

Dodleston Parish Council
Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council
Monday 13 January 2020 - 7.00pm Dodleston Village Hall

MINUTES

Chairman Mike Maughan
Councillors Paul Buchanan, Rachel Jones, Richard Kitchin, Carl Willis, Chris Ward, Roger Taylor

Clerk Kate Lloyd

Also present: Five members of the public

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Mike Dix (Work commitments)
 Cllr Welna Bowden (Work commitments)
 Cllr Mark Williams

2. Procedural matters

- i) Declaration of interests
 Cllr Maughan, Cllr Buchanan and Cllr Jones declared interests in all planning matters.
- ii) To agree the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 11 November 2019. Amendments were made to items, 3, 7 and 8 and the spelling of Cllr Bowden. **RESOLVED:** The Chairman signed the minutes as a correct record of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 11 November 2019.

3. ii) Actions from last Meeting

Actions and matters arising from the meeting held on 11 November 2019 were discussed as part of item 13 Councillors' updates

Item	Action	Responsible	Update
Previous meeting: 5 ii Public Speaking Time	Formal written response to CWAC on pavements / kerbs.	Cllr Chris Ward	Improvements have been made to the pavement outside Church Cottage. Highways (Network stewards) have been to access pavements and defects noted. Cllr Ward has submitted a formal request of details.
Kissing Gate	To speak with Cllr Dix concerning white T Bar for Penfold Way.	Cllr Chris Ward	A drive way keeps being blocked opposite the Sunken Pathway. ACTION: Cllr Ward to place signage up detailing it is an offence to park near dropped kerbs. Completed

12. Community Right to Buy Bid	To contact The Clerk at Huntington Parish Council concerning the process	Cllr Maughan	Cllr Maughan advised that Huntington PC had submitted a BID application for The Rake and Pike and Meadow. The brewery had objected to both. However, The PC had been successful on the pub. Cllr Maughan is struggling with the BID application as you must be able to demonstrate it is a community asset.
13. Lower Kinnerton Issues	Community engagement with Lower Kinnerton to be determined.	The Parish Council	O/S
November 2019 meeting 4. Village Police Report	PCSO McKeivitt to be invited to the next Parish Council meeting to address this issue. Parish Council to write to Superintendent for Dodleston area	The Clerk The Parish Council	Completed
5ii Public Speaking Time Pathways	Parish Council to meet / communicate with CwAC. List of issues	The Parish Council	O/S
7. Parish Councillors Updates	To write to farmers reminding them of their responsibilities relating to the clearing of roads each day	Cllr Jones	Completed – Also refer to Councillors update
12. Santander – PC Bankers	To contact Santander to discuss changing banking arrangements / process for the Parish Council.	The Clerk	Refer to item 12

4. Village Police Report

Cllr Maughan read through the latest Village Police Report detailing a list of offences. None emergency incidents should be reported on 1010 or via the website. A number of monthly surgeries will be held in February by request.

Damage to sockets for the Christmas Trees should have been reported. The Lenghtsman stated that he reported this via 101.

5. Public Speaking Time

i. Field Bin

A resident stated that the bin located outside the Parish field had not yet been returned by CWAC and asked for Cllr Dix to be reminded.

ii. Church Croft

A resident thanked the Parish Council of the Pensions Christmas lunch. Cllr Maughan also gave thanks. Cllr Jones stated the next time invitations would be targeted especially in Lower Kinnerton and that transport would be made available.

iii. Pavements

A resident commented that the tarmacing and dropped kerbs were helpful. However, the pavements from the Church to the shop are dangerous and require tarmacing, particularly with protruding electricity and gas boxes. Cllr Ward commented there were no plans by CWAC to tarmac this area. **ACTION:** Cllr Ward to establish with CWAC what works is included in their schedule

A resident commented that the gutters had not been cleared for some time and that rainwater was not draining away.

The car park by the gateway has also been blocked by a blue and white car and the obstruction was causing scooter users to access on the road. **ACTION:** Cllr Jones to email pre-school nursery to check the owner of the vehicle and reminder them to keep the gateway clear for wheelchair / scooter users.

6. Field Update

Update

Cllr Maughan provided an update stating the outdoor gym equipment will be installed in December 2019. There will be a formal launch in the spring. The perimeter path has been scheduled but cannot be undertaken until the weather improves. There was planting in the Orchard in October.

7. Parish Councillors Updates

Cllr Bowen advised meeting had been held with CWaC concerning the issues with the bus service. This included summary results of the bus service, requesting long bus service/ improvements of the services – Sunday and evening, cycle racks in Pulford Church, High costs of taxis. Another meeting with CWaC had been delayed due to Purdah but went ahead on 17 December 2019.

Cllr Bowden also mentioned that fly tipping was becoming more frequent and there has been bulb planting along Penfold Way and Church Road.

Cllr Willis advised he would be leading on VE Day / Village Day. The question was raised about a Carnival Queen, which had not been a place for a significant number of years. **ACTION:** Cllr Taylor to take forward at the next Governors meeting.

Cllr Ward advised he had spoken with Highways concerning the issues of speeding along Moor Lane in Lower Kinnerton.

