

Knightwick and Doddenham Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at 8pm on Monday 12th September 2011 in the Village Hall, Knightwick.

Present;

Mr S K Munday - Chairman

Mrs G Evans

Messrs; F Budden, P Edwards, D Kirkbright, A Warburton (District Councillor), G M Brewin (Clerk).

Apologies: B Munt, C Smith (County Councillor), D Hughes (District Councillor),

Visitors: None

Questions from members of the public:

None

The formal meeting commenced at 8.00pm.

1. Members' apologies for absence and declarations of interest.

The apology from Cllr B Munt accepted. There were no declarations of interest in agenda items.

2. Confirm the minutes of the meeting on 25/07/2011.

These had been circulated in advance. They were agreed as a true record and signed by the chairman.

3. Reports; County Councillor, District Councillors, Parish Footpath's Warden.

In sending his apology for absence Cllr C Smith noted that unfortunately the meeting clashed with a meeting of the Suckley Parish council.

Cllr A Warburton (District Councillor) reviewed the work of the development plan by Malvern, Worcester and Wychaven District Councils to replace the now-defunct swjcs. and urged councillors to take part in the consultation which would start in October. He reported that the plans by MHDC to reduce their senior staff numbers would be implemented in the next few weeks.

4. Financial Matters;

- a) Note the External Auditor's Report and approve audit fee payment, £144.00

The clerk reported that a qualified report had been received as the notice period had been less than required by the regulations, caused by the inclusion of bank Holidays in the notice period. This was noted. The Auditor's account was agreed.

- b) Approve payment - MHDC Election Fees, £64.98 Agreed.

5. Planning Matters;

- a) Note the clerk's delegated response to Planning Applications – 11/00784/LBC and 11/00880/FUL.

St Mary's Church Knightwick- Change of use to a private dwelling;

'This council objects to this application. This building was originally constructed at the expense of a local landowner to provide a place of worship for the local community and if it is not needed as a place of worship it should be applied to local community use and not for private profit. This council believes that it is the duty of the Diocese of Worcester to pursue the use of this building for community purposes, for which an offer has been made, and it will make this point directly to the Diocesan Officers concerned.'

- b) Note and comment on the proposed MHDC Consultation Document – circulated in advance.

It was agreed that the new documentation was an improvement, the clerk would respond accordingly.

6. As Trustees of the Village Hall – consider the proposal from Wolverley Homes

It was agreed that as bats already have access to the roof space of the Village Hall and there was no need for additional constructional work the council agreed that it could support Wolverley Homes in citing the Village Hall as an alternative roost for bats displaced by work on the redundant St Mary's Church to convert it to a private residence.

7. Work on the A44 Teme River Bridge.

The clerk reported that although the resolution of the council had been communicated to County Councillors and the news media there had been no response. He would continue to press for a response and resolution as required by the council.

8. Correspondence

The clerk was asked contact the new owners of the Old Rectory, Knightwick to resolve areas of dispute regarding the footpath and effluent spillage.

9. Clerk's Report

He was waiting to hear from the Parish Paths Warden Mr B Lee on the repair of the Notice Board at the A44 Bus Stop.

He would advise members when the 'Change of Use' planning applications for St Mary's Church became available and if necessary call a special meeting to discuss them.

10. Pavements in the village and barriers on the old bridge.

It was agreed that the pavement along Ankerdine Hill was in a poor condition and the clerk was asked to take this up with WCC Highways. He reported that the barriers on the footbridge would be replaced as the WCC Highways work schedule allowed.

11. Speed Camera – location and need.

It was agreed that taking into account the small length of restricted roads in the parish and taking into account the restrictions on camera locations there was no possibility of joining this speed restriction programme.

12. Grit Bins – location and need.

After a discussion it was agreed that there was no justification for the council to pay for additional grit-bins in the parish.

13. Items for the next meeting

Footpath signs at Highfields – the clerk would investigate and report.

Clerk's half-year finance report.

Footpaths Notice Board.

14. Confirm the date of the next meeting:

Agreed - 21st November 2011 at 8pm in the Village Hall Knightwick.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Chairman.....