

Draft Minutes subject to acceptance at the next meeting.

DOULTING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE ZOOM PLATFORM ON TUESDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2020 COMMENCING AT 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Paula Fidge (Chairman), Jan Crewe, John Shepherd, Ros Wilkins, Ann Crowcombe, Sarah Goff; also in attendance Alan Butcher (Clerk). Cllr Francis Hayden (MDC) joined the during the meeting.

2007/1 - *Apologies for absence.* None.

2007/2 - *Declarations of Interest:*

None declared.

Voting procedures – The recording of votes was requested by the chairman.

2007/3 - *Public Forum:*

- i) Comments on planning applications. A representative of the applicant outlined details of the application 2020/1745/FUL – Manor Farm, Prestleigh. She explained that the proposal related to the diary facilities which were becoming redundant with the ending of milk production although the other farm activities would continue. Cllr Fidge noted that the consultee list was blank despite there being adjoining properties. This to be raised with Mendip DC.
- ii) Reports from District and County Councillors. See later items.
- iii) Report from the Police. None received.

2007/4 - *Confirmation of the Minutes of previous meetings:*

- i) Minutes of Meeting held on 8th September 2020 were agreed unanimously and signed as a true record.

2007/5 - *Parish Council Response to Planning Applications*

- i) Application 2020/1745/FUL – To convert traditional farm buildings into three dwellings including removals and additions at Manor Farm, Prestleigh Hill, Prestleigh (application as amended). Cllr Fidge was concerned about the loss of the diary facility but noted she would rather see the buildings used rather than fall into disrepair. Cllr Shepherd commented that the diary industry was no longer profitable for smaller operations. Cllr Crowcombe noted the narrow width of the access and that possibility of flooding. There were no other comments. It was proposed that the application be supported; in favour Cllrs Shepherd, Crewe, Crowcombe and Goff, against Cllrs Fidge and Wilkins. The apparent lack of consultation was noted, clerk to include comment in response to Mendip DC.
- ii) Application 2020/1887/HSE – Conversion of existing garage into extra living space for house at The Second Barn, Prestleigh Lane, Prestleigh. Cllr Fidge noted that the garage was opposite the dwelling in a raised position and that a letter of objection had been received. The development of the garage would overshadow an adjoining dwelling. All councillors commented on the small size of the proposed conversion and were concerned about the possible use. It was proposed that the council object

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to the application; Cllrs Fidge, Wilkins, Crowcombe, Goff and Crewe were in favour of objecting; Cllr Shepherd abstained. Comments to Mendip DC to include scale of proposed conversion, use, overlooking of adjoining property and lack of information with the application.

- iii) The following applications have been decided:
Application 2020/1455/CLE – Certificate of lawful existing development at Beard Hill Farm, Pylle – permitted. Noted by councillors.
Application 2020/1473/HSE – Proposed alterations to garden room at Green Quarry, Farrington Lane, Doultling – permitted. Noted by councillors.
- iv) Papers on the planning the future White paper and Mendip DC Briefing on 13th October – Parish Council response. Councillors had attended the Mendip DC presentation earlier in the evening and commented on the content. The deadline for responses is 29th October 2020. Mendip will be circulating the slides of the presentation, clerk to prepare response for circulation and agreement before the deadline.

2007/6 - Parish Council Matters.

- i) Highways and traffic – SCC
 - a) Improvements to the Old Wells/Frome Road and Beacon Hill Crossroads. The clerk had written to Somerset County Councillors involved expressing councillors concern but had not received any substantive reply.
 - b) Problems with a culvert at Waterlip Footpath matters . Cllr Crowcombe was progressing the matter with highways.
 - c) Signs for the churchyard – the signs and wording previously agreed were confirmed, the signs adjoining church property to be mounted on posts, the sign at the top of Church Lane to be fixed to the stone wall (permission obtained). Clerk to obtain quotations for the signs and posts.
 - d) Other highways matters. Cllr Crewe had been dealing with blocked gullies and drains which had not been maintained or cleared. She also noted some fly tipping.
- ii) Parish Paths Liaison Officer report. Cllr Crewe had completed another path survey. She had also positioned the footpath maps.
- iii) Multi use paths – Cllr Crewe reported on a meeting to discuss the linking of paths and green routes to provide green travel corridors, two proposals applied to Doultling, one to Evercreech and one to Wanstrow. Mendip had received funds for this initiative which was to be developed over the coming period.
- iv) Speedwatch – Cllr Fidge noted that the Prestleigh watch was on hold awaiting new volunteers. Cllr Crewe reported a number of recent watches and also attendance by the community policing unit. The clerk had been contacted about damage to a car by a passing lorry and it was noted that quarry lorries are still using Chelynch Road as a shortcut.

