

DODFORD WITH GRAFTON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of the meeting of Dodford with Grafton Parish Council held on Monday 20 September 2021 in Dodford Church at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Scott Fuller, Rachel Jennings (Chair), Rory Lydon (Vice Chair), Scottie Sanderson, Jonathan Shapiro, and Jennie Schuett.

In attendance: Clerk Kay Stone and three members of the public

1. Apologies

Cllr Lynne Griffin, County Cllr Shirley Webb, and District Cllr Drew Beaumont

2. Declarations and Register of interest

- i. None
- ii. Cllrs Lydon and Sanderson for item 8

3. Dispensations

Cllr Fuller proposed and Cllr Schuett seconded, and all agreed the acceptance of the dispensation requests from Cllrs Lydon and Sanderson for item 8.

The meeting was adjourned to allow members of the public attending the meeting to raise matters of interest. A member of the public requested any reports received to be circulated to members of the public in advance of the meeting. It was explained that often reports are not received in advance or if the person giving the report attends the meeting then no written report is received. The Clerk answered a query about Planning Committee Meeting minutes and said they are available on the Parish Council web site. The meeting continued as follows:

4. Meetings

- i. Cllr Shapiro proposed, Cllr Jennings seconded, and all approved the minutes for the meeting held on 20 July. The minutes will be signed when current health restrictions permit.
- ii. The Clerk to cancel the Zoom membership.

5. Reports

- i. No report received from County Cllr Webb but updates on highways and footpaths will be covered under item 7.
- ii. District Cllr Beaumont had sent the Clerk an email to say Bungay Lake Lane will be closed from 20 September to 1 October for Worcestershire County Council (WCC) and North Worcestershire Water Management (NWWM) to complete the flood alleviation work with the two key landowners completing their work shortly.
- iii. No-one was able to attend the CALC Area Meeting held on 8 September and so no report.
- iv. Cllr Fuller attended, via zoom, the joint neighbouring Parish Council meeting (Upton Warren Parish Council, Dodderhill Parish Council, Stoke Prior Parish Council and Dodford with Grafton Parish Council). This was a first joint meeting, and each Parish Council hopes to help and learn from each other. The main topic was planning issues with similarities of inaction to enforcement and comments on consultations ignored. The next meeting is to take place on 9 November.
- v. In August on the Dodford Residents Facebook page, comments about photos being taken of Sumach became unpleasant and the administrators removed the comments.
- vi. The Clerk has received a report from a resident that the bin at the bottom of Alfreds Well needs to be emptied as it has been overflowing for two or three weeks. The Clerk was able to confirm this has now been emptied.

6. Planning

- i. Cllr Jennings proposed, Cllr Shapiro seconded, and all approved the minutes for the meeting held on 2 August 2021. Cllr Shapiro proposed, Cllr Fuller seconded and all approved the minutes for the meeting held on 9 August 2021. The minutes will be signed when current health restrictions permit.

- ii. Planning decisions received from Bromsgrove District Council (BDC):
 - a. Prior approval not required for the additional telecommunications mast.
 - b. Prior approval not required for the change of use of potting shed to dwelling house at Parkgate Nurseries.
 - c. Permission granted for the side extension and conversion of garage to living accommodation at Lawnswood in Warbage Lane.
- iii. Cllr Beaumont had sent the Clerk an email to say Taylor Wimpey won its appeal for its 2016 Perryfields Development application, but he is not sure where the January 2021 application stands.
- iv. The Clerk was asked to contact BDC Conservation Officer to ascertain if Article 4 could be placed on hedges.
- v. No other planning issues.