Cllr Jones that the issues regarding flooding, mainly in Moor Lane had been taken forward with Mr Barnes at CWaC Highways who commented the drainage is satisfactory and that the issue is caused by runoff from fields. The Environment Agency is responsible for the main river water ways. Drainage of ditches on private lands is the responsibilities of the land owners. **ACTION:** Cllr Jones to write to landowners where major flooding is occurring to request clearing of ditches. The landowner of Moor Lane is unknown. Cllr Buchanan suggested a formal complaint be made to CWaC asking for them to contact the landowner to clear the ditches and remind them of their legal responsibility.

Cllr Kitchin advised the grassed areas in Lower Kinnerton is owned by CWaC and is not a designated play area. If this is a demand of local residents, then the community should take this forward with CWaC. **ACTION:** Cllr Taylor to send letters to residents and await feedback.

Cllr Maughan advised he had contacted the PROW at CWaC concerning the land that had been reinstated by farmer (opposite the chicken sheds). CWaC response that this could only be reinstated again once the land had dried.

8. Local Life Update

Cllr Taylor advised that Easter will fall on 9 April and the spring edition of Local Life will be ready for distribution the last weekend of March 20. Any omissions from the last edition will be included. Cllr Maughan advised an article on the two memorial benches will be included with an obituary / write up in memory of Karen Tilston. It will be the 10th anniversary of Lloyd and Sam running the village shop and a half page article will be included for this. There will also be an article for the Summer Festival.

9. Lengthsman Services

i. No update

ii. Insurance renewal

The Lengthsman provided The Clerk with three quotes for the renewal of the lengthsman insurance. This was shared with Cllrs. **RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed to renew the insurance with Zurich Municipal.

10. Planning Applications

i. Cllr Kitchin read through all the application and approvals. There were two applications for Dodleston Manor Farm one approved and one refused. This is going to appeal.

Chicken Sheds

Cllr Kitchin advised there have been complaints on odour, traffic and noise, via social media in relation to the chicken sheds which were now operational. Cllr Taylor and Kitchin have met with the Dodds's (owners of the Farm). All mitigation actions included in the planning applications are not working / in place.

There are some teething issues regarding the ventilation / heating settings and will have to wait for the next cycle to access odour. The Bio mass has been dropped in favour of a ground source heating pump which should improve any effects / impact on the community. The chicken matter will not be burned on site rather than being transported away. The acoustic fencing has not been installed and is due in January 2020. CWAC planners are looking to take action.

The traffic routing is believed to be working with trucks not travelling through the village. It was commented that a double truck had become stuck outside the village shop. **ACTION:** Cllr Kitchin to have an update with Dodds.

The building site is an eyesore with the entrance groundwork's not completed due to flooding.

ii. Wrexham Road Development

There was no further update – to be removed from the agenda.

11. Finance

i) To approve income and expenditure since 1 November 2019

RESOLVED: Councillors approved all income and expenditure from 2 November to 5 January 2020.

ii) To agree forecasted outturn for 2019/20

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed the forecasted outturn for 2019/20

iii. To agree the budget 2020 /21

Councillors reviewed the draft budget for 20/21 and made several amendments. Councillors agreed for The Clerk to receive a pay increment from April 20. **RESOLVED:** Councillors approved the draft budget 2020/21 and the pay increment for The Clerk.

iv. To agree the Parish Precept for 2020/21

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed and approved the Parish Precept for 2020/21. There was no increase from 2019/20 precept.

12. Santander – PC Bankers

The Clerk advised Councillors that she had visited the Santander branch in Chester and spoken with Simon Parry, Customer Services Manager regarding online banking facilities. The account is set up for two signatories and online transactions would not be actioned as it would require two

authorisations. The Parish Council would be required to change the account to one signatory. The Clerk spoke with Paul Birch, The Business Manager. changes would be required. Councillors considered this and agreed to change the signatory requirements to allow online banking facilities. The Clerk and Chairman to process online banking transfers and one authorisation from either , Cllr Buchanan , Cllr Kitchin or Cllr Dix. Payments processed by cheque will require two signatories. The standing orders and risk assessment will need to be updated to accommodate the changes. **RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed to the changes to allow online banking facilities. **ACTION:** The Clerk to submit letter to Santander to authorise changes and make changes to the standing orders and risk assessment.

13&14 Rail Network

Cllr Maughan advised Councillors of an email received from a resident raising concern on the closed footpath 2 &3 (Wrexham and Pulford) and asked the resident to present his issues. The resident stated the pathways had been caused as a result of Network Rail improving the Wrexham / Chester line back in 2014. The resident advised he had contacted CWaC who advised the delay in the reopening of the pathways had been caused by a number of reasons including Railway Advanced Technology yet being approved. The resident stated there were several issues; the excessive length of time to reinstate the pathways, that there is a suggestion there is no alternative route, which he disagrees with. Works started in January and should be completed by February 2020 although the resident expects an extension will be requested. The resident advised that an alternative route, parallel to the railway track and using the accommodation bridge. Cllr Maughan advised that the closing a pathway and the opening of another one would have to involve discussions with landowners. The resident stated that a simple relay (train signals) could be put in place similar to the once used on the North Wales Coast Rail line. CWAC legal department have advised that a pathway will die if it is not used and the resident stated he and his family will continue to use the pathway. **ACTION:** Cllr Maughan to look through the last correspondence / contact for Network Rail. **ACITON:** Item to be placed as an agenda item for the next meeting.