

**Dodleston Parish Council**  
**Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council**  
**Monday 11 July 2022 - 7.00 Dodleston Village Hall**

**MINUTES**

**Chairman** Mike Maughan  
**Councillors** Richard Kitchin, Chris Ward, Michael Dix, Tim Rahill

**Clerk** Kate Lloyd

**Members of the Public:** Two

**1. Apologies for absence**

Cllr Rachel Jones  
Cllr Carl Willis (Work Commitments)  
Cllr Mark Williams  
Cllr Welna Bowden  
Cllr Paul Buchanan (Annual Leave)

**6. Procedural matters**

i) **Declaration of interests**

Cllr Maughan declared an interest in item 20 planning

ii) To agree the minutes of the Annual Parish and Annual General Meeting of The Council held on 9 May 2022. There was a minor amendment to item 5ii Change of name to Cllr Rachel Jones. **RESOLVED:** Councillors approved the minutes as a correct record of the Annual Parish and Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council held on 9 May 2022.

**3. ii) Actions from last Meeting**

Actions and matters arising from the meeting held on 9 May 2022 were discussed:

Item	Action	Responsible	Update
Annual Parish Meeting : 3. The Chairman's Report 21-22	To be added to the Parish website	Cllr Maughan The Clerk	To be actioned
Action from 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	O/S
Item 21. Ukraine Appeal	To purchase refreshments for Ukraine Appeal volunteers	Cllr Buchanan	To follow up and confirm at the September meeting
Item 10. Car Park Barrier	To speak with Andrew Bettley about leaving the gate open over the summer.	Cllr Maughan	Completed
Item 21 vi Finance	To investigate whether the Fidelity Guarantee Level affects the Parish Council.	The Clerk	To be reported at the next meeting
Item 22 ii. Damage to property	To forward email to Cllr Ward to take forward with CWAC Highways.	Cllr Maughan Cllr Ward	Completed

#### **4. Village Police Report**

None

#### **5. Public Speaking Time**

##### **i. Lowering Kerbs**

A resident advised Councillors that she had written to the Chester MP concerning the outstanding gateway to have a lowered kerb. Cllr Ward read through a response from Cheshire West and Chester Council (CwAC). It stated there were issues with the turning point into the road due to positioning and poor sight of line. There was a suggestion that the access point to the park could be re-sited making it a safe location and where a new dropped kerb could be provided. **ACTION:** Copies of letters from CWAC and Chester MP to be sent to Cllr Jones to respond. Cllr Ward stated that the Council did not own the land. Cllr Dix suggested obtaining a copy of the risk assessment on which the Council had based their decision. He also stated it was incumbement for drivers in the area to have a duty of care whilst driving.

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

Cllr Maughan read through a report provided by Cllr Buchanan. The cricket teams have been very complimentary about the condition of the pitch. This is thanks to Phil Macready who has volunteered to be the grounds man on a voluntary basis.

Prior to the Jubilee event there was a tidy and clean up of the pavilion and repairs to the benches. The dragon fly sculpture is no in situ and looks fantastic.

Cllr Buchanan asked for the Clerk to check that the cricket teams had paid for the use of the pitches for 2021/22 and The Clerk confirmed both had been paid for.

##### **ii Pond Development Update**

Cllr Maughan provided an update on the Pond Development on behalf of Cllr Jones. The Dragon Fly sculpture was in situ in time for the Jubilee event. Proceeds of £1000 towards the pond project. A third bid for National Lottery funding of £10k has been submitted.

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

Cllr Maughan raised concerns about the collapsed area with St Mary's Road / Church Road junction. Cllr Maughan believes this is being caused by a sink hole and not a pot hole. A possible water leak may be the cause.

#### **8. Queens Jubilee**

Cllr Maughan read through an update on behalf of Cllr Buchanan. This event has been a great success. Income from the bar less bank charges resulted in a surplus which will be given to support the DVF project.

The PA system and time was kindly provided by Cllr Kitchin free of charge.

#### **9. Red Lion Public House – Community Concern**

Cllr Maughan advised Councillors that a summary of the feedback from the community concern questionnaires had been submitted to Mitchell and Butlers. The Parish Council will not be publicising the results. The offer to the brewery to discuss this further has been accepted and a meeting is being arranged.

#### **10. Car Park Barrier**

Cllr Maughan advised Councillors there has been a slight delay in the fitting of the car park barrier caused by the original barrier being damaged. Cllr Maughan showed on a map where the barrier is planned to be put in situ ensuring there is access for prams and walkers. This will be fitted with the help of the Lengthsman and a suitable day will be arranged.

A resident commented on access to the field through the kissing gate. The resident will meet with Cllr Maughan.

