**Dodleston & District Parish Council**

 **Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council**

**Monday 7h January 2013 - 7.30pm Dodleston Village Hall**

### MINUTES

**Chairman** Mike Maughan

**Vice Chairman** Paul Buchanan

**Councillors** Chris Ward, John Blythin, Karen Tilston, Richard Ward

**Clerk** Anna Jones

**Also present:** Six members of the public and Jon Evans from Outpost Paintballing, Lower Kinnerton.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Cllr Mike Dix, Cllr Fiona Lewis, Cllr Sarah Parker

**Not present**

 Cllr Annette Hutt

1. **Procedural matters**
2. Declaration of interest

None.

1. To agree the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on the 5th November 2012.

**RESOLVED** –The Chairman signed as a correct record, the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on the 5th November 2012.

1. **Public Speaking Time**

 Dr Nuttall informed the meeting that Ashton Hayes Parish Council were successfully in obtaining funding

 for their parish field project, and asked councillors if they have sought advice from Ashton Hayes.

 Councillor Maughan confirmed that the field committee has spoken to Ashton Hayes Parish Council.

 Dr Nuttall also informed the meeting that Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWaC) were prompt in

 responding to the flooding outside the village hall on New Year’s Eve, which he reported on the Council’s

 website. A note will be included in the next edition of Local Life reminding residents that such issues can

 be reported on the CWaC website.

 Resident John Lloyd updated the meeting on flooding issues within the Parish. He has ascertained that

 Grosvenor Estates own the ditch on Common Lane and were due to clear it within the week. Balderton

 Brook has been dredged by farmers but is still full, therefore a resolution is ongoing.

 Mr Jon Evans from the Outpost Paintballing, Lower Kinnerton explained that planning permission, initially granted for eighteen months is due to be reviewed mid January. Storage containers were painted green and moved from a flood area in compliance with the conditions attached to the planning permission. Councillor Tilston expressed concerns over the speed that vehicles travel to and from the paintballing site. Mr Evans wants to ensure the safety of local residents and agreed to put signage on gates reminding customers to drive slowly, and include as part of the booking confirmation, at the briefing session and debrief.

 PC Beverley was not present at the meeting therefore the Clerk read out the monthly police

 report for the Dodleston beat on her behalf.

 Actions and matters arising from the ordinary meeting held on the 5th November 2012 were discussed and

 will be included as a standard agenda item in future meetings.

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| **Item** | **Action** | **Responsible** | **Update** |
| 3. Public speaking time – paintballing in Lower Kinnerton  | Contact Flintshire Council for clarity on length of planning application. | Karen Tilston | Discussed in public speaking time |
| 3. Public speaking time – flooding issues | Speak to Environment Agency regarding flooding issues in Lower Kinnerton. | Sarah Parker  | Cllr Parker not present to update |
| 3. Public speaking time – waste collection | Request that CWaC collect brown bins on Penfold Way. | Clerk | Completed |
| 1. Offer of £80,000 from Meadow Foods
 | Formally write to Meadow Foods asking for clarification on their position with regards to the £80,000 offer. | Clerk | Completed – see below\*  |
| 6. Offer from Alex Pickering of land at Parish Council field entrance | Formally write to Alec Pickering for confirmation that the offer of the land still stands and to clarify arrangements for the transfer. | Clerk | Letter written and ready to send |
| 13. Correspondence – invite to Remembrance Sunday service  | Respond to invite to the Remembrance Sunday service | Clerk | Completed |

\* Councillor Maughan read out the letter received from Meadow Foods which states *“we agreed to a contribution of £80,000 if and only if the Parish Council supported our application......we remain committed to our local community and have received a request to assist in the funding of a new storage building to the rear of the Village Hall. We have agreed to contribute £15,000*”.

1. **Field Update**

Councillor Buchanan referred to the minutes of the held on the 5th November 2012 when the field committee agreed to reflect on progress made to date/consider the proposed future development of the field and report back to the next meeting.

The field committee recommended to the Parish Council that they formally write to the community groups who have previously expressed and interest in being involved in the field development – DVF, Primary School, Cricket Club requesting details of:

* What development they would want to complete on the field – type of asset etc;
* How they intend to do it – sources of funding etc;
* Timescales for development;
* How they will sustain/maintain the asset, area developed

Giving community groups a deadline of the beginning of March 2013 to respond.

**RESOLVED –** All Councillors agreed with this approach. Councillor Buchanan will draft a letter for the field committee to approve prior to issuing to community groups.

1. **Phone box area development**

 Councillor Tilston has spoken to Philip Harrison who is advising on the development. He will find out who

 owns the pump station area and what permission would be required to develop the area.

1. **Planning Applications**

Councillor Buchanan talked through the planning applications received and decided since the last ordinary meeting. The Parish Council did not pass comment on any of the applications that have been decided nor applications 12/05250/DIS or 12/05249/DIS. The Parish Council has objected to application 12/05235/FUL - Change of use of land for the stationing of caravans for residential purposes for 7 Gypsy pitches, together with the formation of additional hard standing and ancillary utility/dayrooms at Caravan Park Rough Hill on the grounds that there is under provision of temporary caravan and touring pitches in the Borough, the application does not demonstrate exceptional circumstances, a review of gypsy and traveller pitches undertaken by CWaC found there is an over provision and there would be a negative impact on tourism. There have also been objections from companies operating from the Chester Business Park.

1. **Finance & Standard Procedures**
2. To approve income and expenditure since the last meeting.

**RESOLVED** – All income and expenditure since the last meeting was approved.

1. To note the 2012-13 financial forecast as at 30th December 2012.

**RESOLVED** - Councillors noted the 2012-13 financial forecast as at 30th December 2012 which includes funding that Councillor Mark Williams (CWaC) has agreed to fund from his member budget towards the Christmas tress and Christmas lights. Councillor Chris Ward will speak to Councillor Williams regarding the status of traffic signs that he also agreed to fund from his member budget. It was also agreed that the Parish Council would write to Meadow Foods requesting funding towards long term repairs of the parish council car park which is used by many community groups.

1. To agree the budget for the financial year 2013-2014

**RESOLVED –** Councillors agreed an expenditure budget for 2013-14 of £23,072 and an income budget of £17,415 (include and precept and CWaC council tax reduction scheme grant – see iv below) resulting in an agreed net budget of £5,657.

1. To agree the precept for the financial year 2013-2014.

Councillors noted that as a result of the localisation of support for council tax, the Parish tax base will be reduced. The financial impact of this 2013-14 tax base reduction will be removed through the payment of a grant from CWaC to all impacted local councils. Dodleston & District Parish Council will receive a new Council Tax Reduction scheme grant of £1,015 from CWaC. This should be used to reduce the amount of precept.

**RESOLVED –** The Parish Precept for 2013-14 will be £16,000. Cllr Buchanan proposed and all Councillors voted in favour.

1. **Correspondence**

None

1. **Date of next meeting**

 Monday, 11th March 2013