Cllr Hayden joined the meeting at this point.

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- v) Report on ash trees near The Well. Cllr Crewe had been in touch with Mendip DC and was awaiting confirmation of a site visit.
- vi) St Aldhelms open visits. This related to a banner which had been placed on the railings at Padfield Green advising open days on 23rd/24th October.
- vii) "One Somerset" – Proposed Local Government reorganisation consultation. It was understood that there had been a delay in the publication of the associated White Paper and that, as a result, there was likely to be a delay in moving forward with the proposed changes. Councillors to respond individually to both One Somerset and Stronger Somerset, Parish Council to comment on White Paper consultation when published.
- viii) Somerset Climate Emergency Community Fund 2020-21. Request from Somerset Wildlife Trust for support to access this fund. Councillors agreed unanimously to support Somerset Wildlife Trust.
- ix) SALC Climate event 24th October 2020. Cllr Crewe to attend.

2007/7 - Matters relating to The Glebeland:

- i) Works to remove ash trees. Mary Newman to meet with contractor to discuss the works on site. Some work in cutting back had been undertaken, works required in the skate park to cut back brambles, volunteers required, Cllr Crewe to put out request on Facebook page.

2007/8 - Matters relating to Padfield Green.

- l) Review of Annual Inspection Report. This had noted an action regarding one item of equipment. The clerk suggested that a long term budget should be considered for replacement of equipment. Cllr Wilkins to advise on costs of current proposals and matter to be discussed as part of the budget setting process.

2007/9 - Matters relating to Prestleigh, Bath and West Showground and Waterlip.

- i) Cllr Fidge outlined difficulties with the management of current roadworks, the lack of notification and the abrupt attitude to workers controlling access. A letter giving information about the proposed road closures had been wrongly addressed and not delivered to any household in Prestleigh. In short, she was disappointed by the seeming lack of communication or management of the roadworks.
- ii) Cllr Fidge noted that the Bath and West had ceased all activities.

2007/10 - Financial:

- i) Payment of Clerks Salary and expenses. £352.40. Agreed.
- ii) Payment of HMRC Quarter 2 Tax payment. £234.60. Agreed
- iii) Payment of SPFA Inspection invoice. £150.00. Agreed.
- iv) Payment for laminated maps from AS Print. £26.40. Agreed
- v) Payment of invoice for repairs to safety surface Redlynch Leisure. £780.00. Agreed
- vi) Annual Grant toward St Aldhelms Churchyard maintenance. £850.00. Agreed. Clerk advised that councillors should review the continuation of this grant during the budget review process.

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- vii) Quarterly Accounts to 30th September 2020. These had been circulated. The clerk advised that he will update the accounts and budget for the budget review process to take place during the November meeting.

2007/11 - Matters of Report

- i) Cllr Goff advised councillors of the current status of the village hall and the difficulties making the hall covid safe.
- ii) Cllr Crewe thanked all involved in the recent litter pick.
- iii) Cllrs Goff and Crowcombe had attended a meeting regarding traffic management and a further joint meeting was suggested.
- iv) Thanks were given to Cllrs Crewe and Goff for weeding and flower planting.
- v) Cllrs Fidge and Crowcombe to meet with landowner concerning the forthcoming warehouse application at Waterlip.
- vi) Mary Newman on behalf of BHWS advised on work to clear saplings from the barrows, she also thanked volunteers for the recent litter pick.
- vii) Cllr Hayden advised that consideration was being given to re-opening Bartletts Quarry at Holcome which could increase traffic using the Old Frome and Old Wells Roads.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

2007/12 - Date and Time of Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be a virtual meeting on 10th November 2020

Alan Butcher,
Parish Clerk,
21st October 2020
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