#### **11. Local Life Update**

Cllr Maughan advised The Parish Council that Cllr Willis has taken on the role of editor with support from a local resident. Cllr Kitchin commented that a resident had been asking about Local Life with a number of events coming up. There was a brief discussion on printing and distribution of the next edition. It was proposed for an autumn edition due in September with another due at Christmas. Cllr Maughan will speak with the printers to look at ways to reduce costs. **ACTION:** Cllr Maughan to speak with the printers to discuss reducing costs.

**12. Lengthsman Services**

The Lengthsman advised Councillors that he was half way through the repairs of the notice boards. The grass at Balderton has been cut. The bench at Kinnerton and the bus shelter at Lower Kinnerton have been repaired. The bench at the pump requires further repair. The two glass notice boards have been removed. There was a suggestion that one was damaged an Iceland delivery truck. Iceland is to be approached to ascertain if one of their vehicles has been damaged. The Parish Council is to check the time of the incident.

**13. Chicken Sheds**

Cllr Maughan advised Councillors there had been a little odour on a few occasions. .

**14 Village Hall**

Cllr Maughan advised Councillors on an update for the redevelopment of the village hall. Draft ideas have been provided by Vanessa Owen. A meeting has been pencilled in with the DVF to discuss further. The Pre-school is keen to move to a building on The Parish field.

The Clerk advised that ACRE had announced grant funding for 2022/23 for rural Parish Council village halls. The Clerk will forward information to Cllr Bowden. **ACTION:** The Clerk to forward ACRE grants funding information to Cllr Bowden.

**16. Community Speed Project**

Cllr Kitchen advised Councillors that he was reviewing speed signage including Speed Indicator Sign (SID) and would discuss this with the Police Community Support Officer PCSO. **ACTION:** Cllr Kitchen to speak with PCSC regarding speed signage.

Cllr Ward advised Councillors he had received a timetable from CWAC regarding the changes to speed reductions from 30mph to 20mph. Main Road average speed was an issue and needed to establish the steps to deal with it. **ACTION:** Cllr Ward to take forward the speed issue on Main Road with CWAC.

Cllr Maughan advised that the Parish Council had pursued changes and that it was better for some reduction. Cllr Maughan also advised that Police had sped into Penfold Way as there had been some form of incident at a resident's home.

**17. PROW**

Cllr Maughan advised Councillors that the stiles had been cleared and the broken stile repaired.

A complaint regarding a footpath appeared to have been forgotten / ignored by CWAC. CWAC has now re-raised it and reported it to Street Scene.

**18. Training Crossing Closures**

Cllr Ward advised there had been no further update.

**19. Balderton Broadband Upgrade Campaign**

Cllr Maughan advised Councillors that a Balderton resident was still pursuing this.

**20. Planning Applications**

Cllr Kitchen provided Councillors with an update advising that he was unable to attend the Solar Farm consultation meeting. Cllr Kitchen advised this was a significant proposal and a good use of land with an educational aspect. There will be engagement with the developer to identify how the community benefits. There had been some dialogue last year.

Cllr Kitchen stated the only other application of interest related to an application from Lower Kinnerton with changes to a few widows and the removal of a large amount of hedges. The Parish Council has previously submitted a substantial objection to this. The hedges form part of a conservation area with wildlife aspects. Cllr Kitchen will check on line for the decision date.

**21. Finance**

i To approve income and expenditure since 3 May to 4 July 2022

**RESOLVED:** Councillors approved all income and expenditure from 3 May to 4 July 2022.

ii To agree the outturn for 2022/23

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

iii) To review the Managed Contract Policy

To be reviewed and reported at the next meeting.

iv) To note the outcome of the internal audit 2021/22

The Clerk advised Councillors that the AGAR and the accounts for 2021/22 had been approved and signed off by the internal auditors without comment.

v) To consider opening two further bank accounts – Funds to be held below the Fidelity Guarantee Level

**ACTION:** The Clerk to investigate whether the Fidelity Guarantee Level affects the Parish Council.

## **22. Correspondence**

i. Cllr Maughan advised Councillors he had received correspondence from Andrew Bettley raising concerns of a number of vehicles revving their engines. This may have been a one off incident so it will be regularly reviewed. **RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed for no action and for it to be monitored and reviewed regularly.

**ACTION:** Cllr Maughan to advise Andrew Bettley that there will be no change to the current arrangements for the locking of the Car Park. The situation will be monitored and reviewed.

Cllr Maughan suggested that the Parish Council meeting is moved back to the original time of 7.30pm.

**RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed for the time of the Parish Council meetings to revert back to 7.30pm.