection to the application to convert the steel barn but were happy to support the construction of the proposed new dwelling and voted five in favour in support of the application. (Cllr Goff joined the meeting after this item).</p>
2004/6	<p><u>Parish Council Matters.</u></p> <p>i) Highways and traffic – SCC</p> <p>a) Cllr Goff had been liaising with Highways over ongoing works.</p> <p>b) Ash tree adjacent to the Well. It was agreed to contact a specialist to advise on the best course of action and to obtain an approximate cost for removing the tree. (See also item under The Glebeland)</p> <p>ii) Footpath matters</p> <p>a) Parish Paths Liaison Officer report. Cllr Crewe reported on various footpath clearance works which were on going.</p>

Draft minutes subject to acceptance at the next meeting.

	<p>b) Training course for volunteer strimmer operator. Cllr Crewe advised that this was a course to instruct the volunteer in the correct and safe use of a strimmer. It was suggested that a further course would be required for this work to be done on the highway. Cllr Crewe to advise cost at the next meeting.</p> <p>iii) Speedwatch - nothing to report.</p>
2004/7	<p><u>Matters relating to The Glebeland:</u></p> <p>i) Mary Newman advised that nine ash trees required attention in The Glebeland, approximate cost of £1200. Cllr Crowcombe to speak to Mendip Tree Officer for advice, including the tree near The Well, and also seek additional quotes for the works.</p> <p>ii) Councillors thanked Mary Newman and Margaret Hares for their continuing work in The Glebeland during the current emergency.</p>
2004/8	<p><u>Matters relating to Padfield Green.</u></p> <p>i) Re-opening of play park – Cllr Wilkins advised this was awaiting government guidance.</p> <p>ii) The Clerk to seek quotes for repairs to the safety surfacing.</p>
2004/9	<p><u>Matters relating to Prestleigh, Bath and West Showground and Waterlip.</u> No matters raised.</p>
2004/10	<p><u>Financial:</u></p> <p>i) Clerks salary and expenses. £332.80. This was agreed.</p> <p>ii) Information Commissioner fee £40.00. This was agreed.</p> <p>iii) The annual subscription to SALC £173.34 had been received recently. Clerk to raise a cheque and circulate for signature at the July meeting.</p>
2004/11	<p><u>Matters of Report:</u></p> <p>i) Cllr Goff reported that the Village Hall was ineligible for grant support.</p> <p>ii) Cllr Fidge noted recently received phishing emails, clerk to investigate.</p>
2004/12	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</u> The next meeting will be a virtual meeting on 14th July 2020.</p>

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Alan Butcher,
Parish Clerk,
15th June 2020
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