

Knightwick and Doddenham Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at 8pm on Monday 17th September 2012 in the Village Hall, Knightwick.

Present;

Mr S K Munday - Chairman

Ms M Horton, J Robbie

Messrs; F Budden, P Edwards, B Munt, A Warburton District (Cllr.) G M Brewin (Clerk).

Apologies: G Evans, D Kirkbright, D Hughes (District Cllr) C Smith (County Cllr.)

Visitors: None

Questions from members of the public: None

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence and members' declarations of interest.

The apologies from G Evans and D Kirkbright were accepted.

There were no declarations of interest in agenda items.

2. Confirm the minutes of the meeting on 16/07/2012, circulated in advance.

These had been circulated in advance, were agreed as a true record and signed by the chairman.

3. Reports; County Councillor, District Councillors, Parish Footpath's Warden.

In sending his apologies Cllr C Smith wrote: - I am awaiting a cataract operation and I'm wary of driving after dark so please submit my apologies to both meetings. As for the A44 layby I'm afraid that the legal officer handling the case is on sick leave and the whole thing is stalled but I will keep pressing them.

Cllr A Warburton briefed the meeting on the latest situation regarding the SWDP and the latest changes to it. Also the proposed revisions to the MHDC refuse collection service which was currently under review pending funding changes from central government.

In sending his apologies Mr Bernard Lee – Footpath Warden wrote: Thank you for the invitation, but I won't be able to make the meeting on Monday. Please ask people to contact me directly if they know of any footpath queries or problems.

4. Financial Matters;

a)Note 'Delegated Payment', Lengthsman - £798.00 inc vat - Noted

b)Approve payment, Clearing undergrowth from Village Hall - £75.00 inc vat - Agreed

c)Note the External Auditor's Report and approve audit fee payment, £144.00 inc vat – The external auditor had given an 'unqualified report'. It was noted and agreed

5. Planning Matters;

Respond to; Revised Application No 12/00886/HOU Heather Cottage, Ankerdine Hill, Knightwick. The council agreed it had no further comments on this application.

6. Clerk's Report & Correspondence

A44 Layby spoil heap,

From Tom Pollock Senior Solicitor WCC

I have spoken to Nick Twaite, Infrastructure Asset Manager, about this matter. As you know, the soil was deposited in the A44 layby at Knightwick following a landslip. Removing and disposing of the soil will be expensive and the Council has considered various means of doing so without cost to scarce public funds. Unfortunately, achieving this has not proved possible.

We are now actively looking at resolving this issue. Our preference will be to remove the spoil and make the layby available to road users once again. We shall work with our Term Maintenance Contractor to explore the most cost effective way of achieving this in good time. We are not currently looking to close the layby.

When an acceptable plan has been established we will let you know via Gerry Brienza. I anticipate we will be able to

confirm this within the next two weeks. The clerk was asked to query why the clearance cost was a matter of public funds and not the landowner.

Bus Shelter, The clerk had written to Hillend Sawmills -

Since my email of 13th July the damaged panels have received a further kicking! Parish Councillors have looked at this and consider the fill-in boards you installed are too light to withstand our local vandals so it is suggested that something of the order of 12mm marine ply across the full width supported top and bottom is required to survive further attacks. Would you please repair as appropriate. The council asked me to return your invoice (enclosed). Please resubmit when work is completed.

Lengthsman's Funds

The exceptionally bad weather throughout the past ten weeks had required substantial efforts by the Lengthsman and the WCC Highway's budget had been exceeded. He was seeking additional funding for the remaining half-year.

Village Hall maintenance.

Undergrowth cleared from around the hall and the go-ahead given to N Tudge.

7. Items for the next meeting

See clerk's report above.

8. Confirm the date of the next meeting:

19th November 2012 – Confirmed.

The meeting closed at 8:39pm.

Chairman...

19/11-2012