

**Dodleston Parish Council**  
**Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council**  
**Monday 14 November 2022 - 7.30 pm Dodleston Village Hall**

## MINUTES

**Chairman** Mike Maughan  
**Councillors** Paul Buchanan, Michael Dix, Welna Bowden, Chris Ward, Tim Rahill

**Clerk** Kate Lloyd

**Members of the Public:** Two

1. **Apologies of absence:**  
 Cllr Rachel Jones  
 Cllr Richard Kitchin  
 Cllr Mark Williams  
 Cllr Carl Willis
2. Procedural matters
  - i) **Declaration of interests**  
 Cllr Maughan declared an interest in all planning matters – item 17
  - ii) To agree the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of The Parish Council 12 September 2022. An amendment was made to a person's name, item 7, paragraph 5. **RESOLVED:** Councillors approved the minutes as a correct record of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 12 September 2022
3. ii) **Actions from last Meeting**  
 Actions and matters arising from the meeting held on 12 September 2022 were discussed:

Item	Action	Responsible	Update
Action from Previous meetings March Ordinary meeting :  Item 7 Highway	To send a letter via email to The Chief Executive of CWAC concerning the outstanding highways issues. Cllr Williams to be copied so he can forward to the appropriate Director for action.	Cllr Maughan Cllr Williams	Signed off as part of the works being completed on kerbs and works progressing on speed reductions in Lower Kinnerton. Pothole issues taken forward with CWaC.
July Meeting Public Speaking Time  5i Lowering Kerbs	Copies of letters from CWAC and Chester MP to be sent to Cllr Jones to respond	Cllr Jones	This is being dealt with in collaboration with a resident. Refer to item 5
10. Local Life	To speak with the printers to discuss reducing costs of Local Life	Cllr Maughan	Not actioned
Actions from September meeting.  4. Village Police report	Free Forensic Marking Kits to be advertised via face book.	Cllr Kitchin	Completed

6i Field Update	To purchase the gift voucher for £100	Cllr Buchanan	Being arranged so that the gift voucher is sent just before Christmas.
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#### 4. Village Police Report

There was no police report available. Councillors agreed for an invitation to be sent to the PCSO to attend the next meeting together with a list detailing dates of the 2023 meetings. **ACTION:** Clerk to send invitation to PCSO to attend next meeting together with dates for 2023.

#### 5. Public Speaking Time

i. A resident mentioned she would contact Cllr Jones to provide support with regards to letters to CWaC and the Chester MP.

#### 6. i Field Update

Cllr Maughan advised that activities on the field were slowing down. The Mower now requires a service and the Parish Council has not yet sourced a shed to store it. Cllr Ranhill offered his shed as a short term solution over winter. **ACTION:** Cllr Rahill, Cllr Maughan and Cllr Buchanan to make arrangements for the storage of the mower.

#### Pond Development Update

Cllr Maughan provided an update advising that Cllr Jones was pursuing further funding. A secondary fund from Central Government is available via Cllr Williams. Cllr Maughan has applied for £4,000 from this to support the purchase of the mower. Cllr Jones has been asked to send the quote of £3,000 on access to the platform on the pond to Cllr Williams. Cllr Williams and Cllr Parker still have members funding which the Parish Council can apply for to support projects. Cllr Bowden asked if there were any possible projects for Lower Kinnerton. The bench in Moor Lane, Lower Kinnerton still needs repairing and this will be completed when there is dry weather. Councillors made various suggestions such as wifi and some attention to CCTV.

#### 7. Parish Councillors Updates

Cllr Chris Ward advised that he followed up on the footpath issues and the CWaC has raised a work order to deal with it. Email to the Chief Contractor in Street scene concerning Penfold Way / Church croft.

Cllr Ward advised Councillors that CWaC had completed a survey with residents in Moor Lane regarding a speed reduction from 30 mph to 20mph. Five residents had responded. No timeframe has been provided for when the speed sign will be changed.

Cllr Ward also advised Councillors that the issue of the sink hole and potholes had been raised with Highways. Cllr Maughan questioned whether a response had been received as it was getting worse and dangerous for road users especially cyclists.

Cllr Ward also advised of the Google calendar where community groups can view and add events. Cllr Ward allows access to the site which enables users to edit their own area. This will be communicated via the Parish website and face book page. There was a suggestion that a resident maybe able to provide support with this.

Cllr Buchanan advised Councillors that the Christmas Trees would be in situ on 3 December with five trees being purchased, one paid for by Higher Kinnerton Community Council. The trees will be located at The Pump, The Church, Penfold Way and Lower Kinnerton and The Royal Oak, Higher Kinnerton.

Cllr Bowden advised Councillors that she had undertaken a walk around the village with Cllr Maughan. The alleyways need beautifying and weeding. There were no areas of concerns. Cllr Bowden is holding meeting with a resident on 17 November to discuss a planting project.

Cllr Bowden advised Councillors she had attended the Church Service for remembrance Sunday and laid a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council. **RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed for Cllr Bowden to be reimbursed for the cost, £25.00. The Clerk advised this expenditure would be incurred under Section 137.

Cllr Maughan advised Councillors that the Parish Council had not yet purchased the sweeping brush which members had previously agreed to. Cllr Maughan advised this would be purchased via his business account and then be reclaimed. **RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed to the purchase for the sweeping brush via this process.

Cllr Maughan advised the storage room at the Pavilion needed clearing and would arrange for the Lengthsman to undertake this work.

