

Draft minutes subject to acceptance at the next meeting.

DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE ZOOM PLATFORM ON TUESDAY 9th FEBRUARY 2021 COMMENCING AT 7.30pm

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

2102/1 - *Apologies for absence.* None received.

2102/2 - *Declarations of Interest:*

Cllr Crewe noted that one of the tenderers for the works to the tree near The Well was a neighbour.

The clerk noted that the Parish Council as a whole were the applicants for item 2102/5ii)

2102/3 - *Public Forum:*

One member of the public was present.

- i) Comments on planning applications. None received.
- ii) Agenda matters:
The matter of the school sign on the A361 was queried – see 2102/6id)
Thanks were given for tree chippings placed by local contractors on the footpath from the Glebeland.
Access arrangements for the works to the tree near the Well were confirmed.
A report on the recent litter pick was given, thirteen bags of litter had been collected which were being sorted and recycled as necessary.
Repairs to the fence to the Glebeland enclosure were required; clerk to deal with this in due course.
- iii) Reports from District and County Councillors. No reports were received.
- iv) Report from the Police. No report was received.

2102/4 - *Confirmation of the Minutes of previous meetings:*

- i) Minutes of Meeting held on 12th January 2021 were agreed as a true record. The chairman will sign a hard copy of the minutes.

2102/5 - *Parish Council Response to Planning Applications*

- i) Application 2021/0221/NMA - Non-material amendment to permission 2018/2303/FUL for the window openings, window design, materials and roofing material. | Land And Barn At Ingsdon Farm Bodden Lane To Chelynych Road Doultling Shepton Mallet Somerset BA4 4PU. Councillors had no comments and the application was supported.
- ii) Application 2021/0090/TCA - Works to tree in a conservation area - T1 (Ash) Fell to ground level, Land At 364519 143208 Well Lane, Doultling, Shepton Mallet, Somerset. This application had been made by the Parish Council, no comments had been received.
- iii) The clerk had circulated an application received just before the meeting and had requested an extension until the meeting on 9th March 2021

2102/6 - Parish Council Matters.

- i) Highways and traffic – SCC
 - a) Problems with a culvert at Waterlip. This was in hand; to be removed from agenda.
 - b) Doultling Hill – the “grips” had been cleared and no water was running onto the main A361.
 - c) Speeding traffic at St Aldhelms School – the school had advised that parents had been advised on this matter and it was noted that the police had also attended the school during the morning drop off.
 - d) Request for school directional sign on A361 – it was noted that there was already one in place.
 - e) Doultling pavements. It was hoped that a litter pick could be carried out by various local quarries as previously in conjunction with the Great British Spring clean. Cllr Fidge noted that a litter pick was also required at the top of Prestleigh Hill. Cllr Wilkins noted that litter was being left by vehicles when parked in Farm Road. It was hoped to obtain vehicle details so that the clerk could write to those involved.
 - f) Other highway matters.

Cllr Crewe noted that proposed works to Doultling Hill would now be carried out in 2021/22.

Cllr Crewe advised that the drains previously blocked in Maesdown Road appear to have been cleared.

The clerk advised that an email had been received querying the resurfacing of Well Lane when there were many potholes locally which required attention. Cllr Crewe responded that Well Lane had been in a very poor state and was a danger to cars and pedestrians. She noted that potholes and other highway matters could be reported via the Mendip DC website or via herself to Highways.
- ii) Parish Paths Liaison Officer report.

Cllr Crewe reported that path surveys had resumed following a halt because of Covid and that she was undertaking two surveys. She noted that the path from Well Lane to Bodden was blocked by electric fencing and had spoken to the landowner about this. She advised that, together with Cllr Goff, she had prevented water from an adjoining pond running along Newman Street.
- iii) Speedwatch. Cllr Crewe noted that there had been no watches recently but that about 40 visits had been made to serious offenders in recent months. She advised that she was working with the local PCSO’s on speeding matters.
- iv) SID’s to Waterlip. Cllr Crowcombe advised that the site for the new post had yet to be decided and that the agreement with Somerset CC would need to be signed in due course.
- v) Ash trees near The Well – selection of contractor. Details of the two lowest contractors had been received by the clerk. It was agreed five councillors in favour, Cllr Crewe not voting, to accept the lowest tender from JK Tree Services in the sum of £1460.00. Clerk to place order and to apply for a section 171 order from Somerset County Council.

