

Dodleston Parish Council
Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council
Monday 9 March 2020 - 7.00pm Dodleston Village Hall

MINUTES

Chairman Mike Maughan
Councillors Paul Buchanan, Rachel Jones, Richard Kitchin, Chris Ward, Welna Bowden

Clerk Kate Lloyd

Also present: Five members of the public

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Mike Dix (Work commitments)
 Cllr Carl Willis (Work commitments)
 Cllr Mark Williams (Other commitments)
 Cllr Taylor (Holiday)

2. Procedural matters

- i) Declaration of interests
 Cllr Maughan declared an interest in all planning matters with Cllr Jones making a declaration in Public Rights of Way.
- ii) To agree the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 13 January 2020. Amendments were made to various items. **RESOLVED:** The Chairman signed the minutes as a correct record of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 13 January 2020.

3. ii) Actions from last Meeting

Actions and matters arising from the meeting held on 13 January 2020 were discussed:

Item	Action	Responsible	Update
Public Speaking Time 5iii Pavements	To establish with CWAC what works is included in their schedule To email pre-school nursery to check the owner of the vehicle and reminder them to keep the gateway clear for wheelchair / scooter users.	Cllr Chris Ward Cllr Jones	A meeting has been held with CwAC . Refer to Cllrs Update Email sent to the pre-school nursery to remind the owner to keep access to the gateway clear. Cllr Ward has prepared a sign and suggested it be attached to car park sign.
7. Councillors Update Carnival Queen	To take forward at the next Governors meeting.	Cllr Taylor	This was taken forward and the proposal of a carnival King and Queen is acceptable.
Flooding	To write to landowners where major flooding is occurring to request clearing of ditches.	Cllr Jones	Completed
Grassed area in	To send letters to residents and await		

Lower Kinnerton – non designated play area	feedback.	Cllr Taylor	O/S
10. Planning i. Chicken Sheds – Traffic	To have an update with Dodds	Cllr Kitchin	Refer to planning item 14. To be added as a stand agenda item
12. Santander	To submit letter to Santander to authorise bank changes and make changes to the standing orders and risk assessment.	The Clerk	Completed. Awaiting confirmation from Santander
13 & 14 Network Rail	To look through the last correspondence / contact for Network Rail To be placed as an item on the next agenda	Cllr Maughan The Clerk	Completed. Also refer to item 11 Actioned
Summer Festival	To be placed as an item on the next agenda	The Clerk	Actioned

4. Village Police Report

PCSO McKevitt read through the latest Village Police Report detailing a list of offences which included Anti Social Behaviour before and after Christmas. There is a plan for a Community Speed Watch which will require volunteers. Parking issues outside the school have been taken forward and received positive feedback from parents. Corner House building works and parking of vehicles has caused visibility issues and PCSO McKevitt has spoken to several of the builders. An update will be provided be included in Local Life.

A resident asked whether the ASB related to a drugs raid in The Lache. Cllr Bowden reported she had spoken to a number of children on bikes were cycling in from Blacon.

Cllr Maughan advised the DVF have introduced a CCTV scheme.

5. Public Speaking Time

i. Newcomers

A resident suggested a welcome pamphlet for newcomers to the Parish providing details of organisations and clubs within the village. The resident has drafted a version .Cllr Bowden advised all new residents receive a welcome card from the Parish Council. However, future cards could incorporate the pamphlet. **ACTION:** Draft version of pamphlet to be passed to Cllr Bowden for review and update.

The resident confirmed The Long Bow club is keen to participate in the Summer Festival.

ii. Dog Fouling / Hedges / Pavements

A resident raised the issue with dog fouling particularly on the path from Penfold Way to Church Croft. The resident stated that as the hedge around the toddler's playground has been cut could she have the pavement outside the DFV field (Church Croft) entrance lowered. This has been requested on numerous occasions. Cllr WARD stated there is a technical reason as to why this could not be completed, namely visibility and that the access led on to the road. **ACTION:** Cllr Ward to check with CwAC as to the reason for the pavement not being lowered.

iii. Flooding – Lower Kinnerton

A resident advised that they had attended meeting with Chris Matheson (Chester MP) regarding flooding and other issues in Lower Kinnerton. Whilst Cllr Jones has reported that John Barnes (CwAC) has inspected the drains and advised these are clear, the resident stated the rain-covers have lifted causing silt onto the main road. With more substantial rainfall in the past, homes have been flooded twice in one year. Cllr Maughan acknowledged there has been serious flooding in the past and that substantial work have

been undertaken to address this. The Parish Council has contacted the Environment Agency and CwAC. Whilst Lower Kinnerton is a flood area it is not deemed to be an area in imminent danger of flooding.