7. Highways and footpaths

- i. Cllr Webb has advised that the repair to the Priory Road footpath is scheduled for a road closure on 21 November.
- ii. A resident has asked if the Parish Council could look into the state of bridleways, particularly around Cobblers Coppice near Upton Warren. The resident is willing to contribute to the cost of the work. Cllr Fuller confirmed this is WCC responsibility. The Clerk to report it and also to write to the British Horse Society to also put pressure on WCC. It was suggested that the resident might also wish to write to the British Horse Society.
- iii. The Clerk to remind Cllr Beaumont of their request for traffic monitoring now the verdict of the appeal has been received.
- iv. It was proposed by Cllr Lydon, seconded by Cllr Shapiro that they did not wish to see an upright slow down sign in Priory Road to enable the Slow Down sign to be painted outside Sumach. Two Cllrs voted against this proposal but with four voting for, the proposal was passed. The Clerk to write to WCC Highways.
- v. Cllr Webb has reported that Fockbury Road and Yarnold Lane road surfaces will be assessed in the next few weeks, and they will advise what can be done.
- vi. The Clerk to confirm the village name signs should say "Dodford – Chartist Village" and include the trefoil. Cllr Schuett to send the trefoil logo to the Clerk.
- vii. The Clerk to contact PC Stone about Community Speed Watch and the Clerk to write to PC Barney Kelsoe on his new appointment and to thank him for the service he has given to the Parish.

8. Memorial Garden

Dates were discussed for the first Memorial Garden Working Party to be held at Alpacafé and the Clerk to contact the entrants for a mutually convenient date.

9. New Residents Welcome Pack

- i. Ideas discussed to include information on Dodford Conservation Area and non-Conservation Area; papers delivered; cess pit emptying; doctor's surgery; the Church; Parish magazine and distributor; Dodford School and Nursery; information on SmartWater kits; footpaths leaflet.
- ii. The Clerk to ask residents via the email list, Facebook, and Parish Magazine what information residents would have found useful when moving into the Parish.
- iii. The Clerk to ask BDC Conservation Officer if she is happy for the Parish Council to reproduce the Conservation Area leaflet.
- iv. The Clerk to ask Grafton, Upton Warren, and Woodcote if they wish to have anything included.
- v. Distributors will be needed for the Welcome Pack.

10. Litter Pick Up

The Clerk had left it too late to organise for September and so this will take place in Spring 2022 when there is a national litter pick up event.

11. Planting trees for the Jubilee

Information received has been passed to Dodford School. The Clerk to put information on this Scheme on the Parish Council web site and also in the Parish Magazine.

12. Police Crime Commissioner's Safer West Mercia Plan

The consultation had been circulated to Councillors and residents prior to the meeting. This consultation is more for individual comments than Parish Council comments.

13. Finance

- i. The August Financial Report:
 - Deposit account as at 29 July 2021 - £19,189.72
 - Current account as at 29 June 2021 - £722.12
 - Payments made by bank transfer on 23 August 2021:
 - a. Clerk's salary - £412.14
 - b. HM Revenue and Customs - £103.00
 - c. Lengthsman duties for July and petrol - £220.00
- ii. The September Financial Report:
 - Deposit account as at 31 August 2021 - £19,039.88
 - Current account as at 31 August 2021 - £122.98
 - Payments to be made by bank transfer on 21 September 2021 – Acceptance proposed by Cllr Sanderson, seconded by Cllr Lydon, and agreed by all:
 - d. Clerk's salary - £412.14
 - e. Clerk's expenses - £55.98 (Travel 16 miles @ 45p/mile £7.20; storage for August and September £10.00; telephone and internet for August and September £10.00; Zoom meeting invoice for July 2021 paid by credit card £14.39 and Zoom meeting invoice for August 2021 paid by credit card £14.39)
 - f. HM Revenue and Customs - £103.00
 - g. Worcestershire CALC - £280.00 (Cllr planning training)

14. Correspondence received – for information

- i. Ride the Reservoir Cycle Ride has raised £58,000 for hospice care for patients and their families in Birmingham and Sandwell and the organisers expressed their gratitude for the positive and constructive response received from communities along the route.
- ii. WCC Winter Newsletter regarding grit bins.
- iii. Grant request from Bromsgrove Citizens Advice Bureau.
- iv. BDC Chairman invitation to a Charity Wine Tasting and Grazing event on 22 October.
- v. West Mercia Police newsletter on modern day slavery which has been circulated to residents.
- vi. Information and future dates for CALC Core Councillor Training.

17. Councillors items

- i. In future should the Parish Council write to residents when a new construction is reported for clarification? Cllr Shapiro offered to draft a suitable letter.
- ii. Dodford School are looking for more School Governors.

The meeting was closed at 9.00pm.

Signed.....Chair