

DODFORD WITH GRAFTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Dodford with Grafton Parish Council held on Monday 29 October 2018 in Dodford Village Hall at 8.00pm

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

In attendance: Clerk Kay Stone and 16 members of the public

1. Apologies

County Cllr Shirley Webb, District Cllr Karen May and Cllr Scottie Sanderson gave their apologies, reasons for which were accepted.

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. Concern over incorrect placement of speed monitoring strips in Yarnold Lane and Warbage Lane.
- ii. Request for a survey of the lorries to be included.
- iii. A resident reported on a conversation with Richard Clewer of Worcestershire County Council (WCC) Highways that following the request from the resident and looking at the bends in Warbage Lane he had agreed to arrange for slow signs to be painted in Warbage Lane before and after the Priory Road junction and for a pedestrian crossing warning sign to be erected.
- iv. The Parish Council requested residents send the Clerk suggestions as to where they would like slow signs to be painted.

The meeting reconvened as follows:

4. Minutes of the Meeting held on 24 September 2018

Approval of the Minutes was proposed by Cllr Rea and seconded by Cllr Griffin, agreed by all and then signed by the Chairman as being a true record.

5. Reports

- i. The October report had been received from County Cllr Webb and was available at the meeting for members of the public.
- ii. No report received in advance of the meeting from District Cllr May.
- iii. The Clerk reported that
 - Two damaged road name signs in Victoria Road have been reported to BDC as they have been left in an unsafe condition regarding the metal posts sticking up. District Cllr May has confirmed she has requested these be replaced. If anyone knows of any other damaged signs please take a photo and send to the Clerk.
 - The eleventh edition of Arnold Baker on Local Council Administration is available at £110.99 (including delivery). Cllr Jennings proposed, and Cllr Shapiro seconded that the Clerk purchase the new edition for the Parish Council.

6. Planning

- i. 18/01222 – Dodford Inn – Internal alterations to create additional rooms in loft with new roof lights and extension to car park to form overflow parking
The Parish Council has no objection to the internal alterations to create additional rooms in the loft with new roof lights, if there is no increase in the height of the building or change of roof pitch. Should the District Council be minded to approve the application for the additional rooms in the loft, the Parish Council would recommend that the Velux windows are of a style suitable for the Conservation Area in which the Dodford Inn is situated. The Parish Council request more clarification that the proposed grass block overflow parking is the only additional overflow parking spaces to be used. It is noted that the proposal is for the overflow parking to be a level grass area in concrete grass blocks planted with amenity grass seeds and the Parish Council would request that Turfmesh Grass Protection System be used rather than concrete glass blocks to maintain the appearance of the field. The Parish Council has noticed that the extension to the car park is for an additional 40 vehicles, but the design submitted does not appear to support that equation and would ask to see a plan showing the car parking spaces. The Parish Council also question why the applicants are not proposing to use the area of hardstanding that already exists behind the cottages and attached to the current car parking before extending into the field. Should the District Council be minded to approve the application for the parking spaces as shown on the plan, then the Parish Council is minded to request that there is no additional lighting used which would affect wild life and neighbours adjoining the field.
- ii. Bromsgrove District Council (BDC) approved the planning applications at The Old Mill, Fockbury Road and The Priests House in Grafton Lane. BDC refused the application at Battlefield Cottage, Kidderminster Road and the application for the demolition of the Parkgate Inn has been withdrawn by the applicant.
- iii. The appeal against the enforcement notice at The Woodlands has been dismissed and the appeal for the land at Woodcote Lane has been allowed. The erection of a greenhouse at Sunday Hill is now a planning appeal under Householder Appeal Service.
- iv. The enforcement updates have been received from BDC and circulated to the Parish Council prior to the meeting.
- v. No other planning issues.

