

## **DODFORD WITH GRAFTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**DRAFT Minutes of the meeting of Dodford with Grafton Parish Council held on Monday 24 February 2020 in Dodford Village Hall at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Lynne Griffin, Rachel Jennings, Rory Lydon, Alwyn Rea, and Jonathan Shapiro

**In attendance:** District Cllr Drew Beaumont, Clerk Kay Stone and four members of the public

### **1. Apologies**

County Cllr Shirley Webb and Parish Cllr Scottie Sanderson gave their apologies, reasons for which were accepted.

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

- i. None
- ii. None

### **3. Dispensations**

None

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

The Clerk read out an email from two residents who were against the proposed 30mph speed limit around the School.

The meeting reconvened as follows:

### **4. Minutes of the Meeting held on 27 January 2020**

Approval of the Minutes held on 27 January was proposed by Cllr Shapiro and seconded by Cllr Rea, agreed by all and then signed by the Vice Chairman as being a true record.

### **5. Reports**

- i. No report received from County Cllr Webb.
- ii. District Cllr Beaumont gave an update on the proposed planning developments on Whitford Road and Perryfields Road. The Whitford Road development has been recently voted down again due to traffic issues and the Perryfields Road development is likely to come before Bromsgrove District Council (BDC) Planning Committee meeting in the next couple of months. Cllr Beaumont also brought the Parish Council's attention to the BDC call for sites list that is on their web site although there are no call for sites in Dodford.
- iii. No recent activity on the Dodford Residents Facebook page of concern to the Parish Council.
- iv. The Clerk reported that
  - a. the cost of postage stamps increases on 23 March and it was proposed by Cllr Griffin, seconded by Cllr Lydon and agreed by all that the Clerk should purchase stamps in advance for the April Annual Report mailing and the Christmas newsletter mailing, and
  - b. the internal auditor will be collecting the books from the Clerk in May.

### **6. Planning**

- i. Approval of the Planning Committee Meeting Minutes held on 4 February 2020 was proposed by Cllr Rea, seconded by Cllr Lydon, agreed by all and then signed by the Chairman as being a true record.
- ii. No planning application consultations received.
- iii. 19/0123 – Land SW of Saltbay Farm, Yarnold Lane. Cllr Beaumont outlined the procedure of the BDC planning committee meeting on 2 March. Three-minute slots at this meeting have been requested for Kit Taylor on behalf of Dodford residents, Cllr Beaumont in his capacity as

- District Councillor and Cllr Jennings on behalf of the Parish Council. After reading out her presentation it was agreed that Cllr Jennings should also include animal welfare.
- iv. Approval by BDC for Great Meadow, Victoria Road; Tiggy Winkles, Bumble Hole Lane and Woodbury, Woodland Road. Refusal by BDC for The Tower, Bromsgrove Road.
  - v. No planning appeals or decisions received.
  - vi. No enforcement updates.
  - vii. A meeting with Ruth Bamford, Head of BDC planning department is to be held on Wednesday 26 February at 1.30pm at Redditch Council offices.
  - viii. It was agreed that the Clerk should book the second Monday in the month for future Parish Council planning committee meetings and then cancel them if no application consultations are received.
  - ix. Cllr Webb has arranged a meeting with Mike Dunphy (BDC) on Tuesday 10 March at 4pm at Parkside to discuss the effect the proposed Perryfields development will have. Parish Councils of Bournheath, Catshill and Fairfield have also been invited to attend. Cllr Shapiro will represent the Parish Council.

## **7. Highways and footpaths**

- i. The proposed 30 mph speed limit around the School was discussed in length and the Clerk was instructed to ask if the closing date for comments can be deferred for all interested parties to be given more evidence of speeding and to ask if Worcestershire County Council (WCC) has monitored speed within the area they are proposing to restrict speed. The Clerk to request to see the speed results from the strips put down in Priory Road in November. March agenda item to include considering using Parish Council funds to have strips put down.
- ii. Martins in Bromsgrove do not deliver the Advertiser or the Standard as they sell them. As the Clerk has not received a response from either newspaper she was asked to write to them again.
- iii. The Ramblers association has recently been in the media about their project "Don't Lose Your Way". The Clerk to notify residents of this so they can look on their web site and search between historical maps and current OS maps to identify any 'lost' footpaths with a request that they also keep the Parish Council informed if they discover any 'lost' footpaths. Web site address - <https://dontloseyourway.ramblers.org.uk/>
- iv. No update on Bungay Lake Lane and it is still flooded.
- v. Richard Clewer (WCC Highways) is looking at large patching in Yarnold Lane where there are recurring pot holes. Peter Churchill has also reported to WCC about the gully by The Red House not working. This work has been delayed due to current flooding issues in the County.

