

DODFORD WITH GRAFTON PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the meeting of Dodford with Grafton Parish Council held on Thursday 24 October 2013 in Dodford Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Vicky Churchill, Vic Dawson (Vice Chairman), Rachel Jennings, Terence Lee, Alwyn Rea (Chairman), Richard Scott and David Valentine

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

1. Apologies

District Councillor Brian Lewis

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:

Grants to charities, possibility of mini constituencies and how the Parish Council can improve communications with residents was discussed at length.

The meeting was reconvened as follows:

3. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 26 September 2013

Approval of the Minutes was proposed by Cllr Valentine and seconded by Cllr Churchill after which they were signed by the Chairman as being a true record.

4. Reports

- i. The October report received from County Councillor Sheila Blagg had been received and already circulated to Parish Councillors. Copies were available at the meeting for members of the public.
No report received from District Councillor Brian Lewis.
- ii. The Clerk gave her report resulting in the following actions to be taken:
 - a. Clerk to check if the white lines to be painted in Valley Road will be reflective
 - b. Clerk to write to CALC in response to the suggested increase in their membership fee that the Parish Council feel they should have regard to the intention of the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government's capping of Parish Precepts
 - c. Clerk to put Worcestershire County Council (WCC) on notice that roads in Dodford (particularly Warbage Lane) are dangerous in icy conditions

5. Planning

- i. Planning application 13/0714 – Top House, Woodcote Lane, Woodcote Green – Side extension to dining room at ground floor – Parish Council has no objections
- ii. No other planning issues.

6. Highways and footpaths updates

- i. A448 – speed restrictions:
 - a. Clerk reported on letter received from WCC Legal Department
 - b. Clerk to ask residents through the Parish Magazine of near misses

- c. Clerk was asked to send hot spot problems at junctions with Fockbury Road and Woodcote Green and disregard to double lines at Park Gate to WCC and County Councillor Sheila Blagg
- d. Clerk to ask Chaddesley Corbett to put A448 speed restrictions on their agenda
- e. Clerk to send an email to County Councillor Stephen Clee following up on a letter sent to him on 14 October
- f. Clerk to contact Safer Roads Partnership to ascertain what they can legally do under cover and the possibility of a mobile speed camera
- ii. Bungay Lake Lane verges – Clerk to arrange a meeting with Richard Clewer (WCC) and Roger Smalley

7. Mini Constituencies

After lengthy discussion it was agreed to keep this item on next month's agenda to produce an action plan. The Clerk was asked to find out from other Clerks how they get resident participation and to put notices in the Parish Magazine, web site, notice boards informing residents where they can see agendas prior to meetings.

8. Speed restriction signs

It was agreed to seek support at the Annual Parish Meeting and advertise in advance to see if residents want Dodford urbanised with signs.

9. Bromsgrove District Plan

It was agreed that the Chairman would let the Clerk have comments and the Clerk would respond following Councillors approval of Chairman's comments.

10. Worcestershire Regulatory Services – Overview and Scrutiny Review

The Clerk was asked to respond that there was no mention of planning which is the only shared service the Parish Council are involved with.

11. Lengthsman

The Clerk was asked to respond to the Lengthsman that as his contract with the Parish Council is on a contract for services this means that he is not an employee of the Parish Council and therefore not entitled to holiday pay.

12. Assets of Community Value Nomination – Dodford Inn

The asset was approved by Bromsgrove District Council (BDC) and is now listed as an Asset of Community Value. The Clerk was asked to publicise this in the Parish Magazine and the Annual Report.

13. Dodford School

As a result of the new drop off times of between 8.45am and 8.50am (previously 20 minutes) with the resulting congestion and safety issues, the Clerk was asked to write to the Chairman of the School Governors and copy in WCC and County Councillor Sheila Blagg.

14. Dates for 2014

Dates for 2014 were agreed and the list will be posted on notice boards, the Parish Magazine and the web site.

15. Finance

- i. The Second Quarter's reconciliation was presented and acceptance of this was proposed by Cllr Rea and seconded by Cllr Scott and agreed
- ii. Deposit account as at 30 September 2013 - £7,724.92
Current account as at 30 September 2013 - £1,884.66
Payments - Acceptance proposed by Cllr Rea and seconded by Cllr Dawson:

- a. Clerk's salary (including back pay from 1.4.13 as per NALC guidelines) - £303.44
- b. Expenses - £51.60 (Use of telephone and internet line £15; Storage £15; Travel 8 miles @ 45p/mile £3.60; Printer ink £23.80 and bank charges overpayment £14.20)

16. Correspondence received – for information

Items of correspondence received since the last meeting were noted. The Parish Council accepted the resignation of Cllr Vic Dawson as from 1 January 2014 with regret and the Chairman thanked Cllr Dawson for his commitment as a Parish Councillor and also as Chairman of the Planning Committee and that Dodford owes Cllr Dawson a debt of gratitude for his long service and hard work.

17. Councillors items

- i. Is the extension at the back of Greenhill Farm permitted development?
- ii. Following the cancellation of the recent Parish Conference the Clerk was requested to advise CALC that the cancellation should have been notified to Clerks separately not just included in a weekly bulletin

The meeting closed at 10.10pm.

Signed.....Chairman