

Dodleston Parish Council
Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council
Monday 8 January 2018 - 7.30pm Dodleston Village Hall

MINUTES

Chairman Mike Maughan
Councillors Paul Buchanan, Roger Taylor, James Clarke, Rachel Jones, Mark Williams
 Richard Kitchin, Chris Ward, Mike Hall

Clerk Kate Lloyd

Also present: Four members of the public

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Mike Dix

2. Procedural matters

- i) Declaration of interests
There were no declarations of interest
- ii) To agree the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 13 November 2017. An amendment was made to item 16 Christmas Trees. **RESOLVED:** The Chairman signed the minutes as a correct record of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 13 November 2017.

3. Actions from last Meeting

- i) Actions and matters arising from the meeting held on 13 November 2017 were discussed

Item	Action	Responsible	Update
Public Speaking Time 5i Dropped Kerbs	To take forward with Cheshire West Council (CWAC).	Cllr Williams and Cllr Chris Ward	Cllr Chris Ward confirmed apologies have been received from CWAC for the delay with installing dropped kerbs. The first ones will be completed in the next couple of weeks (opposite the Church and junction of Mallory Walk). Cllr Clarke will approach the resident on the overgrown hedgerow on Church Road requesting this is trimmed back. ACTION: Cllr Clarke to approach resident.
5iv Water Pump	To approach resident on overgrown hedgerow in Church Road	Cllr Clarke	
	To contact the resident of the water pump to ask if this can be relocated with the history board.	Cllr Jones	Still on going
7. Councillors Update	To establish with CWAC the criteria for the gate to be a necessity and to gain a proper price.	Cllr Jones	Cllr Jones spoke with CWAC. Unless the gate is a necessity, it would have to be funded by the Parish Council (£50 plus fitting). ACTION: Cllr Jones to establish with CWAC the criteria for the gate to be a necessity and to gain a proper price.

8. Community Defibrillators	To provide an update on work in progress	Cllr Clarke	This has not been progressed. Cllr Clarke to contact a charity who facilitates in providing defibrillators.
	To forward details to Cllr Clarke about the person who raises funds for defibrillators	Cllr Maughan	Completed
12. Finance			
iv) Statements	To revise format of finance statements for review by Councillors at the next meeting	Cllr Hall	Refer to item 7 Councillors' update
v) Adverts	To forward details of advertisers to The Clerk	Cllr Taylor	Completed
	To raise invoices for adverts in Local Life	The Clerk	Completed

4i Monthly Police Report

Cllr Maughan advised that PC Paul Downey has been confirmed as the new PC for Dodleston and is also covering Huntington, Pulford and Eccleston area. The Police wish to be closer to the community and is looking for a suitable base to hold open surgeries. The community mainly use the Church Hall, Village shop and The Pavilion. Councillors considered The Pavilion as a useful base. A sign would be needed on the Kissing Gate and a notice in Local Life and website to advertise open surgeries. Cllr Hall was concerned about the path in winter being too dark and Cllr Maughan suggested extra lighting. It was agreed there would have to be a coordinated approach to take account of other users. Councillors had no objection for The Pavilion to be used for open surgeries.

There was no record of any incidents or crimes.

5. Public Speaking Time

i. Dropped Kerbs

A resident raised ongoing concerns with the lack of dropped kerbs and the slow progress with kerbs being replaced. The resident is particularly concerned with a step at Church Croft corner / gate opening on to the field. There was discussion on this and Cllr Ward confirmed there will be a site visit with CWAC.

ii. Newsletter

Residents have raised issues with the number of newsletters and have suggested four editions a year. Cllr Maughan advised that the newsletter was costly to produce hence the restriction on the number of editions.

iii. Village Traffic

A resident raised concerns with the increased number, size and speed of vehicles travelling through the village. The 20 mph speed restriction has been welcomed although it is not in the right area. Cllr Maughan advised this restriction extended to Penfold Way. The Scheme is legal with average speed of traffic measured at 24mph. There was a suggestion of traffic calming measures (speed bumps). However, the 20 mph restriction has just been introduced having been through a lengthy process.

iv Footpaths / Hedgerows

A resident raised concerns with footpaths not being in a good state of repair and hedgerows being overgrown. Cllr Maughan advised that several residents have been approached with a view to trimming back overgrown hedgerows. Cllr Buchanan advised there is a process and that concerns can be reported to CWAC. Notices are issued and residents have a set time in which to address this. Cllr Hall suggested the need for a consistent approach to this. The Parish Council does not have authority to trim hedgerows and is a matter for Highways.

6. Field Update

i. Update

Councillor Maughan provided an update and advised the field in not fully utilised. When the field is dry, lines will be marked out for cricket. The Tree planting event was a success and there are discussions with the Pre School on fundraising for the development of the pond. The Pavilion will be used for open surgeries by PCSO. There has been damage to the pavilion roof caused by strong winds. Also, there has been fly tipping at the entrance to the gate of the field. The Council will not collect rubbish bins located outside The Pavilion.

