

**Dodleston Parish Council**  
**Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council**  
**Monday 8 March 2021 - 7.00 pm Virtual Meeting**

**MINUTES**

**Chairman** Mike Maughan  
**Councillors** Paul Buchanan, Richard Kitchin, Chris Ward, Welna Bowden, Rachel Jones, Carl Willis, Mark Williams, Roger Taylor

**Clerk** Kate Lloyd

**Members of the Public:** Three  
**PSCO McKeivitt**

1. **Apologies for absence**  
 Cllr Mike Dix
  
2. Procedural matters
  - i) **Declaration of interests**  
 Cllr Maughan declared an interest in item 15, planning
  
  - ii) To agree the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 11 January 2021. Amendments were made to items 6i under actions and matters arising, item 13 and action 14 action. **RESOLVED:** Councillors approved the minutes as a correct record of the Ordinary Virtual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 11 January 2021.
  
3. ii) **Actions from last Meeting**  
 Actions and matters arising from the meeting held on 11 January y 2021 were discussed:

Item	Action	Responsible	Update
5. Public Speaking Time i. Tree Cutting	To speak with the resident over tree cutting and being in a conservation area	Cllr Kitchin	Cllr Kitchin advised Councillors he had spoken with the resident who confirmed he had plans for the site. The resident also confirmed he had spoken with CWAC planning department about cutting the trees and understands it is in a conservation area.
9 ii. Lengths man Insurance	To contact the Lengths man to renew the insurance for 21/22	Cllr Maughan	Outstanding. To be taken forward
10. Chicken Sheds	To contact the farmer to establish the cause of the increase in odour  To extend whats app group and share on facebook.	Cllr Kitchin  Cllr Maughan	Cllr Kitchin advised he had contacted the farmer to establish the cause of the increase of odour and to date had not received a response.  Completed
13. Support for Families	To contact Chapel Stores regarding an extra box for the food bank and feedback at the next meeting.	Cllr Jones	Cllr Jones advised that the current situation with the food bank and Chapel Stores would remain as is it,
15. Finance v. To agree and approve the Parish	To contact CwAC to seek further information on the tax base and dwellings in Band D.	The Clerk	Refer to item 16.

Precept 21/22	To complete and submit the Parish Precept 21/22 return to CwAC.	The Clerk	Completed
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#### 4. Village Police Report

PCSO McKevitt advised there was not much to report. There had been a lot of COVID 19 breaches in general but these were not necessarily within Dodleston Parish. Cllr Buchanan asked whether foot patrols were still being undertaken where the tree had been burnt. PCSO McKevitt said this could be added back. Cllr Maughan shared the latest report with Councillors and advised that not all crimes were shown on the report.

Under The Police Crime Commissioner Pledge, there should be four hours of speed engagement a month. One hour in each location being completed since September 2020. A few speeds have registered over 30 mph and tickets issued for those exceeding 35 mph and above. Another date has been planned for March 21. Cllr Kitchin asked where the location was for this and PCSO McKevitt confirmed the location and since the floods had parked further down the road closer to the 30 mph sign.

Cllr Maughan suggested moving item 13 on the Community Speed Project to follow Public Speaking.

#### 5. Public Speaking Time

##### Flooding

A resident from Lower Kinnerton raised concerns on behalf of a number of residents on flooding in January with water accessing a property in Moor Crescent. There is a general feeling flooding is getting worse and the resident wanted to know if there is any help available from the Parish Council or direction.

Councillor Jones advised this issue had been on going with CWAC for the past 18 months, with an ineffective member of staff at CwAC delaying action for the past nine months with no progression. A replacement member of staff is now in place and is very proactive. CwAC together with a resident have visited all the flooding areas within the Parish. A meeting has taken place with Flintshire County Council and a survey of the network downstream from Moor Lane is being undertaken and action will depend upon the outcome. The Parish Council has no power over landowners to clear ditches. Enforcement has to be from CWAC / Flintshire CC.

Enforcement notices are issued once determined. Cllr Buchanan stated that after four weeks CWAC take on the work and bill the landowner. The resident commented on broader environmental issues and asked whether there was anything the Community could do. Cllr Williams advised there had been a CWAC floods debrief for the whole of Cheshire West and Chester which covered 150 flooded properties over 15 locations. A proper review is required including issues of maintenance and communication. Cllr Jones stated that on the day of flooding it is difficult to contact the right person / organisation for help. A resident stated that when she had informed Highways her garden was flooding she had been advised to call back when the water was breaching the property. After contacting the Environmental Agency she was referred back to CwAC. Sandbags were delivered the evening after the flood.

Cllr Buchanan stated the Parish Council has a designated Locality Officer and asked who was assigned to Dodleston. There need to to be improved communication.

A resident raised the question that during a speed gun session out of 23 vehicles driving through Lower Kinnerton only one car was exceeding the limit. Cllr Buchanan suggest to synchronise a speed gun session when Airbus staff finished their afternoon shift.

Another resident raised their concerns with flooding advising that he had the same letter from CwAC. The resident had accompanied an officer from Flintshire Council to assess the area. The resident has received a letter from Flintshire with a report stating action before the end of April. Culvert and drains need reviewing. Sandbags for the residents were delivered after flooding with no apologies. The resident advised he had written to the Chester MP and there has still been no action.