## **8. Working together to build stronger communities**

Over the next few years NALC (National Association of Local Councils) is planning to focus on three themes - Health and Wellbeing, The Climate Emergency and Engaging Young People. Cllr Jennings suggested the Parish Council could also focus on these as a project. This item to go on to the Annual Parish Meeting agenda and the Clerk to ask Worcestershire CALC if they could send a speaker to talk about what the village can do to help. CALC are organising a Climate Emergency Meeting on Thursday 26 March from 10am to 4pm at Hawford, Shire Farm, Worcester, WR3 7SG.

## **9. West Mercia PCC's Rural Crime Strategy Consultation**

The final version of the Rural Crime Strategy was acknowledged.

## **10. Worcestershire Pollinator Strategy Consultation**

After discussion it was decided that the Parish Council supported the idea and was not in a position to comment in detail but would like to see pollination be considered in planning applications. This led on to an idea for tree planting in Dodford which could be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting.

## **11. Environmental Community Clean-up Projects**

The Clerk has applied for a £300 grant and will hear on 6 March if the application has been successful.

## **12. Parish Council Grants**

The grant request from Dodford Village Hall Committee was considered and the Parish Council would like to apply the same considerations as they do to other requests. The Clerk was instructed to request a breakdown of costs of a specific project that the Village Hall Committee has in mind. In light of recent correspondence, the Clerk was asked to remind the Village Hall Committee that the Parish Council has supported them by spending £17,500 over the last ten years for the grant given by the Parish Council in 2010 for the new roof.

## **13. Annual Parish Meeting – 12 May 2020**

what3words cannot attend but gave the Clerk useful information which she will pass on to residents through the Parish Magazine and emails. The Clerk suggested Mick Simpson and Tim Williams could be invited to talk about Rural Watch.

## **14. Phil Richard Community Award 2020**

No nominations received to date. The Clerk to put a reminder in the Parish Magazine and emails.

## **15. Community Clean-up Grant Funding**

This is a repeat of item 11.

## **16. Finance**

The January Financial Report:

Deposit account as at 29 January 2020 - £15,696.12

Current account as at 29 January 2020 - £1995.83

Payments by bank transfer for February – Acceptance proposed by Cllr Jennings and seconded by Cllr Shapiro:

- a. Clerk's salary - £528.80
- b. Clerk's expenses - £40.69 (Travel 22 miles at 0.45p per mile £9.90; storage £5; use of telephone and internet £5; stationery – paper and envelopes £13.47 and postage stamps £7.32)
- c. HM Revenue and Customs - £132.00
- d. Lengthsman duties for January - £200
- e. Dodford Village Hall – room hire for 25 November and 27 January - £28.00
- f. Bromsgrove District Council – Uncontested election recharge - £75.44
- g. Dodford PCC – Parish Council grant - £500.00
- h. Dodford Holiday Farm – Parish Council grant - £380.00
- i. Dodford Show – Parish Council grant - £156.00

## **14. Correspondence received – for information**

Correspondence received was noted and the Clerk was asked to email residents about the West Mercia Police Crime Commissioner's Draft Road Safety Strategy Consultation. The closing date is too late for information to be put in the Parish Magazine.

## **15. Councillors items**

- i. Cllr Jennings wondered if the PCC Christmas Parish Magazine could be included in the Parish Council Christmas Newsletter mailing if the PCC agreed to the additional postage.
- ii. Cllr Jennings reported that the wooden stable block in Woodland Road, past The Stable is discharging water from drainpipes direct on to the road.

## **16. Casual Vacancy**

No applications received.

The meeting was closed at 9.42pm.

Signed.....Chairman