

Dodleston Parish Council
Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council
Monday 14 January 2019 - 7.00pm Dodleston Village Hall

MINUTES

Chairman Mike Maughan
Councillors Paul Buchanan, Mike Dix, Richard Kitchin, Roger Taylor, Mike Hall, Rachel Jones

Clerk Kate Lloyd

Also present: Seven members of the public
PCSO McKevitt

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Chris Ward
Cllr Rachel Jones (late arrival)
Cllr Mark Williams

2. Procedural matters

- i) Declaration of interests
There were no declarations of interest

- ii) To agree the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on 12 November 2018.
RESOLVED: The Chairman signed the minutes as a correct record of the Ordinary Parish Meeting held on 17 September 2018.

Prior to the minutes being post on the Parish website, Cllr Maughan advised Councillors that a point made by the Parish Council had been omitted. Two paragraphs were proposed and after amendments agreed by all Councillors. The revised minutes of the meeting were added to the website.

Actions from last Meeting

- 3i) Actions and matters arising from the meeting held on 12 November 2018 were discussed

Item	Action	Responsible	Update
8i Councillors' update Dog Kennels issue	To meet with Cllr Jones and the Lower Kinnerton resident to discuss the ongoing issues further	Cllr Maughan	O/S – Cllr Maughan and Cllr Jones to meet with resident to discuss a way forward
5 Public Speaking Time ii Footpaths	Issue with uneven pavements to be taken forward	Cllr Ward Cllr Williams	No update available due to absence of Cllr Ward and Cllr Williams
vii Pavilion Benches	Details of cost and specification of benches to be provided to the Women's' Institute.	Cllr Kitchin	Completed - Details forwarded to Cllr Jones. Cllr Kitchin to resend
vii) Hedges – Covenant of the Estate	To review covenant.	Cllr Kitchen	Completed – Refer to item 9
	Article to be included in the next edition of Local Life.	TBC	To be included in the Spring edition
	To be placed as an agenda item for the next meeting	The Clerk	Completed
	Draft letter to be provided to The Clerk to send to the resident in question	Cllr Kitchin / Cllr Maughan	Completed by email

	To check with CWAC	Cllr Maughan	
viii Penfold Way	Details of pathway and DVF field (photograph) to be sent and taken forward with CWAC	Lengths man / Cllr Dix	Completed
10. DVF Hall charges	Draft letter concerning increases in Hall charges for The Clerk to send to the DVF	Cllr Maughan	Not actioned
12. Lengths man Services	Details of kerbs to be dropped to be email to Cllr Ward	Lengthsman	Completed
15. Correspondence iv St Mary's request for financial support – Clock maintenance	Covering letter and cheque for £200 to be sent to St Mary's Church	The Clerk	Completed. A note of thanks was received from St Mary's Church. Refer to Correspondence item 17.
v. Roads	In the spring, farmers to be reminded to keep roads clear of mud	Cllr Hall	Cllr Hall advised a road was left in a terrible state and although outside of the Parish should be addressed. To be actioned in the Spring

4i Monthly Police Report

The PCSO McKeivitt apologised for not being able to attend the previous meeting. He reported that crime rates remain low with the main issues continuing to be speeding. An enforceable 30 mph speed restriction on Kinnerton Road has been withdrawn. PCSO McKeivitt explained that a code is required to enforce it and there are specific guidelines in place. A request to reinstate the enforcement has been submitted to Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWAC). Cllr Hall expressed concerns with speeding through the village in front of the school. PCSO McKeivitt advised that most complaints were regarding speeding along the main road. PCSO McKeivitt advised the issues with the speed gun had been resolved although there was limited availability to use it during the winter months. Cllr Taylor suggested traffic calming measures. Cllr Maughan advised this was a lengthy process which had been undertaken previous and had not qualified. Cllr Buchanan advised a review of past surveys showed this. Cllr Kitchin suggested that should the Wrexham Road changes impact then this could be reviewed again.

Cllr Maughan advised an issue had been brought to his attention and whilst only temporary was concerning. The house opposite the school is being developed and two cars are being parked on the kerb to allow a skip in the drive way. At school pick up time there are lots of vehicles, buses and children. Cllr Kitchin advised this was a Highway Code issue and not a traffic offence. He has undertaken a drawing of the area for the school, applying the Highway Code, detailing where cars are not allowed to park. This included at bus stops, opposite a junction, zigzags and anywhere near to a school. A member of the public commented that the pavement had been blocked causing pedestrians to walk on the road. PCSO will speak with the owners of the property.

