

DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD THURSDAY 4th AUGUST 2022 AT DOULTING VILLAGE HALL COMMENCING AT 7.30pm.

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

2208/01 - Apologies for absence. None.

2208/02 – Co-option of one additional councillor following elections:

_No applications had been received.

2208/03 - Declarations of Interest:

No declarations were made.

2208/04 - Public Forum:

The Chairman will adjourn the meeting and allow a maximum of 15 minutes for public participation. Four members of the public were present.

- i) Members of the public expressed concerns about planning application 2022/1507/FUL including the impact of the proposed access track to the workshop on existing trees and landscape noting that any new trees planted would take time to mature, the unofficial diversion of the footpath to allow for repairs, the possible effect of the hydro equipment on the flow of the river and the obstruction of adjoining accesses during the works. Cllr Crewe gave details of the footpath works noting that the applicant was in touch with Somerset Rights of Way. The use of the access track was queried and it was noted that the proposed workshop did not appear in the description of the application.

2208/05 - Confirmation of the Minutes of previous meetings:

- i) Minutes of Meeting held on 12th July 2022 were agreed and signed as a true record.

2208/06 - Parish Council Response to Planning Applications

- i) 2022/1480/APP | Approval of details reserved by condition 6 (Materials Schedule & Samples), condition 7 (Hard and Soft Landscaping) and condition 9 (External Lighting) on planning consent 2022/0248/FUL. | Tyto Alba Hurlingpot Farm Kings Road Doultling Shepton Mallet Somerset BA4 4PY. Councillors made no comments about this application.

- ii) 2022/1429/PAH | Erection of a single storey rear extension, which would extend beyond the rear wall of the original house by 7.7 metres, with a maximum height of 3.7 metres and an eaves height of 3.3 metres. | Fernbank Chelynch Road Doultling Shepton Mallet Somerset BA4 4PZ. Councillors had no objections and agreed to support the application.
- iii) 2022/1507/FUL | Erection of shed to accommodate electric components of hydro pipe; new access track | Land At Grid Reference 364404 143228 Well Lane Doultling Shepton Mallet Somerset.
Cllr Baker had reviewed the application in detail and gave a brief summary noting that the application was difficult to read.
Councillors felt unable to properly consider the application due to the poor and unreadable quality of the information supporting the application.
Councillors raised the following concerns about the application:
That there was a new workshop included in the application not mentioned in the title with an access track to it the use of which was not clarified.
That existing trees on the site would be felled to make way for the track and that any new trees planted would take time to mature to replace the felled trees.
That the existing footpath would be diverted to allow for works without proper authorisation.
That the proposed hydro equipment could affect the flow of the river.
That the proposed works would obstruct access to other properties.
It was agreed that councillors would contact the applicant to arrange a possible site meeting to review the proposals.
The clerk noted the closing date of 18th August 2022 and that it would not be possible to submit definitive comments without a further meeting. It was agreed to submit the concerns raised above to the planners.

2208/07 - Parish Council Matters.

- i) Highways and traffic:
 - a) Cllr Crewe noted that drain jetting would be taking place in the area at the end of August.
 - b) Cllr Crewe noted problems with inadequate signage during the recent closure of Slait Hill leading to HGV's using country lane with resulting traffic chaos. The matter had been resolved following contact with Somerset Highways and it was hoped that the problem would not re-occur during the upcoming closure of Slait Hill.
 - c) Cllr Crewe had spoken to Somerset Highway Safety about signs for Merryfield Lane and Farm Road junctions.

- ii) Matters arising from the Annual Inspection of the Skate Park and Padfield Green. Cllr Shepherd and the clerk had met and reviewed problems at Padfield Green which were in hand. The paint had been obtained for obscuring the graffiti in the skate park sanding equipment was required before the work could be completed. Cllr Shepherd was thanked for obtaining the paint.

2208/08 - Matters relating to The Glebeland:

- i) Blocked footpath and fencing. Cllr Crewe to check if the footpath is still blocked.
- ii) Mary Newman (committee member) had cleared the ragwort from the area, advice to be sought as to disposal.
There would be a working party on 6th August to clear brambles etc from the skate park
A new waste bin was required; to be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

2208/9 - Matters relating to Padfield Green.

- i) New equipment – to review quotations and select equipment.
The clerk had circulated one quote received and noted that other suppliers had requested a meeting on site before quoting.
Cllr Goff suggested alternative equipment and the proposed equipment reviewed as to size etc.
It was suggested that equipment with a smaller footprint and less cost could be sought along with the sun shelter suggested by the previous council.
An overall budget of £15k was suggested. Cllr Crowcombe to seek additional funding from local sources.
Cllr Goff to meet with suppliers as required.
Clerk to update Mendip DC on progress.

2208/10 - Matters relating to Prestleigh, Bath and West Showground and Waterlip.

- i) Cllr Goff to contact representatives at the showground

2208/11 - Financial:

- i) Payment of Clerks Salary and expenses. £373.03. This payment was authorised.
- ii) Payment of Annual Inspection invoice from SPFA. Not received.
- iii) Payment of Green Waste bin renewal. £57.20. This payment was authorised via the clerk (Card payment)
- iv) Payment of SALC Training invoices. £130.00. This payment was authorised.

Draft minutes subject to acceptance at the next meeting

2208/12 - Matters of Report:

- i) Cllr Crowcombe had attended the Frome LCN pilot meeting and advised on continuing meetings and actions.
- ii) The question of a Neighbourhood Plan was raised. Cllr Crewe to attend SALC Training on 15th September.
- iii) Rabbits and hares in and around the Glebeland had been affected by Myxomatosis. There was a general discussion on dispatch and disposal of infected animals. It was noted that action needed to be taken in the autumn; clerk to write to local hawk keeper adjoining landowners and the school asking for permission to deal with the problem.
- iv) There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm

2208/13 - Date and Time of Next Meeting:

The date for the next meeting – 13th September 2022 at The Prestleigh Inn
(clerk to book)

Alan Butcher,
Parish Clerk,
10th August 2022
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