

DODFORD WITH GRAFTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Dodford with Grafton Parish Council held on Tuesday 23 January 2018 in Dodford Village Hall at 7.30pm

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

In attendance: County Councillor Shirley Webb, District Councillor Karen May, Clerk Kay Stone and 26 members of the public

1. Apologies

Cllr Vicky Churchill, and gave her apologies, reasons for which were accepted.

2. Declarations of interest

- i. None
- ii. Cllr Rea declared an interest in item 16vii

3. Dispensations

No requests received.

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

No concerns were raised at this stage of the meeting and the Chairman agreed to close the meeting prior to agenda items 6i, 6iii, 6iv and 8 for residents to express their concerns

The meeting reconvened as follows:

4. Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 October 2017 and 23 November 2017

Cllr Griffin had given her apologies late for the November meeting. Approval of the Minutes for October and November were proposed by Cllr Lydon and seconded by Cllr Jennings, agreed by all and then signed by the Chairman as being a true record.

5. Potential expansion of Dodford First School

A letter received from the Head of Dodford First School was read out and is attached to the Minutes. The Parish Council has no objection to the potential additional class but is concerned about the car parking for dropping off and collecting. Possible solutions to the potential extra parking were discussed at length and County Councillor Webb offered to investigate a potential CPO by Worcestershire County Council (WCC) of the field opposite the Nursery. County Councillor Webb is exploring expanding the car park at the School.

6. Highways and footpaths

i. Fockbury Road footpath

The meeting was adjourned to allow members of the public to express their concerns. After a great deal of discussion, County Councillor Webb reported that the owners of No 1 Fockbury Road own the footpath having bought it from bdht and County Councillor Webb is in contact with bdht to look at another opening on the footpath further along. County Councillor Webb suggested a meeting with residents, the Parish Council, the School and District Councillor May to see if there was a way forward to this situation.

The meeting was reconvened.

ii. Modify the Definitive Map and Statement – This is deferred to the February meeting

iii. Reduced Speed Limits

The meeting was adjourned to allow members of the public to express their concerns.

A suggestion was made for traffic calming measures or one-way systems rather than speed limits. After discussion County Councillor Webb suggested that the issue was to keep Dodford as a village, and as such is happy to push for slow down signs to be painted on the roads, white lines down the sides of the road and looking at lowering speeds in Fockbury Road and Priory Road. The Parish Council requested another discussion / meeting with WCC Highways and County Councillor Webb to see if there is a way forward.

iv. **HGVs**

The Office of Traffic Commissioners replied to the Parish Council that Regulation 9 of the Goods Vehicle (Licensing of Operators) Regulations 1995 prevented them from providing the Parish Council with a copy of the original application. The only objections that would have been considered at the time would have been from neighbours and not the Parish Council. The holder of the HGV License was present at the meeting and reported that he is in discussion with Bromsgrove District Council (BDC) to look for another site but in the meantime, he is aware of the situation with the HGVs and is making efforts to help the situation and asked residents to come forward with suggestions which he would take on board. The Parish Council suggested an informal meeting with County Councillor Webb, District County Councillor May and WCC Highways and other business owners using HGVs.

The meeting was reconvened and many of the residents left the meeting.
At this point Cllr Jennings left the meeting.

7. Reports

- i. County Councillor Webb's January report had been received, contents of which were noted.
- ii. District Councillor May gave her report on new retail outlets, reduced car parking and how successful the taxi marshalls operation was over Christmas. The Atrix is looking at developing their site and the new leisure centre is open. There is to be a possible £5 increase in Council Tax.
- iii. Clerk's report:
 - a. It was proposed by Cllr Rea, seconded by Cllr Lydon and agreed by all that Cllr Churchill's apologies are accepted and that she is on extended leave of absence due to illness but will attend meetings as and when she is able.
 - b. Councillor refresher training is taking place on Wednesday 28 February and Tuesday 13 March at County Hall.
 - c. The next CALC Area meeting is taking place on Wednesday 14 March at Parkside.
 - d. One nomination for the Phil Richardson Community Award has been received

8. Operating Licenses

This was covered under item 6iv.

9. Bromsgrove District Council Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Consultation

The Parish Council agreed on Option C – To remove the requirement from the handbook and replace it with a requirement that the vehicle windows cannot be fitted with privacy glass (entirely black or reflective glass).

10. Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire

Due to the extensive discussions at the beginning of the meeting, this item to be deferred to the February meeting.

11. Annual Audit 2017/2018

Cllr Rea proposed, Cllr Thomas seconded, and all agreed on the appointment of Diane Malley as Internal Auditor but wished to defer their decision on the appointment of DPO (Data Protection Officer) until they have received further guidelines from NALC and CALC.

12. Grants for 2017/2018

Deferred to the February meeting.

13. Finance

- i. Cllr Rea proposed, Cllr Thomas seconded, and all approved the 2018/2019 budget as presented by the Clerk with no increase in the Precept.
- ii. Cllr Rea proposed, Cllr Lydon seconded, and all approved the quarterly reconciliation as at the end of December 2017 as presented by the Clerk and agreed by Cllr Thomas.
- iii. Deposit account as at 29 December 2017 - £16,223.18
Current account as at 29 December 2017 - £935.11

Cheques still to go through:

- a. Dodford Village Hall - £180.00
- b. CCSHF - £50.00
- c. Parish Magazine Printing - £96.60

Payments by bank transfer for January – Acceptance proposed by Cllr Rea and seconded by Cllr Thomas:

- a. Clerk's salary - £306.61
- b. Clerk's expenses - £130.80 (Use of telephone and internet line for December and January £10; storage for December and January £10; travel 12 miles @ 45p/mile £5.40; stationery – envelopes, labels and paper for mailshot £53.43 and stationery – colour and black and white ink £51.97)
- c. HM Revenue and Customs - £76.60
- d. Lengthsman duties for December - £192.00

For information – Public Works Loans Board repayment direct debit is due on 19 February 2018 for £883.62.

17. Correspondence received – for information

Correspondence received was noted.

18. Councillors items

Cllr Thomas reported she is organising for shelving to be put up in the telephone box.

19. Planning

- i. In the absence of Cllr Jennings, Planning Committee Chairman, the approval of the minutes of the planning committee meeting held on 19 December will be deferred to the February meeting.
- ii. BDC has approved the application for Gypsy Cottage in Warbage Lane.
- iii. No planning appeals or decisions received.
- iv. No enforcement updates.
- v. The rearranged meeting from December with BDC to implement Article 4 and the Conservation Area appraisal is taking place on Tuesday 30 January at 2pm at Parkside. Attendees from the Parish Council will be Cllrs Rea, Thomas and Lydon with possible attendees Cllrs Griffin and Jennings
- vi. No further planning issues
At this point Cllr Rea left the meeting as he had declared an interest in the following item on the agenda
- vii. To consider planning application 17/01451 – Dodford Children's Holiday Farm – Children's toilet block extension.
The Parish Council has no objection.

The meeting was closed at 9.40 pm.

Signed.....Chairman