5. Public Speaking Time

i. Dog Fouling

A resident raised concerns that the bin by the kissing gate outside the Parish field has been removed. Cllr Dix advised that the CWAC had removed this and was trialling a wheelie bin to reduce strain on drivers and increase capacity. Cllr Maughan stated the bin which had been removed had been purchased by the Parish Council and wanted it to be returned. **ACTION:** Cllr Dix to contact CWAC to request the return and reinstalment of the bin.

ii. Kerbs

A resident asked for an update on dropped kerbs, Councillor Maughan advised that in Cllr Ward's absence, there was no further update.

iii. Village Pump

A resident advised the village water pump had been refurbished and is ready to be placed in situ. The resident asked whether the “Have a go Archery” event would form part of the village day or be a separate event. Cllr Maughan this will be discussed under item 11.

iiii) Litter Picking Day

A resident advised a litter picking day. Cllr Maughan advised this would be placed on the Parish website.

v. Street Lighting

A resident advised the issue with street lighting between the Lion and Church. There are two telegraph poles with no lighting. Cllr Maughan advised that residents living in homes by the poles may need to be consulted.

6. Field Update

i. Update

Cllr Maughan provided an update and advised the Parish Council had received £739 from Cllr Williams members’ award fund. This had used to purchase goal posts and a pitch line marker to mark out the cricket pitch, school athletics etc. Cllr Maughan asked the Lengthsman if he would undertake this role. The Lengthsman agreed to take this over once it has been marked out by a professional.

Cllr Maughan has ordered further dog fouling waste bags (8000) detailing the numbers which had been purchased over the past year. Dog Fouling has not been too bad and will continue to be monitored. Signs detailing a private field and single path PROW and a contact number are required to be located at the vehicle and kissing gate access. **RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed to fund the purchase of these signs.

Cllr Maughan advised two large trees need some attention. One which is dead is to be felled and an Oak to be cut back. **ACTION:** Cllr Maughan and Cllr Dix to undertake this.

Parkletics will undertake a number of projects for the field outdoor and wheel Park, footpath and pond work. A funding solution is for one main grant to fund everything with a possible contribution from Meadow Foods.

The Parish Council spends £4- 5 k on a contractor to mow the pitches. An aspiration of the Parish Council is to have its own equipment to undertake this with a possible loan from Meadow Foods.

The Woodlands Tree area has grown with several tree planting events being held. There is a suggestion for a natural regional orchard and someone has contacted the Woodland Trust with a view to keeping bees nearby. Cllr Maughan suggested the strip of land which had been donated, running parallel to the vehicle access could be considered for the bees. There are plenty of ideas to consider. Cllr Dix will contact a resident who has knowledge on ponds. **ACTION:** Councillor Dix to contact the resident concerning the pond.

7. Parish Councillor Vacancy

No further update.

8 i Councillors’ Updates

Completed through actions – refer to item 3.

9. Open Aspects – Covenant

The resident who raised the issue thanked the Parish Council for replying to him and agreeing the open aspect is an integral part of the appeal of the estate. The resident had taken legal advice and whilst the covenant is enforceable the issue is by whom. Cllr Dix advised he had taken informal legal advice and the beneficiary of a covenant is normally the previous land owner / Developer. In this instance, the Developer is no longer in existence, in which case the benefit of the covenant most likely rests with the neighbours. The Parish Council has a general interest in amenities and may be a beneficiary. However, this was unlikely but the Parish Council could seek formal legal advice which it was not inclined to do.

Cllr Dix had obtained a copy of the original planning brief for the Penfold Way development from 1971. Whilst not prescriptive, it provides details of the sort of aspects which were expected to be in place once the development was completed. From illustrations, the intention was to have open frontages on properties with low fences and occasional clump planting of shrubs. The next phase is to identify whether or not there are any specific planning conditions to protect the open frontages which may have been imposed. **ACTION:** Cllr Dix to undertake further research.

10. Defibrillators

Councillor Maughan advised defibrillators were now located at the Shop, School, Pavilion and shortly in the Village Hall. Mrs Griffiths donated the defibrillator for the Village Hall with Dodleston Village Foundation providing a cabinet. Claire Lockerbie raised significant funds for a defibrillator and cabinet. A note of thank to Phil Macready who installed / electrics free of charge. **ACTION:** Article in Local Life.

A grant from The British Heart Foundation included the kit. Cllr Dix suggested a number of open training sessions could be undertaken in the coming months with various groups being involved. Each kit also talks a user through the process. Cllr Buchanan suggested an article for Local Life to advise people not to be afraid of using the defibrillator in an emergency. **ACTION:** Cllr Dix to talk with Claire Lockerbie, a qualified first aider about training sessions to coincide with the next edition of Local Life. **RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed for a bouquet of flowers to the value of £30 for Claire Lockerbie as a thank you for her funding raising efforts.

11. Village Fete

Cllr Maughan advised that the Village Day did not take place last year. The Parish Council has the intention to hold a Village Fete. Cllr Taylor advised the Dodleston Village Foundation (DVF) would like to share the organisation / running of the day and build bridges with the Parish Council. Cllr Maughan advised he had no inclination to do so. Cllr Buchanan advised there was a history over the past ten years where the DVF had delegated this to a third party to undertake.

Previously, local groups had their own stalls with the Parish Council running the bar. The Pre School could do whatever it wished and keep the funds raised. Cllr Buchanan stated that the person who organised the event the year before last was disappointed with the publicity and was not sure which charities monies had been given to.