Cllr Maughan asked for volunteers on a fortnightly basis, to place donated grey bins outside Penfold Way on Wednesday evening ready for emptying. **ACTION:** Cllr Williams to take this issue forward with CWAC.

7. i **Councillors' Update**

Cllr Hall provided modified draft statements for review. There was a lengthy discussion by Councillors.

RESOLVED Councillors agreed for the revised statements to be published in Local Life / Parish website.

Cllr Ward advised that broken street lights reported to CWAC have been repaired. Roads covered in mud have also been cleared. Cllr Ward advised on icy mornings he had undertaken grit spreading in Church Croft and Egerton Walk.

Cllr Taylor advised there have been a number of new advertisers for Local Life. This is a strong feeling by residents in the village as to the timing of Local Life publication; Easter, End of Summer and the end of October to publicise the bonfire event. Cllr Maughan advised the newsletter is expensive to produce. Councillors will review the number of editions should advertising income increase. There will be three editions this year.

The Website and face book addresses are to be included in the next edition of Local Life.

Cllr Clarke advised he had spoken to a resident concerning hedge trimming. He has also considered a consistent approach moving forward on this issue.

8. **Community Defibrillators**

Cllr Clarke advised there had been no further progress on this.

9. **Local Life**

Refer to item 7i

10. **Lengths man Services**

i. Update

Councillor Maughan provided an update and advised the life buoy required a new post.

ii. Insurance Renewal

The Clerk advised the Lengths man Insurance is due for renewal in January 2018. An email has been sent to the Lengths man to obtain three quotes for consideration.

11. **Planning Applications**

Councillor Kitchin provided an update on Planning Applications. Two new planning applications for Wrexham Road have been submitted. These plans include a school and shops / restaurants. The notifications for these were received three days before Christmas with comments to be received by 16 January 2018. Cllr Kitchin contacted The Planning Officer, Paul Firston requesting further time to allow the Parish Council to review the substantial documentation and comment. The Parish Council requires more detailed road plans as this is a key issue. Cllr Buchanan expressed concerns on the impact the development will have upon Wrexham Road which would increase the traffic through Dodleston village. A resident asked about the impact on the School. Cllr Kitchin advised there is process and with an increase in housing this would increase the need for a school. .

12. **Finance**

i) To approve income and expenditure since 1 November 2017

RESOLVED: Councillors approved all income and expenditure since 1 November 2018

ii) To agree forecasted outturn for 2017/18

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed the forecasted outturn for 2017/18

iii) To agree and approve the budget for 2018/19

Councillors considered the budget for 2018/19 making various adjustments. **RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed the budget for 2018/19

iv) To agree the Parish Precept for 2018/19

RESOLVED: Councillors set the Parish Precept for 2018/19 at £19,944 maintaining the same Band D precept charge as 2017/18. **ACTION:** Clerk to complete Parish Precept return for 2018/19 and forward to CWAC,

13. **Community Bus**

The existing contract with Arriva ends on 31 March 2018. The Parish Council may contact Higher Kinnerton on sharing a Community bus,

14. **Electoral Review**

The outcome of the Boundary Review is due to be published on 16 January 2018.

15. Public Consultation

The Clerk advised Councillors to the consultation of the Local Plan (Part 2) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies which is taking place from 11 December 2017 to 29 January 2018.

16. Footpaths / Closures

Cllr Maughan advised he had received an email from Network Rail on the intention to change Public Rights of Way in Dodleston and Pulford areas. He confirmed footpaths have been closed for 4- 5 years. Cllr Maughan read through the email from Mike Smith of Network Rail which stated discussions had been held with various stakeholders including land owners, walking groups, Footpath Societies and Local / Parish Councils. Cllr Maughan shared plans showing the paths being considered for closure along A483 and the path to be reinstated around the Parish field. The pathway around the field will have to be properly laid and would be of a benefit to the Parish Council. Network rail wishes to secure agreement with stakeholders to obtain support for the proposal at the right cost.

17. Correspondence

i) Letter of thanks from St Mary's Church

Cllr Maughan advised he had received a letter of thanks from St Mary's Church for the donation of £200 towards the annual maintenance of the clock. Future invoices from Smiths of Derby will be sent directly to the Church.

ii) History Board

Documentation sent by the brewery including a contract is currently with Bernard Dennis. The Parish Council paid for the planning application for the History Board to be situated inside the grounds of the Red Lion Pub. The constitution for the History Group needs to be checked. Councillor Buchanan advised the name on the contract could be changed to The Parish Council. However, The Parish Council will not take ownership of or be responsible for the maintenance of the History Board.

iii) Community Funding - Swaziland

Cllr Maughan advised a letter from Gina Parker had been received seeking funding from the Parish Council towards an expedition to Swaziland. Councillors considered this request and agreed a donation of £250 toward this on condition an article is provided for local Life and a presentation given to the Women's Institute. **ACTION:** Clerk to send cheque for £250 together with a letter setting out conditions of the Parish Council donation towards the expedition to Swaziland.