

## **DODFORD WITH GRAFTON PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Draft Minutes of the meeting of Dodford with Grafton Parish Council held on Thursday 28 March 2013 in Dodford Village Hall at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs, Vicky Churchill, Vic Dawson, Rachel Jennings (from 9pm onwards), Terence Lee, Alwyn Rea (Chairman), District Councillor Brian Lewis, Clerk Kay Stone and nine members of the public

#### **1. Apologies**

Cllr Richard Scott gave his apologies and Cllr Rachel Jennings gave apologies for the early part of the evening, reasons for which were accepted.

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

- i. None
- ii. None

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

After a lengthy discussion where members of the public gave their views on the Electoral Boundary Review consultation it was agreed that residents will respond to the consultation as individuals and the Parish Council will respond as discussed later in the meeting.

The meeting was reconvened as follows:

#### **3. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 28 February 2013 and signing of amended Minutes of the meeting on 24 January 2013**

Approval of the February Minutes was proposed by Cllr Lee and seconded by Cllr Dawson after which they were signed by the Chairman as being a true record. The amended Minutes for the meeting on 24 January were signed as approved at the February meeting.

#### **4. Reports**

- i. No report received from County Councillor Sheila Blagg due to the forthcoming elections
- ii. No report from District Councillor Brian Lewis
- iii. The Clerk gave her report out of which came the following actions:
  - i. To contact the owner of the land on which the broken gate is to advise that Worcestershire County Council (WCC) have reported that once they have installed gates then it is up to the land owner to maintain them. The land owner will be able to contact WCC who will supply a new latch.
  - ii. It was agreed by the Parish Council that the Clerk should purchase the new edition of Local Council Administration from CALC and should make the suggestion that this should be a loose leaf book to accommodate amendments in legislation.
  - iii. Cllr Churchill proposed and Cllr Dawson seconded and all agreed that the Clerk should sign the Lengthsman Contract with WCC.
  - iv. It was agreed that the Clerk should propose an item for the forthcoming WCC Parish Council Forum agenda on 4 June 2013 regarding Cllr Hollingworth of BDC's comments on Parish Councils.

## **5. Planning**

- i. 13/0151 – 159 Kidderminster Road, Park Gate – Two storey side and rear extension  
There was insufficient information by lack of proposed floor plan for the new extension for the Parish Council to make a decision. The Clerk was asked to request this from Bromsgrove District Council (BDC)
- ii. The next Planning Committee meeting will take place on Thursday 4 April 2013 at 10.00am. Cllr Churchill gave her apologies in advance

## **6. Local Government Boundary Commission Electoral Review of Bromsgrove**

After a lengthy discussion the Parish Council agreed that the Chairman would prepare a response to the consultation based on the paper he presented to the meeting.

## **7. Highways and footpaths updates**

- i. A448 – Chaddesley Corbett Parish Council are unable to support the Parish Council's objection to WCC regarding the derestricted speed limit through the Parish and the Clerk was asked to write to WCC, copying in County Councillor Sheila Blagg, putting them on notice that the stretch of the A448 through the Parish is the most dangerous point of the road, even though the stretch from the end of the 30mph at Chaddesley Corbett to the 40mph to Stone and after Stone has been reduced to 50mph
- ii. Greenhill Farm public footpath – this has been deferred to next month in Cllr Jennings absence at this point in the meeting
- iii. Restricted parking on Priory Road and Fockbury Road – the double yellow lines are still being ignored and the Clerk was asked to contact the Police again after the Easter break
- iv. Condition of the road surface in Yarnold Lane – after two reports with photographs by the Clerk, WCC Senior Engineer responded that he is waiting on a reply from the surfacing team and will have an answer after Easter. The Clerk will include Fockbury Road at the on-site meeting with the Senior Engineer regarding the islands
- v. Wayside, Valley Road – WCC have not responded to the Clerk but there is a report number 5493833 and the matter has been assigned through the Hub
- vi. Flooding outside Sumach – the Clerk reported that the gulleys have been cleared although there is debris at the bottom of the gully pot and this will be cleared by WCC on their next cyclical cleaning programme
- vii. Condition of islands at Alfreds Well and Whinfield Road – the Clerk confirmed she is setting up an on-site meeting with WCC Senior Engineer

## **8. Dodford First School**

To be discussed again at next month's meeting

## **9. Innovative Local Policing Plans from the Police and Crime Commissioner**

After discussion it was agreed that there was concern that the services provided by the Police as they affect Dodford are not being represented at the moment and the Parish Council would like the Commissioner to discuss this when he attends the Annual Parish Meeting in May.

## **10. Finance**

- i. Approval of the payments due for March set out in a schedule circulated by the Clerk were proposed by Cllr Rea and seconded by Cllr Dawson and agreed.

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

### **At this point Cllr Jennings joined the meeting**

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

- ii. The Clerk was asked to respond to BDC investigation into Air Quality in the District – nothing to report
- iii. The Clerk was asked to send a copy of MP Sajid Javid's letter regarding Registers of Members Interests to Richard Harper for his views and to reply to the MP with the Parish Council's view that his reply was unsatisfactory and to ask why the regulations apply to Parish Councillors and not to MP's
- iv. The Clerk was asked to monitor the benefits of Membership of CPRE for discussion at renewal of membership time early in 2014
- v. It was agreed that the Ordnance Survey map of the public footpaths at Greenhill Farm should be made available at the Annual Parish Meeting. This item to be added to the agenda
- vi. The Clerk was asked to ascertain where Community First had obtained the photo of the Village Hall boiler on the front cover of the Annual Report and to ask why this was used when this was not covered by an editorial piece inside

## **12. Councillor co-option**

The Clerk reported she has received a completed application form from a resident. It was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk would meet the applicant and then report back to the Parish Council

## **13. Councillors items**

- i. The pot holes in the A448 have been repaired on one side of the road but not on the other where they are now forming a rut. The Clerk was asked to write to John Fraser at WCC, copying in County Councillor Sheila Blagg and the Leader of the Council that these repairs should be carried out as a matter of extreme urgency
- ii. The bollards have still not been erected outside The Chennai Restaurant and Country Forge
- iii. Water is still coming off the field by The Tower House and forming ice on Priory Road
- iv. The trench on the A448 on the top of the hill opposite the Park Gate public house junction is overflowing with water coming across the A448 forming ice
- v. The piece in The Standard by Cllr Hollingworth (BDC) about abolishing Parish Councils was discussed

The meeting closed at 9.35pm

Signed.....Chairman