Cllr Jones commented that there is a relevant process to follow and it is an Environment Agency issue. CwAC have checked the drains who have advised there is not a drainage issue. There was a lengthy debated and Cllr Maughan stated that the Parish Council has no statutory power or authority in this matter and can only escalate the issue to the relevant bodies. The resident advised Councillors that he is no longer allowed to contact CwAC as he had been banned from doing so. The Parish Council is not aware as to the reason for this. **ACTION:** Resident to forward photographs of the flooding to Cllr Jones. **ACTION:** Cllr Jones to take the issue of flooding forward with CwAC.

ii. Bus Service/ Traffic/Use of Land – Lower Kinnerton

A resident raised concerns with the Bus Service, commenting that Lower Kinnerton had no service on Saturday or Sunday and limited service during the week (7.45 am and 4.20pm) compared to 8 buses from Dodleston to Chester. Cllr Maughan advised the community had concerns about the Bus services and the Parish Council were trying to keep or improve the current service. Cllr Maughan read out the response received from John Ellis Jones (CwAC) about the reduced service and removal of funding from Flintshire County Council. There has been engagement with CwAC and the results of the bus survey have been collated and will be published in the next edition of Local Life. These results will also be shared with CwAC and used as part of the evidence to support an improved bus service.

The resident also asked about the safety barrier or speed restriction in Moor Lane. Cllr Ward advised a speed trap survey will be undertaken. Data collection of the speed of vehicles and volume of traffic and the % over the limit would be used assess the need for a reduction. However, CwAC will not introduced speed calming measures (speed bump). It was acknowledged an increase in traffic was a result of the Paintball centre.

The resident also asked about the use of land / grass verge. Cllr Kitchin stated the land is a grass verge and not a play area / common land for recreational use. If the whole community wished the Parish Council to act as a champion, then a survey would need to be completed. **ACTION:** Cllr Taylor to post note through resident letterboxes to seek their views on the grass verge and provide evidence of residents wishes.

The resident also asked about yellow lines on the junction opposite the school. Cllr Maughan advised the Parish Council has no authority although a request has been made to Highways. PCSO McKevitt stated the Police have no powers regarding parked vehicles on double yellow line. The powers regarding parked vehicles on zig zag lines have been removed and cannot be enforced.

The resident stated there were several minutes of the meeting not on line. Cllr Maughan stated the last minutes required approval so there is a lag. A process is in process and the agenda is now published ahead of the meeting.

13. Community Speeding Project

Cllr Bowden informed Councillors of a Community Speed Project. Several schemes have been implemented in other villages with members of the community being involved. Cllr Bowden undertook a tally of cars passing through Dodleston on 3 March 2020, recording 456 cars in 90 minutes between 7.30 - 9.00am. Cllr Bowden has spoken with parents outside the school, written a paper which has been circulated and spoken with Farndon Parish whose scheme works very well. Quick evidence gathering from the School, WI and Parish Council face book page showed 55% of residents believed there were speeding issues.

Cllr Bowden is looking for community volunteers with a co-hort of 13 members. Equipment and training to be done and costing established and funding to be determined, some of which can be shared with other Parishes. Cllr Buchanan stated this had been undertaken before and speed gun and CID resource made available from an association for a week. A decision needs to be taken as to whether the scheme is to be implemented. Actions to be considered include; a risk assessment of the specific stretches of road (CwAC), contact with Cllr Mark Williams to provide funding of the scheme and Cheshire Police to provide training.

PCSO McKevitt advised she will contact the Safety Officer at CwAC who will contact The Parish Council. The CID is available and a training session organised by CwAC is being held on 21 April 20 (11 am - 4pm).

Cheshire Police can assist with the project by issuing speed warning letters to offenders. A database will retain the information.

The aim is to reduce the speed of vehicles travelling through the village. It may be possible to extend the 20 mph limit before the pre-school. An average speed of 24mph would have to be recorded to reduce the speed to 20 mph. A pelican crossing could not be implemented as there are less than 500 children.

ACTION: Cllr Bowden to ascertain costs of the speed gun. Cllr Kitchin stated the School were in support of the Scheme.

