

## **DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023 AT DOULTING VILLAGE HALL COMMENCING AT 7.30pm.**

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

2309/1 - Apologies for absence. None.

2309/2 – Co-option of councillor onto the Parish Council following the uncontested election.

2309/3 - Co-option of councillor onto the Parish Council to fill a casual vacancy.

No candidates had come forward for either vacancy.

2309/4 - Declarations of Interest: No declarations were made.

2309/5 - 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. Six members of the public were present.

- i) Matters on the Agenda including planning applications.  
The matter of overgrown brambles over the Glebeland wall was raised and also the annual grass cut and the removal of ragwort.  
Concern was again expressed about the blocked footpath at the Edge Tool works.  
It was noted that the A361 was to be closed for two nights for roadworks  
A planning consultant spoke about planning application /1314/VRC
- ii) Somerset Councillors report. A number of communication from Cllr Barry Clarke had been received and circulated.

2309/6 - Confirmation of the Minutes of previous meetings:

- i) Minutes of Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023 were agreed and signed as a true record.

2309/7 - Parish Council Response to Planning Applications:

- i) 2023/1158/HSE and 1159/LBC | Erection of a timber structure garden room measuring 4 m x 4m | Brook House Prestleigh Lane Prestleigh Shepton Mallet Somerset BA4 4NG. There were no objections and the application was supported.
- ii) 2023/1506/LBC | Addition of Solar PV panels to garage roof | Brook House Prestleigh Lane Prestleigh Shepton Mallet Somerset BA4 4NG. There were no objections and the application was supported.
- iii) 2023/1314/VRC | Application to remove condition 3 (Agricultural Occupancy) of planning approval 107878/000 (Erection of Agricultural Workers Dwelling).

| Manor Farm Prestleigh Hill Prestleigh Shepton Mallet Somerset BA4 4NJ.  
Cllr Shepherd was concerned about the loss of a dwelling for an agricultural worker. The planning consultant advised that the property was a 5 bedroom house and had been extensively marketed without any positive result. Councillors voted unanimously to support the application.

- iv) 2023/1410/PAA | Prior Approval for a proposed change of use of agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (Class C3) and for associated operational development | Barn At Newman Street Doultling Shepton Mallet Somerset. It was noted that highways had raised concerns and that there was a nearby footpath. There were no objections and the application was supported.
- v) 2022/0370/OUT | Application for Outline Planning Permission with all matters reserved for erection of 5no. dwellings, demolition of existing building and associated access | Hill View Bungalow Prestleigh Lane Prestleigh Shepton Mallet Somerset BA4 4NJ. There was some confusion over the application as to the number of dwelling proposed although it was thought to be five. Concern was expressed about increased access onto the A371 and it was also noted that other agencies had concerns about drainage proposals. Councillors noted many objections from Prestleigh residents. Councillors raised several objections to the application and councillors agreed unanimously to object to the application.

2309/8 - Parish Council Matters.

- i) Highways and traffic –
  - a) Road Signs. Some were still displaced and also hedges needed cutting back.
  - b) Doultling Hill drainage. It was understood this had been done.
  - c) Other matters of report.  
Concern was expressed about the speed of lorries accessing the quarry off of Farrington Lane via Chelynch Road. Lorries could only access the quarry from the north via Chelynch Road and Farrington Lane. Clerk to write to company involved.
- ii) Parish Paths Liaison Officer report including Edge Tool footpath situation. Cllr Crewe noted that Rights of Way had raised an objection to the Edge Tool works proposals because of the blocked footpath. See also Matters of Report. Cllr Crewe noted the footpath near the Farrington Lane quarry needed to be confirmed as the width was below minimum requirements.
- iii) Speedwatch and SID's. Two watches had taken place. The Speedwatch AGM was on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023.
- iv) Hearing loop for community room. The ceiling repairs had not been completed although other works had progressed. Cllr Goff to write to the contractor.
- v) Village Hall matters. Cllr Goff advised that the hall AGM was on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023 starting at 7pm.

- vi) Bus Partnership and Public Transport. Cllr Goff noted that there was a meeting shortly and that the standard fare would increase to £2.50 in October. More notices were to be displayed advising the fare.
- vii) SALC Training Events. These had been circulated, no councillors wished to attend.
- viii) Facebook and social media. Cllr Baker to organise a Doultong Parish Council Facebook page.
- ix) Somerset Council matters
  - a) LCN Meeting report. There was little to report.
  - b) Gambling Policy. Councillors had no comments.
  - c) Public Spaces Protection Order. Councillors had no comments.
  - d) Local Plan Re-assessment of sites. The dates of the consultations were noted.

2309/9 - Matters relating to The Glebeland:

- i) The clerk had contacted SM Landscape about the brambles growing over the wall in Carey Close.
- ii) The ragwort had been removed from the area and disposed of.
- iii) Two tables still needed treatment, a working party to be organised.
- iv) The next committee meeting is on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023.

2309/10 - Matters relating to Padfield Green.

- i) Tree planting. A flowering cherry to be sourced and costed.
- ii) Sun shading structure and green wall proposals. A simple shelter approx. 6m x 4m to be costed, Cllr Shepherd and the clerk to liaise.
- iii) Funding and grants for proposed works. An overall cost of about £5000 had been discussed.
- iv) Letter received concerning car parking. The clerk read a letter (anonymous) concerning parking and abandoned vehicles in the Padfield Green car park. It was noted that the vehicles had been reported to the DVLA and would be reported again. No further actions were decided.

2309/11 - Matters relating to Prestleigh, Bath and West Showground and Waterlip.

- i) Nothing to report.

2309/12 - Financial:

- i) Payment of Clerks Salary and expenses (Two months). £708.06 - this was agreed and a cheque raised.
- ii) Payment of HMRC Tax. £157.20 – this was agreed and a cheque raised.
- iii) Somerset PFA – Padfield Green and Skate park inspections £195.00 - this was agreed and a cheque raised.
- iv) Tibbs Trees – Glebeland tree work £1332.00 - this was agreed and a cheque raised.

Draft minutes subject to acceptance at the next meeting

- v) Somerset Garden Waste. A renewal request had been received after the agenda was published. Councillors agreed to pay the renewal of £63.50 which had been paid via the clerk and a cheque was raised.
- vi) SALC Training. An invoice had been received after the agenda was published. Councillors agreed to pay the invoice of £40.00 and a cheque was raised.

2309/13 - Matters of Report

- i) Cllr Goff reported that she, along with Cllrs Shepherd and Baker had met with the owner of Doultling Quarry to discuss a forthcoming planning application for an extension to the quarry. Cllr Goff also intended to speak about possible housing provision.
- ii) Cllr Baker advised that he had reviewed the planning application for the Edge Tool works and had noted that significant changes to the proposed building to be erected on site had been made. There were also a number of other concerns. The clerk noted that, in its initial response, the council had felt unable to make any decision on the application due to the poor quality of information provided.  
It was agreed that the clerk would write to planners asking for clarification of the current status of the application noting that councillors were aware of changes to the proposed building on site.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm

2309/14 - Date and Time of Next Meeting:

10<sup>th</sup> October 2023

**Alan Butcher,  
Parish Clerk,  
22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023  
01749 870358;  
email: [parish.clerk@doultlingparish.org](mailto:parish.clerk@doultlingparish.org)**