

DODFORD WITH GRAFTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Dodford with Grafton Parish Council held on Thursday 26 October 2017 in Dodford Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Lynne Griffin, Rachel Jennings, Rory Lydon, Alwyn Rea (Chairman) and Scottie Sanderson

In attendance: County Councillor Shirley Webb, District Councillor Karen May, Richard Clewer, Worcestershire County Council (WCC) Highways, Clerk Kay Stone and seven members of the public

1. Apologies

Cllrs Vicky Churchill and Christine Thomas gave their apologies, reasons for which were accepted.

2. Declarations of interest

- i. None
- ii. Cllr Lydon declared an interest in item 8

3. Dispensations

No requests received.

The meeting was adjourned for members of the public to raise matters of interest / items for the next agenda but there were no matters of interest or items for the next agenda. The meeting reconvened as follows:

4. Highways and footpaths

- i. After discussion on how to reduce speeding, particularly in Warbage Lane and Yarnold Lane, it was agreed that speeds will be monitored by WCC Highways and the Parish Council to notify the roads of concern to WCC.
WCC are not able to prevent HGVs in the village as there are businesses in the village that depend on them. District Councillor Karen May suggested writing to the MP to see if he is aware of the issues and suggested writing to local businesses to ask their drivers to take care when making deliveries, to respect the residents, and avoid school times and rush hours.
County Councillor Shirley Webb and Richard Clewer to look at continuing the repairs to the Priory Road footpath.
To avoid parking on the grassed area on the corner of Warbage Lane and Priory Road, WCC can give a license for the Parish Council to put up a trip rail, still giving access to the bench and bin, and adopt this piece of land which can be done in the current financial year. The Parish Council to notify WCC by January of its requirements. The Lengthsman would need to be asked to cut the grass.
At this point Cllr Webb and Richard Clewer left the meeting.
- ii. Bromsgrove District Council (BDC) will remove any litter / fly tipping in Swan Lane.
- iii. Timberhonger Lane road sign has been replaced by BDC.
- iv. The meeting was adjourned for members of the public to discuss the public right of way at the Dodford Inn. After a lengthy discussion between the owners of the Dodford Inn, residents and the Parish Council, it was decided that the Parish Council need a response from the WCC Countryside Mapping Officer to clarify the situation before further discussions can take place.

5. Minutes of the Meeting held on 28 September 2017

Approval of the Minutes was proposed by Cllr Griffin and seconded by Cllr Lydon, agreed by all and then signed by the Chairman as being a true record.

6. Reports

- i. County Councillor Shirley Webb had attended the first part of the meeting to discuss issues with highways and footpaths – see item 4i). She also advised the meeting that with regards Superfast Worcestershire - Cabinet 25 has gone live today.
- ii. District Councillor Karen May gave a detailed update on BDC's priorities for economic growth and how retail in Bromsgrove is improving. At this point Cllr Rea brought to Cllr May's attention the letter he has received from Sajid Javid, MP giving an update on the Broadband issue and how BT will be working with WCC after Gigaclear moved out of Worcestershire.
- iii. No report from the Clerk.

7. Planning

- i. No planning consultations and applications received.
- ii. No planning decisions received.
- iii. No planning appeals or decisions received.
- iv. The Clerk was asked to request the reinstatement of the face-to-face meetings with the Enforcement Officers at BDC's offices as well as receiving the written reports from BDC, as the Parish Council is still concerned about enforcement issues.
- v. No update on BDC implementing Article 4.
- v. No further planning issues.

8. Operating Licenses

- i. The Clerk has still not received a copy of the recent HGV application form under the Freedom of Information Act from the Traffic Commissioner despite a reminder.
- ii. The ownership of the builder's yard in Yarnold Lane has been ascertained and the Clerk still to hear from BDC if the Certificate of Lawfulness was granted back in 2012.

9. Neighbourhood Plan

The draft of the resident's questionnaire was approved with a couple of slight amendments. It was proposed by Cllr Griffin, seconded by Cllr Sanderson and agreed by all that the questionnaire should be posted with the Christmas Newsletter to all residents.

10. Phil Richardson Award

The wording of the nomination form was approved, and it was agreed to send this out to residents with the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire and the Christmas Newsletter.

11. Christmas Newsletter

The wording was approved, and it was agreed to send this out to residents with the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire and the Phil Richardson Community Award nomination form.

12. Worcestershire County Council's Planning Validation Document Review

This review was noted but there are no current issues for Dodford and Grafton.

13. Finance

- i. Cllr Rea proposed, Cllr Lydon seconded and all approved the second quarter reconciliation as at end of September 2017.
- ii. Deposit account as at 29 September 2017 - £17,721.12
Current account as at 29 September 2017 - £885.14
Cheques still to go through:
 - a. Dodford Village Hall - £180.00
 - b. Grant Thornton - £120.00
 - c. ALCC - £10.00
 - d. SLCC - £93.00

Payments by bank transfer for September – Acceptance proposed by Cllr Rea and seconded by Cllr Jennings:

- a. Clerk's salary - £306.61
- b. Clerk's expenses - £67.80 (Use of telephone and internet line £5; storage £5; travel 8 miles @ 45p/mile £3.60; stationery: colour and black printer ink £54.20)
- c. HM Revenue and Customs - £76.60
- d. Lengthsman duties for September - £144.00

17. Correspondence received – for information

Correspondence received was noted.

18. Councillors items

- i. The Clerk was requested to put a piece in the Parish Magazine about cutting back hedges
- ii. The Clerk was requested to write to Sajid Javid thanking him for his recent letter about Broadband and for his efforts.
- iii. The Village Hall Committee is looking at a potential booking for a dance class every Thursday and as a result Parish Council dates for 2018 are in the balance. Cllr Rea offered to attend the Village Hall Committee AGM on 30 October to talk about this.

The meeting was closed at 9.30 pm.

Signed.....Chairman