

## DODFORD WITH GRAFTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Draft Minutes of the meeting of Dodford with Grafton Parish Council held on Monday 26 February 2018 in Dodford Village Hall at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Lynne Griffin, Rory Lydon, Alwyn Rea (Chairman), and Christine Thomas

**In attendance:** Clerk Kay Stone and 9 members of the public

### 1. Apologies

County Councillor Shirley Webb, District Councillor Karen May, Cllrs Vicky Churchill, Rachel Jennings, Scottie Sanderson gave their apologies, reasons for which were accepted.

### 2. Declarations of interest

- i. Cllr Lydon declared an interest in item 14vib
- ii. None

### 3. Dispensations

No requests received.

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

Concerns were raised at the new road signs in Dodford and a request for a Chartist Village sign. A 30mph speed restriction was requested by some of the residents attending the meeting. The Chairman explained that at the meeting in October attended by the Cllr Webb and Richard Clewer from Worcestershire County Council (WCC) Highways, concerns from residents on speeding was discussed. As a result, WCC agreed to put down speed monitoring strips in Warbage Lane and Priory Road. The Parish Council were not aware of new road signs being erected in Priory Road and assume that this is WCC assisting the Parish Council in helping to reduce speeding.

The meeting reconvened as follows:

### 4. Minutes of the Meeting held on 23 January 2018

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.

### 5. Reports

- i. February report from County Councillor Shirley Webb had been received, circulated and copies were available at the meeting. Of interest to Dodford are two points:
  - a. "Fockbury Road footpath issue - BDHT has created a new exit for residents. The school has complained of parking in front of the footpath. I have asked BDHT if they can move the footpath sign now to the new exit.
  - b. Bournheath & Dodford Horse & Rider signs – starting to be placed now."
- ii. No report had been received from District Councillor May.
- iii. No report from the Clerk

### 6. Highways and footpaths

- i. **Fockbury Road footpath**  
Covered under Cllr Webb's report item 5ia.
- ii. **Modify the Definitive Map and Statement** – After discussion the Council agreed there are three footpaths - at the Dodford Inn; the top of the hill at Greenhill Farm and Fockbury Road. Cllr Griffin and Cllr Lydon agreed to look at and complete the necessary paperwork supplied by WCC.

iii. **Reduced Speed Limits**

Speed results from 1 July 2016 were circulated and Cllr Webb had said that they show mean speeds well within the speed limit for the roads. The speeding issue and the request for 30mph restriction to be put on the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting in May.

iv. **HGVs**

The Parish Council is organising a meeting with Cllr Webb, Cllr May, WCC Highways and Mr Jennings on site to discuss ways forward. The Chairman informed the residents that at the January meeting, Mr Jenkins had confirmed he is looking to relocate and has offered some solutions with meeting HGVs at the top of Yarnold Lane. A suggestion of housing on the site was put forward and will be discussed at the arranged meeting.

**7. Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire**

Survey results were circulated, and this item will be on the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting in May as it is hoped that Mike Dunphy, Strategic Planning and Conservation Manager, and Mary Worsfold, Conservation Officer, both from Bromsgrove District Council (BDC) will attend and speak. The Parish Council has not decided yet as to whether they will produce a Neighbourhood Plan. The Clerk was asked to make the survey results available to residents through the resident email list, on the Parish Council web site and sent out with the Annual Report.

**8. Grants for 2017/2018**

- i. The accounts for Dodford Village Hall have not been produced and the Clerk was asked to write to the Village Hall Committee to ask for sight of them before 31 March 2018 or they will lose the grant for 2017/2018. The Clerk was asked to remind the Village Hall Committee that the payment for the hire of the hall had still not been banked from February 2017.
- ii. The Village Hall Committee have looked at installing WIFI into the Hall as grants from organisations are available, but they would not be able to afford the ongoing costs. The Parish Council agreed to consider paying for the rent when the cost is known.
- iii. A resident enquired if other Parish Councils give grants to charities and the Clerk will find out from neighbouring Clerks and report back.
- iv. Last year's recipients to be contacted to see if they would like to apply for a grant for 2018/2019 - except for CCSHF.

