

DODFORD WITH GRAFTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Dodford with Grafton Parish Council held on Monday 23 September 2019 in Dodford Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Lynne Griffin, Alwyn Rea and Jonathan Shapiro

In attendance: Clerk Kay Stone and 4 members of the public

1. Apologies

County Cllr Shirley Webb, District Cllr Drew Beaumont, Parish Cllrs Rachel Jennings (Chairman), Rory Lydon and Scottie Sanderson gave their apologies, reasons for which were accepted. In the Chairman's absence, Cllr Alwyn Rea chaired the meeting.

2. Declarations of interest

- i. None
- ii. None

3. Dispensations

No dispensation requests received.

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

- The footpath in Priory Road outside the Old Post Office up to the telephone box needs resurfacing, preserving the cobbles.
- Footpaths in Woodcote Lane and Dordale Road are being blocked off. The resident who brought this to the attention of the Parish Council to send photos to the Clerk.
- A resident was concerned about the increase in traffic to the Dodford Inn.

The meeting reconvened as follows:

4. Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 July 2019

Approval of the minutes to be deferred to the next meeting.

5. Reports

- i. No report has been received from County Cllr Webb. Last one received was in June 2019.
- ii. No report has been received from District Cllr Beaumont.
- iii. Recent activity on Dodford Facebook page has featured cats being run over and killed and a young duck being shot. The cats being run over led to comments about speeding in Dodford. The request from a resident about a Births, Deaths and Marriages Facebook page was repeated and after discussion, and the fact that Bournheath Facebook page had recently posted an announcement as requested by a family member, it was felt that residents could do the same with the Dodford Facebook page, which is a closed group, without the need for an additional page.
- iv. Cllr Rea gave his report from the CALC area meeting held on 11 September which was noted. The Parish Council agreed to adapt the document produced by Alvechurch Parish Council which serves as a guide to the planning process for residents. This will be displayed on the Parish Council web site, mentioned in the next edition of the Parish Magazine and possibly included in the Christmas newsletter mail shot. Cllr Rea informed the meeting that Bromsgrove District Council (BDC) are holding a District Plan Parish Council briefing on Wednesday 9 October at 7pm in Parkside.
- v. The Clerk reported that
 - a. The next Parish Conference will take place at County Hall on Thursday 17 October 2019 at 6pm.

- b. A resident, through Cllr Lydon reported there was evidence of use of drugs in Alfred's Well. The resident had also informed Cllr Webb who has asked if the mobile CCTV can be deployed there for a while. Cllr Webb will also mention it to the safer neighbourhood team. The School has seen evidence of drug use in the playground overnight the School Secretary is in touch with Cllr Webb as this will add weight to her request for mobile CCTV. The Clerk to put a piece in the Parish Magazine asking residents to remain vigilant and safe.
- c. The Lengthsman has reported that the hedge opposite the White House in Warbage Lane needs cutting back as it is overhanging the road. The Clerk to write to the owners to ask them to arrange for it to be cut back.
- d. The defibrillator pads have been replaced and the ambulance service has been notified of the new expiry date – April 2022.
- e. Public Works Loan Board final statement has been received and the last payment will be on 17 February 2020.

6. Planning

- i. Approval of the Planning Committee Meeting Minutes held on 30 July was proposed by Cllr Griffin, seconded by Cllr Shapiro, agreed by all and then signed by Cllr Rea as being a true record. The approval of the Planning Committee Meeting Minutes held on 16 September to be deferred to the next meeting.
- ii. No planning application consultations received.
- iii. No planning decisions received.
- iv. No planning appeals or decisions have been received
- v. An update on enforcement issues has been received and circulated to Parish Councillors.
- vi. The current Parish Plan to be deferred to the next meeting.
- vii. Other planning issues for information:
 - a. The Clerk informed the Parish Council that Housing Minister Esther McVey has committed £2m to aid District Councils crack down on illegal developments in the Green Belt. BDC applied and will be receiving up to £50k to help with the clamp down. The Clerk was instructed to write to BDC asking how they propose to spend the money.
 - b. It was agreed that in future the Clerk would only record the District Council's decisions on planning applications in the Parish Magazine.

