

## **DODFORD WITH GRAFTON PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the meeting of Dodford with Grafton Parish Council held on Thursday 17 December 2009 in Dodford Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllrs Richard Harper (Chairman), John Caldicott, Vic Dawson, Lynne Griffin, Alwyn Rea, and Clerk Kay Stone

At the start of the meeting Councillors expressed their sadness at hearing the news of the death of Councillor Gill.

#### **1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Jill Silver and were accepted.

#### **2. Declarations of interest**

Cllr Lynne Griffin declared an interest for item 8 – Village Hall Project as she sits on the Village Hall Committee.

The meeting was adjourned for members of the public to raise matters of interest/items for the next agenda:

- Residents have noticed that Whitford Construction were not clearing up at the end of the working day resulting in damage to vehicles and damage to hedgerows. Also that soil was being removed and taken to Field number 7068, Woodland Road. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Bromsgrove District Council Highways Partnership Unit and the Environment Agency respectively.
- A resident wished to pass on thanks to the party of litter pickers working recently in the village.
- A resident expressed concern over the telephone box.
- It was noted that Councillors receive various documents to look at during the meeting excluding members of the public and the Council agreed to increase their level of transparency by sharing documents with them as appropriate.

#### **3. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 19 November 2009**

Item 12 iii was amended to read:

The Council noted that the overspend at the end of 2009/10 was likely to be around £2,000 and that this would need to be covered from its reserves. The proposed budget would require an increase in the precept of just over £1,000. by £1,070. The Clerk would prepare a revised budget to be confirmed at the December meeting.

The Minutes were amended, initialled by the Chairman, then approved and signed by the Chairman.

#### **4. Reports**

None

#### **5. Planning**

- I. Prior to the Planning Committee meeting on 7 December the Committee had met with Joe Turner, new Enforcement Officer at Bromsgrove District Council (BDC) to discuss the role of the Parish Council and how it can work effectively with the District Council.
- II. 09/0874 - Sunday Hill, Whinfield Road, Dodford - proposed single story extension to rear. No objections.
- III. 09/0910 - Dodford Priory, Dodford – conversion of existing barn building to form residential facility – listed building consent. Assuming listing building consent is given after consultation with the Conservation Officer the Committee in principle agree as long as conversion is to a single residential development.
- IV. Orchard Cottage – Government have changed rules and so building could stay. Technically enforcement can take place but is it considered reasonable. BDC are investigating business use.
- V. Braeside – BDC Planning Enforcement Officer has visited the address and confirmed that the developments referred to do not require planning permission as they meet the criteria of permitted development. The Clerk was asked to ascertain what the Planning Enforcement Officer meant by ‘criteria’.
- VI. The Tower House, Priory Road – surface water discharge. Copy of a letter from Mr & Mrs Jennings to Planning and Environment Services had been received together with a plan showing direction of water discharge. The Clerk was asked to call BDC to express concern over continuing issues with the discharge.

#### **6. Parish Plan Review**

The Steering Group’s inaugural meeting has been arranged for Monday 18 January at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Councillors were asked to attend. Light refreshments will be available.

#### **7. Communication**

Councillors confirmed they had received the Parish Council Briefing newsletter from County Councillor Sheila Blagg.

#### **8. Village Hall Project**

Chairman and Clerk to go through the loan application forms and bring to next meeting.

## 9. Finance

- i. It was agreed that the Precept was to increase by £1,070. Proposed by Councillor Dawson and seconded by Councillor Caldicott and accepted by all.
- ii. The 2010/11 budget was accepted unanimously.
- iii. Payments due for December set out in a schedule circulated by the Clerk were approved.
- iv. 'Whatever Happens' laptop cover provided by PC World was rejected.
- v. Clerk to confirm at next meeting if the budget for laptop and projector also allowed for a free standing projector screen.

## 10. Correspondence received

- I. Items of correspondence received since the last meeting were noted.
- II. Worcestershire County Council (WCC) Waste Core Strategy questionnaire to be returned by 4 February 2010 and the Clerk was asked to keep this item on the agenda for the next meeting.
- III. BDC Draft Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document response form to be returned by 30 January and the Clerk was asked to keep this item on the agenda for the next meeting.
- IV. BDC Sustainable Community Strategy 2010-13 available for download from [www.bromsgrove.gov.uk/lsp](http://www.bromsgrove.gov.uk/lsp) content of which could be useful for Parish Plan Review.
- V. The Clerk was asked to retain the grant request from Macmillan Cancer Support for review later in the year.

## 11. Councillors Items

- I. The Clerk was asked to speak to BDC about the condition of Priory Road after the resurfacing
- II. 6 February at 11.00am Village Hall official energising of new eco-friendly boiler – all welcome to attend.
- III. Carol Service at Grafton Manor on 24 December at 10.15pm – all welcome to attend.
- IV. The Clerk was asked to ask for feedback from residents on the telephone box through the Parish Magazine and the notice board.

## 12. Dates for 2010

The Clerk was asked to list the proposed dates for 2010 meetings in the next agenda.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Signed.....Chairman