

Draft minutes subject to acceptance at the next meeting

DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 13TH JULY 2021 AT THE PRESTLEIGH INN COMMENCING AT 7.30pm

The meeting was held in the restaurant with social distancing and procedures set out in the meeting Risk Assessment.

Present: Cllrs Paula Fidge (Chairman), Sarah Goff, Ann Crowcombe, John Shepherd, Jan Crewe (in the absence of the clerk, Cllr Fidge recorded the minutes.)

2107/1 - Apologies for absence. Ros Wilkins, Alan Butcher (Clerk), Francis Hayden.

2107/2 - Declarations of Interest: Cllr Crowcombe noted that she had previously discussed the Quarry Way application and would abstain from the vote.

2107/3 - Public Forum:

The Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow an extended period of public participation. Seven members of the public were present.

The matter of the Westdown Quarry application was raised and concern expressed about the impact of additional heavy traffic on the A361.

Comments were made regarding the bus survey, noting that the current services were infrequent, at inconvenient times and with poor connections.

It was noted that the church gate from the main road had been fitted with a new closing spring. Two dead branches had been removed that overhung the Church path with two more trees needing attention.

The problem of glass bottles in the Glebeland was discussed.

Comments critical of the Parish Council were made with regard to freedom of speech, citing the closed meeting held some years ago by the Council. The hole in the Village Hall car park was mentioned again as was the situation with the Church Road hedges.

2107/4 - Confirmation of the Minutes of previous meetings:

- i) Minutes of Meeting held on 8th June 2021 were agreed and signed as a true record.

2107/5 - Parish Council Response to Planning Applications

- i) 2021/0764/FUL - Installation of canopy over an existing commercial vehicle washdown area. Southway Scania Ltd Ball Lane to Piers Road Waterlip Shepton Mallet Somerset BA4 4RN. Councillors had viewed the application and discussed the drainage situation. It was agreed unanimously to support the application.
- ii) 2021/1284/FUL - Change of use from an existing B2 general industrial use to a flexible commercial use of either B2 General Industrial or B8 Storage and Distribution as permitted by Part 3 Class V of General Permitted Development Order (2015) Unit 8 Quarry Way Business Park Ball Lane to Piers Road Waterlip Shepton Mallet Somerset BA4 4RN. Councillors had viewed the application and raised concerns about the increase in road use, the lack of any road improvements in the area as a whole and the hours of use. No comments had been received from neighbouring properties. It was agreed to support the application by a majority vote. Cllrs Fidge, Shepherd, Crewe and Goff in favour. Cllr Crowcombe abstained.

2107/6 - Parish Council Matters.

- i) Highways and traffic – SCC
 - a) Various roadworks had been notified, including Doultling Hill and Merryfield Lane.
 - b) Cllr Crewe reported that a drain had been mended in Doultling.
- ii) Parish Paths Liaison Officer report.
 - a) Cllr Crewe reported the strimmer operator would be clearing paths from 18th July.
 - b) It was reported that Mr Keevil had maintained one of the footpaths.
 - c) Additional stile maintenance works would be carried out.
- iii) Church Path. It was reported that the PCC is to erect new green signage.
- iv) Doultling PC garden waste bin: the subscription had been renewed.
- v) Planning Validation Consultation: the additional requirements were noted.
- vi) Somerset Bus Partnership Mendip: Cllr Goff reported that consultations were taking place until the end of August, accessible on their website, with plans to be formulated by October and in use with the bus companies by April 2022.
- vii) Westdown Quarry application: Clerk to respond to the application with the detailed points raised concerning the impact on highways and traffic.
- viii) Speedwatch. Little to report.
- ix) SID's to Waterlip. Awaiting erection of posts by Highways.
- x) Trees on Parish land. Cllr Crowcombe noted that Iverde also carried out tree surveys.
- xi) Confirmation of grass cutting by SM Landscape. Clerk has written to SM Landscapes.
- xii) Suggested Parishioners Meeting: The date of 7th September was suggested for a joint open meeting with the Village Hall, to be a social occasion with cheese and wine.
- xiii) Doultling Village Hall update. Cllr Goff reported that the planned redecoration and re-carpeting planned with the school were on hold as the school were having a new boiler and heating system installed. Discussions with the Diocese concerning the drain in the car park were ongoing.
- xiv) Climate and Eco Emergency actions: Cllr Crewe was collating information about climate change actions and the idea of community gardens was being explored.

2107/7 - Matters relating to The Glebeland:

- i) The amazing biodiversity of the Glebeland was noted.
- ii) Signage had been retrieved from the undergrowth and may need replacing before reinstallation.

2107/8 - Matters relating to Padfield Green.

- l) Proposed shading structure. The Clerk to advised approx. cost of timber structure as £220 for the timber, fixings and concrete.

2107/9 - Matters relating to Prestleigh, Bath and West Showground and Waterlip.

- i) Waterlip proposed road closure: Cllr Crowcombe noted that the closure as planned would lead to confusion. It needs to start at Long Cross.

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- ii) Waterlip HGV movements: 24 Hansons lorries and 22 Tarmac lorries had been sighted through Waterlip, despite route avoidance having been agreed.
- iii) Cllr Fidge noted that she was now in contact with the new personnel at the Bath and West showground.
- iv) Cllr Fidge noted that the Showground has several large events planned in September.

2107/10 - Financial:

- i) Payment of Clerks Salary and expenses. £447.21. This was agreed.
- ii) Payment of Q1 tax to HMRC. £235.80 This was agreed.
- iii) Payment to Cranmore PC in respect of SIDs course. £228.00. This was agreed.
- iv) Payment to SALC for subscription. £163.66. This was agreed
- v) Quarterly accounts to 30th June 2021. Councillors unanimously agreed the accounts which were duly signed.

2107/11 - Matters of Report

- i) Cllr Crewe mentioned the need for the bus shelters to be cleaned.
- ii) Cllr Crowcombe noted a further Westdown Quarry meeting on 21st July
- iii) Cllr Goff mentioned noisy vehicles speeding in Chelynch Road.

2107/12 - Date and Time of Next Meeting:

Tuesday 10th August 2021 - *if required*

Tuesday 14th September 2021 – Doultling Village Hall.

**Alan Butcher,
Parish Clerk,
18th July 2021
01749 870358;
doultlingclerk@gmail.com**