

Knightwick and Doddenham Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on Monday 17th May 2010 at 8pm in the Village Hall, Knightwick.

Present;

Mrs G Evans, Messrs, F Budden, D Kirkbright, B Munt, S Twinberrow, G M Brewin (Clerk to the Parish Council)

Visitor;

Mr R Attwood WCC Project Manager; Highways and Bridges.

Apologies;

Cllrs P Edwards, S Munday, P Walker.

Cllrs C Smith (County Councillor), Cllrs D H Hughes, A Warburton, (District Councillors)

Questions from members of the public:

None

Mr R Attwood WCC Project Manager Highways and Bridges. A44 Teme Bridge.

Mr Attwood outlined the need for strengthening work to be done on the A44 Teme Bridge; As a result of the Selby rail crash some years ago, when a vehicle broke through the bridge protection and fell onto the rail track it has become necessary to ensure that all roadway protective barriers were capable of restraining vehicles in similar circumstances. It is therefore necessary to put crash-barriers along the footpath to protect the bridge parapet. (The clerk had already held two site meetings with WCC Highways – pressing to keep the footpath particularly having spent considerable funds to clear it.) Mr Atwood advised that the bridge structure dating from 1955 is similar to several that have experienced failures and he is legally bound to strengthen the side structures.

He was asked to consider two points;

a) The lack of a footpath at this point will require walkers either to walk a circuitous route via the Teme Footbridge or walk on the road itself at this point.

b) The crash-barriers will further restrict visibility at the junction of the A44 and B4197 – which is a difficult junction for emerging traffic onto the A44 already.

He would consider these points and return with detailed proposals to the council to show what must be done. *The clerk was asked to follow up this matter to enable a resolution of the conflicting interests to be made.*

The formal meeting commenced at 8.15pm.

In the absence of the chairman Cllr S Munday the vice-chairman Cllr S Twinberrow took the chair.

1. To accept nominations and appoint a Chairman

In apologising for his absence Cllr S Munday had written that he would be happy to continue to chair the council if that was what members wished. This was agreed unanimously.

2. To accept nominations and appoint a Vice-Chairman

Cllrs F Budden and D Kirkbright nominated Cllr S Twinberrow . Agreed unanimously.

3. Apologies for absence and members declarations of interest.

The apologies from Cllrs P Edwards, S Munday, P Walker were accepted. There were no declarations of interest in agenda items.

4. To appoint a representatives to local Charity Trustees

a) Village Hall Trustees - Cllr F Budden seconded by Cllr Mrs G Evans nominated Mr G M Brewin; agreed.

b) Village and Almshouses charities; Cllr F Budden was proposed by Cllr S Twinberrow seconded by Cllr Mrs G Evans; agreed.

5. Confirm Minutes of the meeting of 15th March 2010 - Circulated in advance

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

6. Financial Matters

a) Acceptance of the Accounts for 2009-10; Circulated in advance, and Statement of Assurance -agreed – see appendix -a

- b) Confirm Clerk's Salary & Hours - 2010-11 (NALC - SCP27 - £11.932/hr, 242hrs/yr) -agreed – see appendix -b
- c) Consider the application for Discretionary Rural Rate Relief from Business Rates - The Village Shop, Knightwick and the following resolution; 'In pursuance of the power conferred by Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and being of the opinion that the expenditure satisfies the requirements of that section, the council agrees that this business is of benefit to the local community and it would be reasonable to grant the relief, and agrees to make a financial contribution of £34.28 so that the full 50% Discretionary Relief may be awarded.' -agreed – see appendix -c
- d) Confirm Lengthsman Agreement 2010-11 with WCC Highways. - Agreed
- e) Approve payments -
- f) WCALC Membership Subscription 010-11 - £142.59 - Agreed
- g) Parish Council Insurance renewal - The following quotations have been received; AON, £369.95, Came & Co (Norwich Union) £294.70 – It was agreed to accept the 3-year propoasal from Came & Co
- h) Consider Grant- Footprints - community Newsletter: A donation of £150 was agreed
- i) Consider Grant- Nora Parsons Day Centre (A donation of £75 was agreed

7. Planning Matters

Consider a response to; 10/00464/PEX & 10/00465/PEX Time limit Extensions – Farm Buildings to Offices – Ankerdine Farm. 'No Comment' agreed

8. Clerk's report on actions from previous meetings

Highways etc

1. 1. Spoil Heap on A44 Lay-by - Still in discussion with WCC Highways!! It is possible that it will be used as infill for some reconstruction work planned by the Bridges Engineering Manager.
2. Road/kerb by Knightwick Surgery – This work will be done shortly.
3. Footpath on north side of A44 Teme Bridge; See discussion with the Project Engineer – Public Items above.
4. EEC funding for footpaths – This has not become available – The current financial stringency means that only high priority projects will be funded.
5. Possible Park-and-Ride hard standing by the Bus Shelter on the A44 - It maybe that this is an issue WCC Sustainable Schemes Team could help with; they have a small amount of funding to improve bus stop areas and have been asked if they could investigate and see if anything could be done.
6. Improve the surface of the footbridge over the Teme. Unlikely to be considered whilst the Highway's Budget is under pressure from 'potholes' etc.

Village Hall

The electrical installation now conforms to the required standards. It only remains to carry out the safety checks on the individual appliances and this will be done in the near future.
Emergency Exit Signs are in place and the Fire Extinguishers are fully approved with an annual contract to re-inspect..

8. Correspondence - Circulated in advance

He drew the member's attention to the following items of correspondence etc

MH-AONB Newsletter March 2010

WCALC News update 8-2010

MHDC News from the Hills Spring edition

WCALC News update 9-2010

MHDC S/Worcs JCS Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)

10. Items for the Next Meeting

- a) Planning Application 10/00455/FUL, Hawksnest Barn, Reconstruction of Earth Dam (Retrospective) Clerk's delegated response and follow-up.
- b) Feedback from MHDC to query re information flow to parish councils
- c) Status of A44 Bridge work.

11. Confirm the date of the next meeting: Monday 26/7/10 at 8pm In the Village Hall Knightwick.

Future meetings provisionally; 20/09/2010, 15/11/2010

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

Chairman.....