7. Highways and footpaths

- i. No update has been received from District Cllr May following the Parish Council's request that names should be redacted by WCC on people completing the Public Rights of Way Evidence Forms.
- ii. No more reports of broken stiles and footpath gates from residents
- iii. No applications have been received for the Tree Warden and Parish Path Warden vacancies and it was suggested that this could be of interest to students for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme although Cllr Lydon reported that the role needed training provided by WCC.
- iv. See items iii and iv from the adjournment at the start of the meeting with regards slow and pedestrian signs.
County Cllr Webb had advised the Parish Council that the speed monitoring meeting has been arranged for Monday 12 November from 10.30am to 11.30am at Catshill Methodist Church Hall café area, Golden Cross Lane, Catshill. There will be representatives from Safer Road Partnerships, Safer Neighbourhood Team, WCC Highways and Community Safety, District and Parish Councillors. Residents are welcome to attend.
There is to be a 30mph restriction around the school in Fockbury Road and Priory Road and residents will be consulted.
- v. County Cllr Webb has asked Richard Clewer of WCC Highways to have the footpath in Priory Road assessed for resurfacing and has requested that this is added to the advisory list which may be considered next financial year. Her division funds will not cover the cost of the resurfacing as this could cost between £30k and £40k.

- vi. County Cllr Webb reported at the road sign meeting between Bournheath Parish Council, WCC Highways, Dodford Parish Council and herself as follows:
The lorry/HGV directional signage through Bournheath is intended to direct such vehicles bound for and returning from businesses in Yarnold Lane to use a route that avoids Parish Hill and having to cross Doctors Hill via the blind junction formed by Parish Hill with Doctors Hill. There are two signs at the junction of Yarnold Lane with Doctors Hill each is conveying different advisory information. The lorry sign on Yarnold Lane is to direct those vehicles bound for those businesses. The Unsuitable for HGV sign is an advisory sign advising that Yarnold Lane is unsuitable for HGV's. Whilst the lane may be unsuitable it does not necessarily mean that HGV's with care cannot navigate it. In addition, regardless of what traffic regulation order we put in here we would be unable to prevent HGV's having legitimate access to these businesses.
The Clerk was instructed to ask County Cllr Webb and Richard Clewer if the gritting lorries are going to use the same route as the HGV signage.

8. Bromsgrove District Council Plan Review Issues and Options Consultation

Following the presentation on the Consultation by BDC prior to the meeting, a request for an extension to the consultation closing date was made to enable this to be discussed more in detail at the November meeting.

9. Social Media

Dodford Residents Facebook page will be monitored once a week by the Clerk and Social Media will become an agenda item. If an urgent response is needed it will be dealt with at the time if possible. The Parish Council do not maintain a Twitter account.

At this point Cllr Griffin left the meeting.

10. SmartWater Kits

The Clerk gave costings to the Parish Council and it was agreed that Mike Simpson from West Mercia Police should be invited to speak at the start of the November meeting to give more information. The Clerk to ask him if he will talk about safety when walking along roads.

11. Safety Campaign

Deferred to November meeting.

12. Phil Richardson Award

Deferred to November meeting.

13. Christmas Newsletter

Deferred to November meeting to include the outcome of the speed monitoring meeting on 12 November.

14. Finance

- i. The 2nd quarter reconciliation was presented by the Clerk and Cllr Sanderson had previously notified the Parish Council that the accounts were in order.
- ii. The October Financial Report:
Deposit account as at 28 September 2018 - £13,218.18
Current account as at 28 September 2018 - £76.76
Payments by bank transfer for October – Acceptance proposed by Cllr Jennings and seconded by Cllr Rea:
 - a. Clerk's salary - £355.45
 - b. Clerk's expenses - £85.08 (Use of telephone and internet line £5; storage £5; travel 14 miles @ 45p/mile £6.30 and Stationery – paper, staples and notebook £16.97 and black printer ink cartridges £51.81)

- c. HM Revenue and Customs - £88.80
- d. Lengthsman duties for September + petrol - £210.00
- e. SLLC Membership Fee for the Clerk - £100.00
- f. ALCC Membership Fee for the Clerk - £30.00

15. Correspondence received – for information

Correspondence received was noted and the Clerk was asked to put the request from a resident of developing a sense of community following on from the Local Plan Questionnaire last year on to next month's agenda.

16. Councillor Co-option

No applications have been received.

17. Councillors items

- i. Cllr Rea reported on the damaged road name signs.
- ii. Cllr Jennings queried if a security camera on a property where photos can be taken – should permission be sought.
- iii. The Clerk was instructed to ask the Lengthsman to give some attention to the footpath from Woodland Road (opposite Church Road junction) which goes down to the wood as it is greatly overgrown.

The meeting was closed at 9.34 pm

Signed.....Chairman