**8. Red Lion – Community Concern**

Cllr Maughan advised Councillors that he had received a response from Mitchell and Butlers plc. The summarised response did not relate to the summary of responses submitted by the Parish Council. A follow up meeting is being held on 21<sup>st</sup> November. Cllr Maughan felt the Parish Council has represented the community feelings and survey and there is no other action. He advised Councillors of another issue that has been raised directly by neighbours either side of the Public House. This related to dogs barking. This will be taken forward at the meeting. .

**9. Local Life**

Cllr Willis provided an update advising that Local Life had been sent to the printers. Cllr Bowden commented that no articles on the food bank or alley ways had been included. Delivery is expected next week. Cllr Willis needs send a message via the Whatsapp before sending local life information to the printers.

**10. Lengthsman Services**

The Lengths man advised Councillors the sign at the gate and the village shop for repair. He is waiting to get access to the notice board at Lower Kinnerton which is difficult due to the overgrown hedge. Cllr Maughan advised he needs to visit the Parish Council lock up to collect the safety barrier.

The Clerk reminded the lengthsman to submit invoices for the work undertaken.

The Clerk advised Councillors two quotes had been obtained for the Lengthsman Insurance. Councillors discussed the quotes provided and agreed to renew the insurance with Zurich Municipal at a cost of £156.75.

**RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed to new the insurance with Zurich Municipal at £156.75

**11. Chicken Sheds**

Councillors discussed the issues with the odour from the chicken farm and whether a resident's air filter had been analysed. There was a suggestion of checking this with the Environment Agency. Councillors agreed for Cllr Bowden to discuss this with the resident and establish the cost for filter analysis.

**12 Village Hall**

Cllr Buchanan advised Councillors that plans for the village hall refurbishment / extension were on hold until further information with CIL funding was known. There as a discussion on how many houses related to the CIL funding, how this was calculated and future funding. The Pre School's vision for the new facility to house the Pre School / after school club is considerably larger and more expensive. The Parish Council will be meeting with DVF before Christmas. Four schemes have been suggested and will be exploring a hybrid of two schemes. The Pre School is looking into match funding opportunities.

Cllr Ranhill advised there were other exisiting facilities in the Lache. There is no limit with regard to a catchment area and the new facility would accommodate homes from the Wrexham Road Development.

**ACTION:** The Clerk to forward the name of the officer from CWAC dealing with CIL funding to Cllr Buchanan.

**13. Community Speed Project**

Cllr Bowden advised Councillors that a number of speed sessions had been undertaken. There was the suggestion of Speed indicator Signs (SIDs) and the possibility of looking at placing these in other areas within the Parish. **ACTION:** Cllr Bowden to contact Highways to check the requirements / criteria for SID's.

**17. PROW**

Cllr Maughan advised Councillors that the damaged style had been repaired and where fields had been ploughed reinstatement works had been completed within 10 days. There was nothing further to report.

**18. Training Crossing Closures**

Cllr Ward advised Councillors that a second Freedom of Information (FOI) request had been rejected. The Network has no data on the average number of crossing closures. This has been removed and the request resubmitted. .

**19. Balderton Broadband Upgrade Campaign**

Cllr Maughan advised Councillors that whilst the Parish Council was supportive of this it was unable to do anything further and it was agreed for the item to be removed from the agenda.

## 20. Planning Applications

Cllr Maughan provided an update on all planning applications and it was agreed for the Parish Council not to comment.

A resident from Lache Lane is unhappy with the footpath from Decoy Farm and the latest application for the Wrexham Road Development. The Parish Council has been asked to revisit some specific areas of this application which Cllr Kitchin will undertake over the next few weeks.

## 21. Finance

i To approve income and expenditure from 4 September to 6 November 2022

**RESOLVED:** Councillors approved all income and expenditure from 4 September to 6 November 2022.

ii To agree the outturn for 2022/23

**RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed and approved the outturn for 2022/23

iii To note outcome of external auditors report 2021/22 (Annual Return)

The Clerk advised Councillors that the external auditors had approved the Annual Return for 2021/22 without comment. Councillors **NOTED** the outcome.

iv. To consider a draft charges policy

The Clerk advised Councillors a draft charging policy was being drawn up and would be presented for review and approval at the next meeting.

## 20. Correspondence

i. Request regarding BMX track on the Parish field

Cllr Maughan advised Councillors he had received a request concerning the creation of a BMX track on the Parish field. The area suggested is boggy and is not large enough. Also, there is no demand for this. Cllr Maughan agreed to report back to the resident.

ii. Request from St Mary's Church for a donation towards the maintenance of the church clock

Councillors considered the request from St Mary's Church for a donation towards the annual maintenance of the Church clock. **RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed for a donation of £200 to St Mary's church for the maintenance of the Church clock.

iii. To note The Governors at Dodleston CE Primary School consider applying for academy status to join Chester Diocesan Academies Trust. Councillors **NOTED** that the Governors had applied for academy status.

iv. Cllr Maughan advised Councillors he had received an email from a resident regarding a small project to provide community support to The Ukraine. Cllr read out the email detailing the Christmas Bridge Shoe box project which focussed on children. The resident is reaching out to local schools and personal friends and looking to engage the support of others in the community. Cllr Bowden suggested promoting and supporting this and Councillors considered funding through the community fund grant. **RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed to set aside £500 for the Shoe Box project and £500 for the Food bank.

## 21. Meeting Dates 2023

Councillors considered the dates of next year's meeting and agreed the following:

January 16th

March 13th

May 15th

July 10th

September 11th

November 13<sup>th</sup>

These will be published on the Parish website.