The resident advised there was still speeding issues on Moor Lane and suggested the introduction of speed bumps/ reduction in speed limit (20mph).

The resident suggested the introduction of slow growing blue cedar tree to replace the annual Christmas tree in situ at the end of Brick Lane. Cllr Buchannan stated it was quite expensive to have these in all the locations in

The Parish and blue cedars were impractical. The Christmas tree was not removed after Christmas due to Covid restrictions. Four separate households removed all the trees separately. Another resident suggested that a group of residents from Lower Kinnerton could volunteer to clear in future.

### 13. **Community Speeding**

Cllr Bowden provided an update advising the Parish Council received a £230 grant from Cheshire Police Crime Commissioner (supported by PCSO). Funds have been shared between several villages. This grant will be used to purchase speed gun, holder and high visibility jackets. The jackets will also be used by volunteers on the litter picking event. Speed gun training has been agreed with the first session being held on 10 March and then the following week. There are currently 15 volunteers and there are spaces available. Two people are required when undertaking a speed session. **ACTION:** Cllr Bowden to provide an article for Local Life. Details to be shared on the Whatsapp Group.

PCSO McKevitt advised Councillors that the registration of vehicles over the speed limit are recorded and whilst not enforceable has an impact. Cllr Bowden stated it acts as a good deterrent and helps to reduce speed.

### 6. **i Field Update**

Cllr Buchanan advised that when it was compliant to do so before the last lock down there was a large clean up of The Pavilion. Users need to be mindful of clearing up after using the facilities.

In relation to usage of the field, there will be two new users in the new Cricket session. Every other Saturday Hawarden Cricket Club will be using the field at a fee of £75. Westminster Park Cricket club will use the nets one evening per week at a fee of £20. Access /gates need to be open to prevent vehicles queuing on the Road and causing a hazard. Cllr Kitchin asked if these users will have access to the Pavilion. Cllr Buchanan confirmed the cricket club using the pitch will but not the club using the nets.

The Field Committee have been approached by the organisers of Deva Festival. This event is usually held at Chester Lakes. Discussion took place this year and last. The organisers were seeking an adjoining field for parking and one for camping. The field for camping is owned by a third party who was unable to deal with the request. A significant amount of money could have been raised through the renting of the field. Whilst this was seen as a good opportunity it will not be happening.

The Committee has been in contact with Dodleston Village Foundation (DVF) about a joint project for a potential new facility on the Parish Field. There have been two positive meetings with three members of Parish Council, three members from the DVF and Cllr Taylor as an intermediary. A survey has been completed by community users. The DVF building would be sold with funds being used for the project and the Parish Council contributing by providing the land and utilising the Community Infrastructure Levy Funding (CIL) as this would be a benefit for the whole community.

### **ii Pond Development Update**

Cllr Jones provided an update advising the project was progressing well with members being knowledgeable and having lots of contacts. Two meetings have been held so far and an outlined draft proposal of the pond has been drawn up which has been shared with all community groups asking if and how they wished to be involved. Feedback from this was very positive. A more detailed proposal is being developed which will be shared at the next meeting. This will include costing and possible funding opportunities. Colin Bollington will provide an article for Local Life. There will be consultation with the residents of properties overlooking the pond.

Another funding opportunity could be Grosvenor Estate who provides Community Grants of up to £10 k. Criteria of this being access to nature and helping children with new opportunities.

### 7. **Parish Councillors Updates/**

Cllr Ward advised Councillors that the H bar by the kissing in Penfold Way has been installed. He has contacted Highways regarding street name plates which have been damaged. A number of street lights no longer working have been reported. He has also taken forward the speed survey in Moor Lane.

Cllr Williams advised he would be happy to receive feedback on flooding issues which he could pass to the Incident Committee. **ACTION:** Cllr Jones to provide a summary on flooding to Cllr Williams.

Cllr Willis advised Councillors he was hoping to organise some type of fund raising events in the summer when restrictions have been lifted.

Cllr Maughan has met with several residents from Rough Hill concerning flooding issues and the footpath running through Rough Hill which is overgrown. Some work has been undertaken and Meadow Foods have cleared the pathway. A letter has been sent to the Chester MP concerning the A483. 3000 metres section of the elevated part of the A483 is still concrete although new works on resurfacing have been undertaken. This caused noise especially with the increased traffic. **ACTION:** Cllr Maughan to forward letter to Cllr Williams to take forward.

Cllr Maughan and Cllr Dix have removed a dangerous tree on the field. Emma Preston agreed the community raised beds by the pump may not be a good location. Cllr Bowden advised she had spoken to her since and suggested the field would be better option.

Cllr Maughan advised Steven Hughes had provided an update on the Meadow Food Roundabout installation and this will take place between 23 and 26 March. He also requested details of where to send the invoice to receive the £500 donation from The Parish Council.

Cllr Maughan advised multiple quotes have been received for the fencing. The Field Committee will meet to determine which one to progress.