Cllr Maughan stated people who wished to have a fete would organise the event.

It was suggested that the DVF hold a Village Day with the Parish Council holding a Village Fete. **ACTION:** Cllr Taylor to report back to the DVF on 9 February and email Councillors with the outcome.

A resident stated the signage on the DVF Field stated “no exercise of Dogs and “in the event of an emergency – the telephone box at the end of the road” which is no longer in situ.

12. Never4get Event

Cllr Buchanan advised Councillors that this year was the 30th Anniversary of the Hillsborough Disaster. Four brothers from the village attended the event with only two brothers returning. In memory of this, a Five a Side Football event will be held. The date has been set as 13/14 April. A Junior 5 a side competition (under 14) organised by Waverton FC will be played on Saturday and a Senior competition on Sunday 9 (veterans and younger teams). Each game will have a sponsor to raise funds and these will be shared between the Liverpool Football Trust Foundation and Zoë’s Place, a Children’s Hospice. On Sunday evening there will be a marquee with a band and bar.

Cllr Maughan requested the Parish Council be a sponsor for the event and allow funds to be accounting for through the Parish Council bank account. **RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed to hold the event.

Ex Liverpool football players may attend with the Chairman of the Hillsborough support group attending on one of the days. Cllr Maughan has been contacted on several occasions by the Police, Operation Resolve, to ensure the Parish Council is not undertaking anything which may prejudice the case.

13. Local Life

Articles for the next edition of Local Life will include: Meadows Food (Pamela Harrison) to promote the planting day, Claire Lockerbie on defibrillators and its operation, Promote the Never Forget event, The Village Pump and all other normal features. A thank you for the donation of the Church Christmas Tree. All articles to be submitted by 22 February.

14. Lengthsman Services

i. Renewal Insurance

The Lengthsman advised the Third Party insurance had been renewed with a minimal increase on last year’s premium.

Cllr Dix advised he had reported the pot hole in St Marys’ Road. The Lengthsman commented on the pot hole on the entrance to St Mary’s Road. Cllr Maughan advised this was actually a sunken drain which is to be reported to CWAC.

15. Planning Applications

i. Councillor Kitchin provided an update all the Planning Applications.

Corner Cottage

There has been a history of applications with a number being refused on the grounds of being in a greenbelt / conservation area, no access on Kinnerton Road / being on a junction. The proposed single store extension is in excess of 50 % and outside of normal guidelines, the layout of the curtilage will severely invade next doors property (Meadow Cottage). The Parish Council submitted an objection on the grounds of; the scale of the proposal, issue with greenbelt, side and front already been extended, greater than 50%, entrance / parking provision issues and impact of the village shop.

A response from the applicant stated they had not been approached by the Parish Council and were disappointed... A Freedom of information (FOI) has been submitted requesting details of all planning applications received by the Parish Council in the past 18 years,, those objected to and the reasons. Cllr Maughan advised the Parish Council did not retain this information which was available through CWAC Planning Portal.

ii. Wrexham Road Development

Cllr Kitchin advised he had not received notice of approval. The latest amendment was received on 21 December 2018. An invitation was extended to attend a Public meeting held on 8 January 2019 but no Councillor was available. Cllr Kitchin's stated that he understands this has been approved.

The latest update from Highways England has recommended conditions, with work on approaches and roundabouts. With regard to the school situation, funding will be given to the Lache to support the temporary increase in pupils until the new school is built.

iii. Dodleston Hall Farm

An application has been received for an Anaerobic Digester. This will create renewable electricity/ hot water from the farm using the slurry. This will reduce the carbon footprint and reduce odour, which is seen as a positive benefit. The Parish Council has no issue with this.

16. Finance

i) To approve income and expenditure since 5 November 2018.

RESOLVED: Councillors approved all income and expenditure from 5 November to 6 January 2019.

ii) To agree forecasted outturn for 2018/19

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed the forecasted outturn for 2018/19

iii) To agree and approve the budget for 2019/20

Councillors considered the budget for 2019/20 making various adjustments. **RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed the budget for 2019/20

iv) To agree the Parish Precept for 2019/20

RESOLVED: Councillors set the Parish Precept for 2019/20 at £20,147 maintaining the same Band D precept charge as 2018/19. **ACTION:** Clerk to complete Parish Precept return for 2019/20 and forward to CWAC.

17. Correspondence

i. St Mary's Church

The Clerk advised Councillors St Mary's Church had sent a letter thanking the Parish Council for the donation towards the cost of the maintenance of the Church clock.

ii. Emails from Rob Nannes - Rubbish at Rough Hill

The Clerk advised Councillors emails had been received from Rob Nannes who asked for a significant number of bags of rubbish he had collected to be removed by the Council. The Clerk asked the Parish Council to send a note of thanks to Rob Nannes for his efforts in keeping the surrounding area clear. **ACTION:** Cllr Buchanan to contact Rob Nannes on behalf of the Parish Council to thank him for his efforts.