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- vi) Doultling Village Hall update. Cllr Goff had examined the documents and advised that there were no documents missing. It was agreed to seek to collate all the documents together, clerk to contact the diocese for copies of any documents they might hold. She advised that the problem with the flooding near the entrance was the responsibility of the school as was the entrance to the school which was on school land and the village hall held no liability for this area and that the insurers were happy with the cover provided. She would respond to an email from a parishioner when all information was to hand. She noted that the village hall was still in correspondence with the school on several matters.
- vii) Climate and Eco Emergency actions. Cllr Crewe suggested a number of actions including the provision of a perimeter hedge to Padfield Green to mitigate traffic noise and pollution. The cost of this would be around £250. Cllr Wilkins was unhappy with this proposal noting that the council had removed a hedge along the side boundary following complaints about the use of the area as a toilet. It was also noted that there was a maintenance issue with this proposal. It was suggested that funding could be available for the proposed hedge. It was suggested that local opinion be canvassed on the proposal.
Other items considered included electric car charging points. Cllr Crewe advised that there could be an opportunity via Mendip DC later in the year to roll out these points to local areas.
- viii) Road Safety Fund. Cllr Crewe was awaiting further information.
- ix) Somerset re-organisation – correspondence from St Cuthbert Out Parish. It was agreed after discussion to await the outcome of the re-organisation proposals.
- x) Mendip Parish Forums. These had been advised to councillors.
- xi) Proposed litter pick. Litter picking would be continuing and a discussion about the clearance of plastic tree guards from the quarry bund held. Clerk to draft a letter to the landowner for circulation to councillors asking for access to carry out the clearance of the guards. Cllr Crewe noted that the plastic guards needed to be disposed of in accordance with strict rules.
- xii) Annual Parish and Parish Council meetings. The clerk advised that clarification was required as to whether the current situation with remote meetings would continue beyond the time set down in legislation. It was agreed to keep the matter under review. The provisional date for the May meeting would be 11th May 2021.

2102/7 - Matters relating to The Glebeland:

- i) There was a discussion about restrictions on the sale of alcohol in the Glebeland which was prevented by the covenants in place. The use of barbeques was also discussed and it was agreed unanimously that the use of disposal barbeques should not be permitted with all barbeques used in the area needing to be on legs.

2102/8 - Matters relating to Padfield Green.

- i) Loans and funding. It was agreed unanimously to delay any further discussion on replacement of equipment until 2022.

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2102/9 - Matters relating to Prestleigh, Bath and West Showground and Waterlip.

- i) No matters from Waterlip.
- ii) Cllr Fidge noted the shuttle bus service to the vaccination centre at the Bath and West Showground.

2102/10 - Financial:

- i) Payment of Clerks Salary and expenses to include website hosting costs. £481.02.
This was approved
- ii) Request from CAB for Grant from Parish Council. £100 agreed at the last meeting.
This was confirmed.

2102/11 - Matters of Report:

- i) Cllr Crowcombe advised that trees were to be cut down at the Woolf Stone site which did not require any special permissions.
- ii) Cllr Crowcombe suggested that the parish Council write to the school thanking teachers and staff for the work during the pandemic. This was agreed.
- iii) Cllr Crowcombe advised she had received a reply to her query about funding of churches from David Warburton MP which had confirmed a disparity in the law.
- iv) It was noted that the Doultling postman is retiring and this should be recognised.
- v) Cllr Wilkins noted recent conversations about overhanging hedges in Doultling.
- vi) Cllr Fidge reiterated recent conversations about ensuring that the Parish Council and its members follow current Covid legislation and guidance precisely

2102/12 - Date and Time of Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be a virtual meeting on 9th March 2021

The meeting closed at 9pm

Alan Butcher,
Parish Clerk,
10th February 2021
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