#### **8. Local Life Update**

Cllr Taylor advised he had 20 articles / photographs for the next edition of Local Life. These will be sent to the printers this week with Local Life ready to be delivered before Easter. Cllr Maughan asked for Councillors to check the delivery list of areas. A number of invoices are due for adverts in Local Life. **ACTION:** Cllr Taylor to forward detail to The Clerk for invoices to be raised.

#### **9. Lengthsman Services**

No update. Cllr Maughan to raise the insurance with the lengths man

#### **10. Chicken Sheds**

Cllr Maughan shared The Councils "Odour Nuisance Mechanisms with Local Residents". He also advised that the farmer has undertaken some work including the planting of saplings and substantial trees, attempts on reinstating the footpath and removal of the root ball. Cllr Bowden advised that the road between Gorstella and The Chicken Farm has been damaged by Heavy Goods Vehicles.

#### **11 Lower Kinnerton Issues**

##### **Speeding**

Cllr Taylor provided an update on Speeding on Moor Lane and advised he had met with the Turkey Farm and Paintball owners where a number of options have been discussed. The latest proposal is for CCTV to be located on a telegraph pole linked up to the home of a resident to identify speed offenders and report them. The residents in the bungalow next to the Turkey Farm are happy for this to be installed on their property. Cllr Maughan asked who would register with ICO. Cllr Maughan asked who owned the telegraph pole, BT or CwAC and whether or not permission would be required. Cllr Taylor advised the power connection has been agreed with the owner. It was not known how the data is to be retrieved / transmitted. Cllr Kitchin questioned what would happen with the information and Cllr Taylor advised this would be passed on to the Turkey Farm / Paint Baller owners to take action.

Cllr Ward advised he had been waiting for CwAC to undertake a speed survey on Moor Lane for the past 18 months. Cllr Taylor advised he had been in contact with CwAC so the speed issue could be addressed.

##### **Broadband**

Cllr Taylor advised Councillors there was an issue with the quality of Broadband in Balderton being poor. In contact with Higher Kinnerton Community Council there was a suggestion of sharing the telephone Exchange. Lower Kinnerton's Broadband is being downgraded with Kinnerton residents getting their supply from Llay. Higher Kinnerton Community Council has been looking to the possibility for improved Broadband for the school. Cllr Maughan advised that an issue with Broadband was community wide across the parish, with connection being either fibre to the door or fibre to the cabinet. Cllr Taylor advised he was waiting for details of new scheme. Cllr Maughan advised The Parish Council would be happy to support this but not funding.

**12. Community Right to Buy – Red Lion Public House**

Cllr Maughan reminded Councillors that concerns on The Public House had been raised previously. A Community Right to Buy application had been submitted in October last year. Confirmation has been received that this has been put through for recommendation so that should the Public House be placed up for sale it would have to be offered to the Parish Council first.

**14. Support for Families**

Cllr Bowden advised Councillors the response for the food bank had been good but sometime tapers off. Cllr Bowden has raised awareness through face book / whatapp. There are some cards from the food banks on how to access the local food banks and suggested these could potentially be located in the village shop. There have been 6 – 7 deliveries of 55- 65k g of food. Cllr Kitchin asked if welcome cards had been sent to number 10. Cllr Buchanan advised The Farm House in Kinnerton Road had new residents. **ACTION:** New residents in the village to be an agenda item.

**15. Planning Applications**

i. Cllr Kitchin shared the planning documents with Councillors and read through each one. There was some questions on the dropped kerb on Main Road. Cllr Kitchin has reviewed this himself and cannot see any issues.

Cllr Kitchin advised The Parish Council had put an objection in on the Higher Kinnerton Development which has subsequently been refused and may be subject to appeal. The objection was based on flooding onto Lower Kinnerton.

**16. Finance**

i. To approve income and expenditure from 4 January to 1 March 2021

**RESOLVED:** Councillors approved all income and expenditure from 4 January to 1 March 2021.

ii. To agree and approve the outturn for 2020/21

**RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed and approved the outturn for 2020/21. Cllr Buchanan has received some correspondence from the History Group relating to the funds from the calendars. He will send payment by bank transfer or cheque. The Clerk advised a VAT claim will be submitted up to February 2021. The Clerk will follow up on the invoice for Waverton AFC. **ACTION:** Cllr Buchanan to forward income from the Calendar sales.

iii. To note the outcome from the External Auditors on 2019/20 Annual Return

The Clerk advised Councillors that the Annual Return 2019/20 had been approved by the External Auditors.

The Clerk advised that the Exercise of Public Rights dates were 3 days short of the statutory requirement.

iv. CwAC Parish Precept Allocation

Cllr Buchanan raised concerns with the tax base and dwellings in band D. Cllr Buchanan explained his findings that some of the new dwellings from the Wrexham Road had not been included. There was a lengthy discussion on how the tax base and banding is calculated together with a number of exemptions due to Covid 19.

**17. Correspondence**

i. FOI from a resident in Lower Kinnerton

Cllr Maughan advised that a FIO request had been received from a resident in Lower Kinnerton

ii. DVF Survey

**ACTION:** To be completed by Cllr Maughan, Cllr Buchanan and Cllr Taylor