**Dodleston & District Parish Council**

 **Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council**

**Monday 5th November 2012 - 7.30pm Dodleston Village Hall**

### MINUTES

**Chairman** Mike Maughan

**Vice Chairman** Paul Buchanan

**Councillors** Chris Ward, John Blythin, Karen Tilston, Richard Ward, Sarah Parker, Fiona Lewis

**Clerk** Anna Jones

**Also present:** Seven members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Cllr Mike Dix

**Not present**

 Cllr Annette Hutt

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

Cllr Maughan declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 10.

1. To agree the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on the 10th September 2012.

**RESOLVED** –The Chairman signed as a correct record, the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on the 10th September 2012.

1. **Public Speaking Time**

 PC Beverley read out the monthly police report for the Dodleston beat. PC Beverley informed the meeting

 that no incidents have been reported from the Dodleston Firework event held on Saturday 3rd November.

 Resident Liz Shanklin thanked the Parish Council, Freestyle Fireworks and volunteers for putting on an

 excellent firework display.

 A resident of Lower Kinnerton asked for clarification as to whether the planning permission granted to the

 paintballing site based in Lower Kinnerton was temporary and if so, for what length of time. The site is

 within Flintshire County Council’s boundary; Councillor Tilston will contact Flintshire County Council for

 some clarity.

 Resident John Lloyd asked for an update on the flooding issues. Councillor Parker is in contact with the

 Environment Agency regarding the works being carried out on the Balderton Brook/River Dee junction as

this is impacting the flooding issues identified. Councillor Parker will feedback on the outcome of discussions with the Environment Agency. The Parish Council reiterated that is has no authority to enforce the clearing of ditches and the Environment Agency is prioritising the dredging of waterways in urban areas. It was agreed to bring forward the recent flooding in Lower Kinnerton agenda item due to be discussed at item 8. Councillor Parker clarified that the Environment Agency can grant owners consent to clear ditches. When speaking to the Environment Agency, Councillor Parker will request that they visit Lower Kinnerton and advise landowners on what they need to do to clear ditches.

 Resident Bernard Dennis stated that Cheshire West & Chester Council (CWaC) has not collected many of the superfluous brown bins on Penfold Way estate. The Clerk will follow this up with CWaC and feedback to Mr Dennis.

 Dr Nuttall thanked the Parish Council for organising the skip morning held on 13th October. The morning was advertised in Local Life however some homes did not receive a copy. Clerk explained that the morning was advertised in the village shop and on notice boards throughout the Parish. Dr Nuttall stated he felt the morning didn’t appear to be as well organised as previous skip days as there were no attendants to help residents unload rubbish from vehicles into the skips. Councillor Maughan explained that in previous years, CWaC provided staff to assist on the day but due to changes in waste collection services, CWaC can no longer provide assistance. Councillor Lewis thanked resident Louise Womack for the use of her skip to dispose of rubbish that could not fit into the skip.

 Resident June Bagot requested to speak regarding the Parish Council field development - to be discussed in item 4.

 Councillor Parker left the meeting.

1. **Field Update**

Councillor Buchanan briefed the meeting on progress with the field development since it was bought, including consultations that have taken place with residents to date. The Dodleston Village Foundation (DVF) had expressed an interest in working with the Parish Council to build a joint village hall/pavilion. Under the DVF’s constitution, to approve the sale of the existing village hall, a public meeting would need to be held where 75% of those in attendance vote in favour of the sale of the hall. At the last DVF meeting, the constitution was revised to reduce the percentage to 55%. The DVF and field committee have not met since the constitution was amended.

Resident June Bagot raised concerns around the cost of maintaining anything built on the field and potential vandalism of property however she supports the purchase of the field and stated that the field is a good asset for the community and is widely used. Councillor Buchanan stated that the field committee would reflect on progress made to date/consider the proposed future development of the field and will report back to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

1. **Offer of £80,000 from Meadow Foods**

During discussions the Parish Council had with Meadow Foods regarding their recent planning

application (12/02472/FUL), which the Parish Council formally objected to (on the grounds set out in the minutes of its meeting held on 2nd July 2012), Meadow Foods offered a contribution of £80,000 to the Parish Council to support parish activities, in mitigation for any negative impact the current and previously approved planning applications would have on residents of the Parish. CWaC has approved planning application 12/02472/FUL. Meadow Foods have not approached the Parish Council since regarding their offer of £80,000.

**RESOLVED – Clerk to formally write to Meadow Foods asking for clarification on their**

**position with regards to the £80,000 offer.**

1. **Offer from Alex Pickering of land at Parish Council field entrance**

 Alec Pickering has offered to pass ownership of a small strip of land at the entrance of the Parish Council

field to the Parish Council. The cost to the Council would be the legal fees incurred in transferring ownership.

**RESOLVED – Clerk to formally write to Alec Pickering for confirmation that the offer of the land still stands and to clarify arrangements for the transfer.**

1. **DVF and Parish Council joint hall planning progress**

 Discussed during item 4.

1. **Recent flooding in Lower Kinnerton/local flooding issues**

 Discussed during public speaking time.

1. **Phone box area development**

 There has been no further progress since the last ordinary meeting. Councillor Tilston will get an

 update from the landscape architect and report back to the next meeting.

1. **Fireworks Event**

Councillor Buchanan thanked resident Liz Shanklin for her kind words. The event raised approx £6,000 towards the community fund. Councillor Buchanan thanked all the volunteers who helped; it was good to see some new faces. There are a number of learning points from the night. The firework committee will undertake a thorough debrief to ensure lessons are learnt and to improve any future events.

1. **Planning Applications**

Councillor Buchanan talked through the planning applications received and decided since the last ordinary meeting. The Parish Council fully supported application 12/03347/FUL however it has been refused by CWaC’s planning committee. The Parish Council was objected to application 10/04008/FUL however it has been approved by CWaC’s planning committee.

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. It was agreed that the next issue of Local Life, due to be published in December, must be proof read and approved by the Parish Council prior to printing. Councillor Buchanan will proof read on behalf of the Parish Council.

1. To note the 2012-13 financial forecast as at 29th October 2012.

**RESOLVED** - Councillors noted the 2012-13 financial forecast as at 29th October 2012.

1. **Correspondence**

Parish Councillors have been formally invited to the Remembrance Sunday service being held at St Mary’s Church. Councillor Chris Ward will be attending the service in an individual capacity.

**RESOLVED –** Clerk to respond to stating that Councillor Chris Ward will be attending the service in an individual capacity .The Parish Council also agreed to make a donation of £100 each to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and Help for Heroes from its Community Fund.

1. **2013 Meeting Dates**

Monday 7th January 7.30pm
Monday 11th March 7.30pm
Monday 13th May (AGM) 7.00pm
Monday 8th July 7.30pm
Monday 9th September 7.30pm
Monday 4th November 7.30pm

 All meetings will be held in Dodleston Village Hall.