**9. Phil Richardson Community Award**

Two nominations have been received.

**10. Annual Parish Meeting – 21 May 2018**

Suggestions for speakers are the Vicar, Mike Dunphy and Mary Worsfold from BDC, Cllr Webb and Cllr May. The format for the meeting was not discussed.

**11. Finance**

- i. Deposit account as at 29 January 2018 - £14,723.83  
Current account as at 29 January 2018 - £1,729.10  
Cheques still to go through:
  - a. Dodford Village Hall - £180.00
  - b. CCSHF - £50.00
  - c. Parish Magazine Printing - £96.60Direct Debit still to go through:  
Public Works Loan Board - £883.26  
Payments by bank transfer for February – Acceptance proposed by Cllr Rea and seconded by Cllr Thomas:
  - a. Clerk's salary - £306.61
  - b. Clerk's expenses - £35.77 (Use of telephone and internet line for £5; storage £5; travel 24 miles @ 45p/mile £10.80 and stationery – paper and plastic wallets £14.97)
  - c. HM Revenue and Customs - £76.60

d. Lengthsman duties for January - £192.00

## 12. Correspondence received – for information

Correspondence received was noted.

## 13. Councillors items

- i. Cllr Lydon reminded the Clerk about joining the Open Spaces Society.
- ii. Cllr Thomas had been approached by someone requesting another spring clean and who had offered to collect full bin bags afterwards from ends of roads. The Clerk was asked to approach the Village Hall Committee to see if they would be willing to host a spring clean and to see if BDC would be willing to help again with litter picking tools and black bags.
- iii. Cllr Thomas mentioned a pot hole developing around a drain at the corner of Church Road and Victoria Road. The Clerk to report this on WCC Report It web page.

## 14. Planning

- i. In the absence of Cllr Jennings, Planning Committee Chairman, approval of the minutes of the planning committee meeting held on 19 December will be deferred to the March meeting. Acceptance of the minutes from the meeting held on 6 February was proposed by Cllr Lydon, seconded by Cllr Rea and signed by the Parish Council Chairman as being a true record.
- ii. BDC has approved the application for the children's block extension at Dodford Children's Holiday Farm.
- iii. No planning appeals or decisions received.
- iv. Enforcement updates had been received and circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.
- v. No further planning issues
- vi. To consider planning consultations and applications received

- a. 18/00142 – Dodford Inn – Retrospective planning permission for small sheltered BBQ area.

The Parish Council finds it difficult to support this application as it is a new build in front of the original building line. When planning permission was given on 15/0779, part of the condition was the removal of the lean to store as per S35A planning guideline, which should still apply, - "S35A The District Council will seek to preserve or enhance the character or appearance of Conservation Areas and will: d) seek to retain and enhance open spaces, important views, trees or other features of importance to the street scene."

**At this point Cllr Lydon left the meeting as he had declared an interest in the following item on the agenda**

- b. 18/00030 – Sunday Hill, Whinfield Road – Erect a greenhouse.

The application is for permission to erect a greenhouse which for almost any other property would be permitted by PD rights without the need to seek formal planning permission. Although those rights have been withdrawn in the case of this property we would question whether this restriction was really intended to cover the erection of a greenhouse in the garden – surely it was rather to restrict further development of a residential nature? The greenhouse will not be visible from the lane, being located at the rear and behind the building line. The site is in excess of 5 metres from the house. The finish of the building will be green and will blend in with surroundings. The property has a large garden (like many of the properties in Dodford) and a greenhouse is a common sight in the village. The joint applicant, Mrs Lydon, is a keen gardener, Secretary of the Village Gardening Club and Organiser of the annual Dodford Show. The erection of a greenhouse would considerably enhance her enjoyment of the hobby. Both overall height and height to eaves are within PD allowances. The Parish Council has no objection.

The meeting was closed at 9.12 pm.

Signed.....Chairman