6. Town & Parish Council Conference

Cllr Bowden advised Councillors she attended the Town & Parish Council conference. It provided the opportunity to log Highways and flooding issues (Lester Lane and junctions of Chester Lakes). In terms of landscape/ architect the Parish have been offered a free pond. The Parish Council is allowed to collect bulrushes from Huntington pond. The Parish Council can participate in a working group for the digital platform this will be used to log and track issues raised. The Parish Council has been invited to take part in the Bus Survey review being held in April 2020. The Locality Team at CwAC is a point of contact for the Parish Council.

7. Field Update Update

Cllr Maughan provided an update stating the perimeter path / tracker will be scheduled when the weather improves (between March / April 20). The planning of the Summer Festival is in progress.

8. Parish Councillors Updates

Cllr Bowen advised a drawing competition has been held to provide a design for the welcome cards for new residents. Local children have submitted their entries. Pictures have been circulated to all Councillors to vote for the winner. After a discussion, Councillor agreed for all 6 pictures to be selected for the welcome cards and to award cash prizes for all entries.

Cllr Bowden is setting up a meeting with Meadow Foods to discuss the roundabout. A CRM system has been set up to log issues raised with other organisations / CwAC and to provide a history. A litter pick is being held on 29 th March 20 with brownies / guides helping. Litter picks and high visibility jackets will be provided for volunteers. The traffic / parking issues will be taken forward with a meeting with the Headteacher. A co-ordinated approach with the offer of the Red Lion car park being available to school parking should help. .

Cllr Ward advised he had a meeting with CwAC on 27 February 20. The 20 mph zone in Dodleston, CwAC are will to re-survey St Mary's Road to assess if it meets the criteria. Due to a changing in funding, signage change costs would be the responsibility of The Parish Council. They will also survey Moor Lane. Parking at the school was assessed at the end of the day. CwAC suggested double yellow lines. A resident requested the double yellow lines be extended past the shop. Parking at the bus stop was been reported. However, this is not an offence as it does not form part of the clearway. The T Bar at Penfold Way has been marked for painting. With regard to the general state of footpaths there are no areas considered a priority

Cllr Kitchin advised he was keeping up conversations with the Chicken Farm owner. The ground source heat pump system is still an issue. Any complaints need to be logged with the Environment Agency on the day. There is likely to be new planning applications for further chicken sheds.

8. Local Life Update

Cllr Maughan advised the spring edition of Local Life has gone to print and will be ready for delivery in the middle of next week.

9. Lengthsman Services

i. Cllr Maughan advised there is very little maintenance being undertaken in village. The memorial benches have been purchased; one for Karen Tilston and the other for the Roger boys.

The pathway as part of the Public Rights of Way across from the chicken sheds requires reinstatement. There is a legal requirement for this to be completed within 14 days. When this was first raised with CwAC, the landowner advised the land was too wet. The top part of the field has been harrowed as part of the planning requirement for the chicken sheds.

11. Network Rail / PROW

Cllr Maughan advised a new notice has been displayed on the footpath in Penfold Way. **ACTION:** Cllr Maughan to contact Network Rail regarding this.

A resident stated the 30 mph sign coming into Dodleston is broken / turned around. Cllr Maughan advised he will look at this.

12. Summer Festival

The Summer Festival is planned for the weekend of 4/5 July 20. Planning is well underway and Sunday will be promoted. There will be live music during the evenings / Sunday afternoon. A meeting with Community Groups is planned for 19 March 20 to ask for their views on anything they wish to included. The event will continue in the same format as last year's summer festival.

14. Planning Applications

i. Cllr Kitchin read through all the application and approvals. There has been a variation of conditions at Decoy Farm (mixed use site). No planning application form has been submitted. Corner Cottage submitted an amended plan to which the Parish Council objected to. Another application has been submitted as the build is 3 brick higher than detailed in the original plan.

15. Finance

i) To approve income and expenditure since 5 January 2020

RESOLVED: Councillors approved all income and expenditure from 6 January to 1 March 2020.

ii) To agree forecasted outturn for 2019/20

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed the forecasted outturn for 2019/20

16. Correspondence

i. Public Work Loan Board – Legislative changes revised statutory basis

The Clerk advised Councillors that a letter had been received from The Public Work Loan Board detailing legislative changes. There is no impact on The Parish Council

ii Invitation to attend Sheriff's Charity Breakfast Event

The Clerk advised Councillors an invitation to attend the Sheriff's Charity breakfast event had been received. Details of the event have been forward to Councillors.