

DODFORD WITH GRAFTON PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Dodford with Grafton Parish Council held on Thursday 19 May 2016 in Dodford Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Vicky Churchill (Chairman), Rachel Jennings, Alwyn Rea, Christine Thomas and Paul Warman

In attendance: Clerk Kay Stone, District Councillor Karen May and seven members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence

County Councillor Sheila Blagg and Judy Richardson

2. Minutes of previous meeting

Approval of the Minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on 14 May 2015 was proposed by Cllr Thomas and seconded by Cllr Jennings after which they were signed by the Chairman as being a true record.

At this point the meeting was closed to allow Lisa Parkes, Head of Dodford First School, to present a letter from the School Council to the Parish Council which will be discussed under item 10 on the agenda. Lisa stated that letters are sent to parents about parking outside the school but requested that residents should also take into consideration that there will be congestion outside the school at dropping off and picking up times. District Councillor Karen May said she would take this matter back to the Chief Constable at the next Community Safety Partnership meeting.

At this point Lisa Parkes left the meeting and it continued as follows:

3. Parish Council Annual Report

The Chairman gave her report from the Annual Report which will be circulated to all households in June.

4. Superfast Worcestershire report

Robert Stepniewski, Project Manager for Superfast Worcestershire gave an update on the deployment and a copy of his slides are attached. Any queries regarding Superfast Worcestershire should be emailed to superfast@worcestershire.gov.uk and Robert and his team will be happy to help.

5. David Rischmiller, Rural and Business Crime Coordinator, West Mercia Police

David Rischmiller, Rural and Business Crime Coordinator, West Mercia Police gave a report on North Worcestershire Community Safer Partnership and the launch of Worcestershire Rural Watch with advice and contact details available at www.worcestershireruralwatch.co.uk.

6. County Councillor's report

The County Councillor Sheila Blagg's report had previously been received, circulated and was available at the meeting.

7. District Councillor's report

District Councillor May gave her report on the previous 12 months and reported on the proposed planning application for Perryfields; the Veolia application for a bottom ash pit in Fairfield which could contaminate 19,500 homes in Bromsgrove through the water supply and encouraged residents to complete the Combined Authority consultation on Bromsgrove District Council's

web site by 5 June. The Chairman thanked Cllr May for her support and attendance during the year.

8. Neighbourhood Watch report

Cllr Warman was appointed as the new Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator and had only been in the role for a couple of months. David Rischmiller offered to give him a list of contacts.

9. Dodford Village Hall Committee report

Lynne Griffin thanked the Parish Council for their continued support and this year's grant. She also gave a report on the success of the afternoon teas and hot lunches and took on board a suggestion from a resident for a Sunday afternoon tea for residents who work during the week. The Friends of Dodford Village Hall scheme to buy a brick will be concluded July 2017 and the Village Hall Committee would like to produce two frames of bricks in memory of Stan Ravenhall and Phil Richardson. Lynne also appealed for more committee members.

10. Is there a need to impose speed limits in Dodford?

Cllr Chairman read out the letter from the Council at Dodford First School giving their concerns about cars parking on the path and the speed of delivery vans and tractors. They would like to see signs asking drivers to slow down and yellow lines by their playground gates. Suggestions were made about the possibility of speed signs at the boundaries; resurrecting parking at the Village Hall (and possibly the Church car park) with a few cars driving other children to the School, or formation of a walking bus. After a great deal of discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council will meet with County Councillor Sheila Blagg and Worcestershire County Council (WCC) Highways to see if anything can be done to reduce speeding through the Parish.

11. Junior Parish Council

After discussion it was agreed to see how many children participate in the Queen's Litter Pick Up organised by Dodford Inn, and to have a leaflet available to see if the children are interested in a Junior Parish Council.

12. Questions / Matters of interest to Parishioners

- i. Concern expressed about lighting on houses causing light pollution
- ii. Suggestion for ariel views of the Parish to monitor inappropriate developments
- iii. The number of inappropriate ménages
- iv. A request that the Parish Council request Bromsgrove District Council (BDC) planning department to say what is acceptable and what is not
- v. The character of the village is changing and the request for BDC to adopt Article 4 Status
- vi. A resident had applied for the footpath warden role but it would involve 12 weeks training and the resident would have to do any repairs. The resident has decided not to go ahead with the application
- vii. A request that the bin should not be placed right next to the new bench in Alfred's Well

The meeting closed at 10.10pm.

Signed.....Chairman