

DODFORD WITH GRAFTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

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

In attendance: Clerk Kay Stone and 12 members of the public

1. Apologies

County Councillor Shirley Webb, District Councillor Karen May, Cllrs Scottie Sanderson and Christine Thomas gave their apologies, reasons for which were accepted.

Chairman Cllr Rea told the meeting that Cllr Vicky Churchill has resigned from the Parish Council due to illness and, on behalf of the Parish Council, he expressed thanks to Vicky Churchill for her service to the Parish Council and the community over the last seven years. The Clerk was requested to write a formal thank you from the Parish Council to Vicky.

2. Declarations of interest

- i. None
- 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.

- i. Concerns were raised about speeding and residents debated the merits between 30 mph speed limits or traffic calming measures. After a long discussion the Chairman assured residents that the Parish Council was committed to road safety with regards to children. This item will be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting in May and in the meantime County Councillor Shirley Webb had assured the Parish Council that Worcestershire County Council (WCC) are looking into reducing speed limits.
- ii. Residents enquired about the northern by pass which was talked about some years ago which would run parallel with the M5 and then onto Stourbridge Road. The Chairman explained that the Parish Council understood the priority for spending is on the current A38 by pass.
- iii. The Parish Council will raise these matters with County Councillor Shirley Webb to make representation on its' behalf in particular, whether the recent substantial additional funding made available by the Secretary of State for road programmes could be used to revive the original North Western By-Pass scheme.
- iv. Residents requested the Parish Council take the recent Neighbourhood Plan Survey response on board as speeding was an issue in the responses. The Chairman explained that the questionnaire was to assist the Parish Council in producing a Neighbourhood Plan, which is still to happen.

The meeting reconvened as follows:

4. Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 February 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. The March report from County Councillor Shirley Webb had been received, circulated and copies were available at the meeting.

- ii. No report had been received from District Councillor Karen May.
- iii. The Clerk reported:
 - a. that due to Vicky Churchill's resignation, a signatory was required for the Parish Council bank accounts and it was agreed that Cllr Rory Lydon would be the third signatory. The Clerk to prepare the necessary paper work for the next meeting;
 - b. that annual membership of the Open Spaces Society would cost £45 per annum and it was proposed by Cllr Lydon and seconded by Cllr Jennings that the Parish Council should join for a trial year;
 - c. that the caravan in the lay by on Kidderminster Road had been reported to WCC who will request their Gypsy Services to investigate;
 - d. that there will be a road closure in Priory Road over the Easter weekend but there will be a man either side of the road works to ensure access to the Church is maintained. There will also be one-way traffic lights on the Kidderminster Road 177m south east from Battlefield Farm on 27 March, and
 - e. the many pot holes in Yarnold Lane have been reported to WCC.

6. Planning

- i. In the absence of Cllr Sanderson, approval of the minutes of the planning committee meeting held on 19 December will be deferred to the April meeting.
- ii. No planning consultations and applications received.
- iii. No planning decisions received.
- iv. No planning appeals or decisions received.
- v. No enforcement updates had been received.
- vi. No further planning issues.

7. Highways and footpaths

- i. Modify the Definitive Map and Statement – Paperwork work is being prepared by Cllrs Griffin, Lydon and Jennings.
- ii. Following the discussion at the start of the meeting reducing speed limits will be taken forward with WCC through County Councillor Shirley Web.
- iii. The Chairman attended a meeting earlier in the day with County Councillor Shirley Webb, Richard Clewer (WCC Highways) and neighbouring Parish Councils to discuss the forthcoming Severn Trent works that will affect Bournheath for the next six months. HGVs will be diverted from Fairfield down Brook Road and left up Snuff Hill. County Councillor Shirley Webb will be organising a meeting to take place within the next few weeks with WCC Highways, Parish Councils, residents and businesses in Yarnold Lane to seek a way forward with current HGV issues.

