

DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD TUESDAY 14th FEBRUARY 2023 AT DOULTING VILLAGE HALL COMMENCING AT 7.30pm.

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

2302/01 - Apologies for absence. Cllr Crowcombe.

2302/02 – Co-option of one additional councillor.

No progress had been made in co-opting an additional councillor.

2302/03 - Declarations of Interest: No declarations were made.

2302/04 - 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.

The chairman advised that she would adjourn the meeting later in the meeting to allow public comment on 2302/xi

2302/05 - Confirmation of the Minutes of previous meetings:

- i) Minutes of Meeting held on 9th January 2023 were agreed and signed as a true record.

2302/06 - Parish Council Response to Planning Applications

- i) 2023/0170/HSE | Proposed loft conversion with dormers, erection of detached garage & alterations to existing veranda and porch. | Fernbank Chelynch Road Doultong Shepton Mallet Somerset BA4 4PZ. Councillors had no objections and no public objections had been received. Councillors voted unanimously to support the application.

2302/08 - Parish Council Matters.

- i) Highways and traffic –
 - a) Roadworks list requested by Cllr Ham – Cllr Crewe had compiled a list.
 - b) Padfield Green wall – this had been reported to highways.
 - c) Items from last meeting – Doultong Hill drains and loose coping on railway bridge at Maesdown Road had been reported.
 - d) Litter picking at various locations – This had been organised for 4th March meet 10am Padfield Green.
 - e) Cllr Crewe reported that damaged road signs on Doultong Hill had been repaired and cleaned.
- ii) Parish Paths Liaison Officer report. Cllr Crewe had contacted a number of people seeking volunteers to help with path surveys.

- iii) Speedwatch and SID's including a complaint about speeding cars in Chelynch Road. A small number of speedwatches had taken place. There was a brief discussion about traffic speeding on Chelynch Road as had been reported. This mostly took place at school drop off and pick up times. Clerk to write to school asking them to remind parents of the 20mph limit and the need for highway safety at drop off and pick up times. Cllr Crewe to ask for police enforcement to attend.
- iv) New Somerset Council matters
 - a) Statement of Community Involvement consultation. The consultation period to end on 16th March, councillors to advise clerk of any comments.
 - b) Constitution, LCN's, Planning and Licensing. Doultong had been grouped into an LCN with neighbouring quarry parishes and Shepton Mallet. Cllr Goff outlined the situation noting that further information would be forthcoming in the coming weeks.
- v) Hearing loop for community room. Cllr Baker advised that this would be installed on or around 20th February.
- vi) Mendip Health and Wellbeing Forum 21st February. Cllrs Goff and Crewe to attend.
- vii) NHS Consultation on acute care (Circulated). Councillors to respond individually including any public comments received.
- viii) Asset Register as updated (Circulated). This was discussed and agreed for formal adoption at the next meeting.
- ix) New Code of Conduct (Circulated). The clerk advised that this was an extended version of the existing Code which was being adopted by most Somerset Parish Councils. It was agreed that the new Code would be formally adopted at the next meeting
- x) Councillors Training. Forthcoming events had been circulated. Cllr Crewe to attend the planning event.
- xi) Tree Planting, Ed Woods, Bodden.

The chairman adjourned the meeting at this point to allow public comments on the tree planting on land at Bodden which had recently started. Twelve members of the public were present.

Emails had been received expressing concern about the various proposals for the piece of land to be planted with 4000 trees and known as Ed's Wood in memory of a local landowner. In addition to tree planting it was suggested that events might take place on the land and ponds excavated. Enquiries had been made of the organisation who were planting the trees, Avon Needs Trees and a meeting held on site which had been attended by Cllr Baker. The works were being carried out using a new Conservation Covenants details of which had been requested by Cllr Baker. Matters of access to the site which was immediately opposite the entrance to a busy farm were discussed and concern expressed about highway safety.

The Chairman reconvened the meeting at this point.

Draft minutes subject to acceptance at the next meeting

It was agreed that the clerk would write to Mendip planners seeking their opinion as to whether formal permission was required and noting concerns about access to the site. Cllr Baker would continue to speak to Avon Needs Trees about documentation and Bodden residents would contact DEFRA.

2302/09 - Matters relating to The Glebeland:

- i) Skate Park surveillance. The cameras were handed to Cllr Baker.
- ii) Skate Park repairs. To be undertaken on 28th February weather permitting.
- iii) Next meeting of Glebeland Committee – 28th February 2023. The agenda would be published on 23rd February.
- iv) A quote for the hedge laying of £405 had been received and was provisionally agreed. The clerk to speak to the other hedge layer about availability.

2302/10 - Matters relating to Padfield Green.

- i) New equipment installed. It was noted that the new equipment had been installed and was in use. Cllr Shepherd expressed disappointment at the value for money aspect of the equipment although accepted that the cheapest quotation had been chosen.
- ii) Grants to be sought for the installation of a sun shelter.
- iii) Additional tables and benches were required, prices to be obtained.

2302/11 - Matters relating to Prestleigh, Bath and West Showground and Waterlip.

- i) No matters reported.

2302/12 - Financial:

- i) Payment of Clerks Salary and expenses to include Website Hosting costs. £494.83 – This was agreed and a cheque raised.
- ii) Caloo invoice for new play equipment - £14,229.60. This was agreed and a cheque raised.

2302/13 - Matters of Report

- i) Concern was expressed about continuing road safety issues in Well Lane especially for pedestrians. The provision of some form of pedestrian refuge was discussed.
- ii) Cllr Goff noted that repairs to the hall would take place from 20th February.

2302/14 - Date and Time of Next Meeting:

14th March 2023 at Doultling Village Hall.

Alan Butcher,
Parish Clerk,
27th February 2023
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doultlingclerk@gmail.com