

DODFORD WITH GRAFTON PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the meeting of Dodford with Grafton Parish Council held on Thursday 22 January 2015 in Dodford Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Vicky Churchill, Alwyn Rea (Chairman), Richard Scott and David Valentine

In attendance: District Councillor Brian Lewis, Clerk Kay Stone and three members of the public

1. Apologies

Cllrs Rachel Jennings and gave her apologies, reasons for which were accepted

2. Declarations of interest

- i. None
- ii. Cllr Rea – item 8

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

- i. The chevron bend signs in the hedge on the A448 by Park Farm have been bent / damaged

The meeting was reconvened as follows:

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 December 2014

Approval of the Minutes was proposed by Cllr Churchill and seconded by Cllr Valentine after which they were signed by the Chairman as being a true record.

4. Reports

- i. The January report received from County Councillor Sheila Blagg had been received and already circulated to Parish Councillors. Copies were available at the meeting for members of the public.
- ii. District Councillor Brian Lewis reported that:
 - a. He had met with traffic enforcement at Bromsgrove District Council (BDC) and reported that traffic enforcers will look at the parking outside the school in the morning and late afternoon.
 - b. There is to be free parking in Bromsgrove between 7pm and 10pm.
 - c. Next meeting with environmental authority over the leachate at the quarry in Fairfield is scheduled for March.
- iii. The Clerk reported that:
 - a. BDC has been designated under-performing as a planning authority which now allows applicants to bypass the council and apply directly to the Planning Inspectorate. The Clerk has been in touch with the Planning Inspectorate who confirmed the Parish Council will continue to be consulted on any relevant applications.
 - b. An article in The Clerk Magazine had reported that if there are not enough Councillors following the Election in May but are quorate then the Parish Council have the power to co-opt to fill vacancies. However if it doesn't fill the vacancies within 35 working days after 7 May the District Council may order a fresh election to fill the unfilled vacancies for which the Parish Council will have to pay.

5. Planning

- i. The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had not been consulted on planning application 14/0383 at Woodhall Grange Farm, Woodcote Lane for extensive work (received by BDC in May 2014) which has now been granted by BDC. The Clerk has contacted BDC for an explanation and has been told that the error in not consulting the Parish Council was down to human error for which they apologised.
- ii. Planning applications 14/0943 for Moreland House, Newhouse Lane and 14/0928 for The Cottage, Cockshutt Lane had both been granted by BDC.

6. Policy on the filming, photographing, audio recording and social media reporting of public Parish Council and committee meetings

This has been postponed till the February meeting as Cllr Jennings was unable to attend the January meeting.

7. 2014/2015 Council Tax Grant

The Clerk reported on the quote for a recycled bench and District Councillor Lewis reported that he had applied to BDC for the Council Tax Grant. Parish Councillors to decide which bench to order once the grant has been confirmed / received.

At this point Cllr Rea left the room while the following agenda item was discussed

8. Grants for 2014/2015

After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Scott, seconded by Cllr Valentine and agreed that the following grants be paid:

Dodford Village Hall - £500 (*Village project*)

Dodford PCC - £400 (*Village project*)

Dodford Holiday Farm - £100 (*Benefits children*)

Midlands Air Ambulance - £150 (*Residents may need use of the Air Ambulance away from Dodford*)

Macmillan Cancer Support in Bromsgrove - £100 (*Everyone is affected at some stage by cancer within families*)

At this point Cllr Rea rejoined the room

9. Finance

- i. Acceptance of the 3rd quarter reconciliation as at end of December 2014 was proposed by Cllr Valentine, seconded by Cllr Rea and approved.
- ii. It was proposed by Cllr Scott and seconded by Cllr Valentine to increase the 2015/2016 Precept by 5%.
- iii. Deposit account as at 31 December 2014 - £12,056.78
Current account as at 31 December 2014 - £72.77
Payments - Acceptance proposed by Cllr Rea and seconded by Cllr Scott:
 - a. Clerk's salary - £376.15
 - b. Expenses - £15.40 (Use of telephone and internet line £5; Storage £5; Travel 12 miles @ 45p/mile £5.40)
 - c. HMRC - £94.00
 - d. Allen Farnsworth (Lengthsman duties for December) - £192.00

10. Correspondence received – for information

- i. Items of correspondence received since the last meeting were noted.

- ii. The Clerk to write to Secretary of State for Environment, copying in MP, to request funding is not withdrawn from the ACRE Network (in support of Community First).
- iii. The Clerk to write to Citizens Advice Bureau to advise that the Parish Council is unable to give them a grant for 2015/2016.
- iv. The Clerk to respond to the Oil Buying Club that there is already a consortium in Dodford.
- v. The Clerk to obtain the Wyre Forest District Council Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document for the February meeting.

11. Councillors items

No items reported.

The meeting closed at 9.53pm.

Signed.....Chairman