7. Highways and footpaths

- i. No update on modifying the definitive map and statement. To be kept on the agenda.
- ii. No further forward on turning the phone box into a library and Cllr Rea offered to contact Men in Sheds.
- iii. Cllr Webb has reported that she will be meeting with Richard Clewer and traffic management in the next couple of weeks (email dated 9 Sept) to discuss safety at the Crossroads Junction and is looking at whether they can have continuing no overtaking lines, as they seem to stop near the Park Gate Inn and restart after the first property on the right
- iv. With regards painted slow down signs, Richard Clewer has responded to say if Highway Officers considered them to be required then they would need to go in.
- v. Richard Clewer has responded to say that the positioning of the gates at Stone and Rushock do not conform with current guidelines. The Parish Council requested that further discussion on the position of the white gates in Dodford to be deferred to the next meeting.

8. Dodford Village Hall Committee

Following a request from the Dodford Village Hall Committee for help towards the costs of installing Wi-Fi in the Village Hall, it was proposed by Cllr Rea, seconded by Cllr Shapiro and agreed by all to make a one off payment to launch the set-up which is £139.11 as seen in BT bills supplied by the Committee.

9. Parish Council Grants

To be deferred to next meeting.

10. CALC Model Complaints Procedure

The adoption of the document to be deferred to the next meeting following a discussion about an additional point to be added. The Clerk to recirculate for comments.

11. Bromsgrove District Ultra-Low Emissions Vehicle (ULEV) Survey

Information on the survey has been circulated to residents and Dodford Facebook page. This is set up more for individual responses from residents than one from the Parish Council.

12. Wyre Forest District Local Plan Review – Pre-Submission Publication

This has been noted but the Parish Council felt that it did not require a comment from them.

13. Client and Lickey Hills Area – Landscape Value Study

This has been noted and Cllr Rea offered to look at it and report back to the Parish Council if it affected Dodford in any way.

14. Finance

- i. The August Financial Report:
 - Deposit account as at 29 July 2019 - £14,702.85
 - Current account as at 29 July 2019 - £2,008.56
 - Payments by bank transfer for August – Acceptance proposed by Cllr Shapiro and seconded by Cllr Rea:
 - a. Clerk's salary - £364.86
 - b. HM Revenue and Customs - £91.00
 - c. Lengthsman – duties for July - £200.00
- ii. The September Financial Report:
 - Deposit account as at 30 August 2019 - £14,703.49
 - Current account as at 30 August 2019 - £679.08
 - Payments by bank transfer for September – Acceptance proposed by Cllr Shapiro and seconded by Cllr Rea:
 - d. Clerk's salary - £364.86
 - e. Clerk's expenses - £173.30 (Travel 22 miles @0.45p per mile £9.90; Storage for August and September £10; Use of telephone and internet for August and September £10; Phil Richardson Community Award card £4.19; Stationery – paper £7.98 and black and colour printer ink £56.05, and two defibrillator pads £74.28.
 - f. HM Revenue and Customs - £91.00
 - g. Lengthsman – duties for August - £195.00

15. Casual Vacancy

No applications received.

16. Correspondence received – for information

Correspondence received was noted and the Clerk was asked to send names of residents who could help with snow clearance.

17. Councillors items

- i. Junior Parish Council to be added to the next agenda.
- ii. Considering the recent theft of a Victorian Post Box, should SmartWater be used on remaining ones in Dodford. The Clerk to contact the Post Office to see if they already use SmartWater on them.
- iii. Cllr Shapiro has accepted the appointment of School Governor to Dodford First School.

The meeting closed at 9.01pm.

Signed.....Chairman