

## **DODFORD WITH GRAFTON PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Draft Minutes of the meeting of Dodford with Grafton Parish Council held on Thursday 18 October 2012 in Dodford Village Hall at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Vicky Churchill, Vic Dawson, Rachel Jennings, Richard Scott, Clerk Kay Stone and four members of the public

#### **1. Apologies**

Councillor Alwyn Rea and District Councillor Brian Lewis, reasons for which were accepted

#### **2. Declarations of interest**

- i. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests – none
- ii. Other Disclosable Interests – Cllr Churchill declared an interest in item 7 on the agenda and Cllr Jennings declared an interest in item 6ii on the agenda

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

- i. A resident brought the Parish Council's attention to grass growing over the footpath in Priory Road and the Clerk was asked by the Parish Council to ask the Lengthsman to clear this. The resident also brought to the attention the state of the kerb stones in Priory Road and the Clerk was asked to write to Worcestershire County Council (WCC) and Severn Trent.
- ii. A resident enquired about how the Parish Council Village Design Statement was being used and how it was going to be updated. A discussion took place about Bromsgrove District Council (BDC) preparing their Local Plan before the Parish Council can prepare their Neighbourhood Plan which will replace the Village Design Statement.
- iii. A resident spoke about their objection to The Stable Planning Application for change of use to holiday lets.

The meeting was reconvened as follows:

#### **3. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 27 September 2012**

There were two amendments made to the Minutes. The Clerk will produce a new set of Minutes to be approved at the November meeting.

#### **4. Reports**

- i. No report received from District Councillor Brian Lewis
- ii. No report received from County Councillor Sheila Blagg
- iii. The Clerk informed the Parish Council that she had put a piece about ragwort in the Parish Magazine and had been told by WCC that they do not own or manage any countryside sites in Dodford and Grafton. The Clerk was asked to write to DEFRA to see what County Council's legal obligations are on ragwort and also to WCC to enquire about ragwort in grass verges owned by WCC

#### **5. Planning**

- i. 12/0745 – The Stable, Woodland Road – Change of use of stable to holiday let  
The Parish Council object to this application

- ii. It was proposed by Cllr Dawson and seconded by Cllr Churchill to engage Planning Consultant Stewart Vick to prepare the Parish Council's objection to The Stable planning application. The Clerk was asked to hand deliver the objection to BDC once prepared.
- iii. Planning Appeal APP/P1805/A/12/2182772 – Meadow Bank, Priory Road – Conversion of domestic garage to new dwelling  
The Clerk was asked to reiterate objections made to BDC to the Planning Inspectorate, incorporating comments made by BDC
- iv. The proposed Network Rail (Redditch Branch Enhancement) Order – Notice of Acceptance issued by Network Rail  
The Clerk was asked to respond to Network Rail that as the application was not applicable to Dodford and Grafton, the Parish Council was not in a position to pass comment.
- v. Any other planning issues – for information
  - a. A planning application has been received for a new boundary wall, fence and piers to the front of the property known as Sunnyside, Kidderminster Road. The Parish Clerk was asked to arrange a Parish Council planning committee meeting to discuss this application before 2 November 2012

## **6. Finance**

- i. Acceptance of the second quarter reconciliation was proposed by Cllr Dawson and seconded by Cllr Scott.
- ii. Items were considered for the 2012/13 budget and the Clerk was asked to write to the PCC to ascertain the grant they required to cover the increasing costs of producing the Parish Magazine. The Clerk brought to the Parish Council's attention that reserves are dropping because the Parish Council is committed to paying £1,768 per annum for the Public Works Loan Board loan but the precept is not being increased. The Parish Council agreed that they were happy for the reserves to drop to £7,500 and that this would be discussed again at the 2013/14 budget review.
- iii. Approval of the payments due for October set out in a schedule circulated by the Clerk were proposed by Cllr Churchill and seconded by Cllr Scott.

## **7. Correspondence received – for information**

Items of correspondence received since the last meeting was noted and the Clerk was asked to:

- i. write to BDC about their Localisation of Council Tax Support requesting that BDC make residents aware of the consultation period
- ii. enquire from Severn Trent as to what the essential water works in Woodland Road entail
- iii. to add WCC Minerals Local Plan First Stage Consultation to the November agenda
- iv. ask WCC to fill the yellow County Council grit bins and to advise the Parish Council when this will be taking place
- v. to respond to Bournheath Parish Clerk giving support to their suggestion of working together to form a joint approach to Severn Trent

***At this point in the meeting, Cllr Churchill left the room while the following item of correspondence was discussed***

Correspondence from the Dodford Society regarding the cleaning of the Commemorative Stone was discussed and Cllr Dawson offered to enquire about what materials to use to clean the Commemorative Stone and will report back at the November meeting – this item to be put on the agenda

***Cllr Churchill rejoined the meeting at this point***

**8. Councillors items**

Cllr Jennings reported on the state of the overgrown hedge and undergrowth in Priory Road and the Clerk was requested to ask the Lengthsman if he can improve this situation and also to report it to WCC as this is now becoming a safety hazard with pedestrians having to walk in the road.

**9. Councillor co-option**

This item to be carried forward to the November meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Signed.....Chairman