8. Bromsgrove District Council Local Heritage List

Nominations from the Parish Council for buildings and / or structures which match the criteria in the Local Heritage List are: The School, Monsieur's Hall, Dodford Children's Holiday Farm, the Victorian post boxes in Priory Road and in the wall by the School, Sandstone bridge in Warbage Lane by Little Paddocks and the swimming pool in the orchard opposite the Church in Priory Road. The Clerk to pass these nominations on to Bromsgrove District Council (BDC).

9. Dodford First School

The Chairman adjourned the meeting to enable the Head and Secretary from the School to speak. Points discussed included - County Councillor Shirley Webb is now a Governor at the School; the School send out regular letters to parents about the parking but receive phone calls and emails from residents blaming the School for the parking issues, and the School wish to co-operate with residents but the School's first concern is the safety of the children.

The meeting continued as follows:

County Councillor Shirley Webb had reported to the Parish Council that WCC will be increasing the yellow lines around the school. The Parish Council made some suggestions to the Secretary and

Head of the School with regards answering abusive phone calls. The Parish Council were pleased to hear that there are no development plans for the School.

10. Grants for 2018/2019

- i. The Clerk reported that she had not received a reply from Dodford Village Hall Committee requesting sight of the accounts for the 2017/2018 Parish Council Grant, the cheque for hiring of the hall which is still to be banked, and the suggestion of help with the cost of Wi-Fi in the Village Hall.
The Clerk has written to the Air Ambulance, Dodford Children's Holiday Farm and Dodford PCC to ascertain if they are applying for a grant, and if so to send their latest audited accounts by 18 April to be discussed at the April meeting. The Parish Council agreed to defer further consideration of grants for Dodford Village Hall until they hear from their Chairman.
- ii. The Clerk reported that Belbroughton Parish Council give a grant to Belbroughton Recreation Centre as it is run as a charity, and Bournheath Parish Council have supported various small charities in the past, but their biggest grant goes to the Village Hall which is run as a charity by local Trustees.

11. Phil Richardson Community Award

Two nominations have been received.

12. Annual Parish Meeting – 21 May 2018

County Councillor Shirley Webb will be attending as a speaker. Dorothy Woodhouse, Church Warden will be speaking on behalf of the Vicar. The Clerk still to receive confirmation of attendance from Mike Dunphy (BDC), Mary Worsfold (BDC) and District Councillor Karen May. The Clerk was asked to invite Richard Clewer (WCC Highways) through County Councillor Shirley Webb with regards the speeding issues on the agenda. The Clerk to add Phil Richardson Community Award to the agenda. The Parish Council agreed to putting on refreshments prior to the meeting.

13. Lengthsman Scheme

- i. It was not possible to consider WCC Lengthsman Scheme contract for 2018/2019 as it has not been received from WCC.
- ii. It was proposed by Cllr Lydon, seconded by Cllr Rea and approved by all to agree to the Lengthsman's request for an increase in his hourly rate from £12.00 to £12.50 and for Luke Farnsworth to take over this role from Allen.

14. Finance

- i. Deposit account as at 28 February 2018 - £14,224.48
Current account as at 28 February 2018 - £779.90
Cheques still to go through:
 - a. Dodford Village Hall - £180.00Payments by bank transfer for March – Acceptance proposed by Cllr Rea and seconded by Cllr Lydon:
 - a. Clerk's salary - £306.61
 - b. Clerk's expenses - £37.59 (Use of telephone and internet line for £5; storage £5; travel 12 miles @ 45p/mile £5.40 and stationery – black ink cartridge £22.19)
 - c. HM Revenue and Customs - £76.60
 - d. Lengthsman duties for February - £192.00

15. Correspondence received – for information

Correspondence received was noted.

16. Councillors items

Witness statements are being prepared for footpaths which have been used for over 20 years and residents are asked to request a form from the Parish Council if they know of a footpath that they feel

should be on the Definitive Map. If residents do not know the number of the footpath then a sketch can be drawn as the Parish Council has a copy of the Definitive Map and are able to identify the footpath in question.

17. Councillor co-option

The Clerk was instructed to ask Paul Warman if he would like to come back on the Parish Council now that the day of the meeting has been changed to a Monday.

The meeting was closed at 9.20 pm.

Signed.....Chairman

DRAFT