

DOLTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4th NOVEMBER 2019

IN DOLTON VILLAGE HALL

PUBLIC SESSION :

Several points were raised at the public session, as follows:

- A brief update of the position with Eastlake Farm planning and the appeal for the wind turbine
- Information was shared about how best to oppose the appeal relating to Acorn Park. The first letter from the planning inspectorate had been incorrect: the date for representation has now been changed to 6th December but it is thought that there may still be some inaccuracies within the letter. This appeal is not against the planning permission - only evidential issues will be considered. Statements from residents should describe what they know of the use of the site and may include such things as the fact that this site has only ever been used as a touring site and that static caravans have never been used, even for short periods of time.
- Cllr R Lock advised the meeting that a revised letter relating to the Acorn Farm appeal had been placed on the Torridge website today. Torridge was surprised that this matter would be heard at an informal hearing and would have expected it to be an enquiry with evidence given under oath.
- It was felt that the Acorn Farm appeal showed total disregard for the words 'temporary' and 'permanent'. The point was expressed that if this appeal was successful a precedent would be set for every holiday site across the country, enabling them to bypass all the planning agencies, including suitable access to the site.
- The previous touring campsite had had restricted use because its attraction was limited, with the majority of use being in the school holidays (so little impact on traffic around Dolton School). If the Acorn Farm appeal was successful, it would fundamentally change the nature and use of the site.
- If the Acorn Farm appeal was successful, 10% of the residents of Dolton would be housed in substandard accommodation, and this would be wilfully ignoring the climate rebellion.
- It was felt that it would be useful to form a small group to discuss and produce useful exemplar letters which could be used by any resident who wishes to make a representation.
- A question was asked about the Cleave Hill site, including who had previously owned it and whether there were links to any other development sites.
- The Devon Climate Emergency Networks were brought to the meeting's attention. It was explained that it would be possible to announce a Climate Emergency and outsource the work to other groups. There was a need to lead on this matter, papers were accepted for the reading file and it was agreed that this would be an agenda item at the next meeting.

PRESENT:

Cllr Walker (Chair); Cllrs Giles, Haynes, Herniman, Lock, Martindale, Rendell, Rolls and Tremayne.

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Also in attendance : Clerk L Morris; Ward Cllrs R Lock and M Clarke
In addition, there were 10 members of the public

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Members were invited to declare any personal or disclosable pecuniary interests, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting:

- Cllr Lock: matters relating to the Village Hall;
- Cllr S Martindale: personal interest arising from: a shared boundary with Oaktree Court (was Acorn Farm Lodges' site); access to his property crosses the Cleave Hill development site and any matters relating to Devon Wildlife Trust.

80 (19/20) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

C.Cllr. A Saywell had sent his apologies for the meeting.

81 (19/20) MINUTES:

The Draft Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 7th October had been circulated. They were agreed by all to be correct and signed as a true record.

82 (19/20) MATTERS ARISING

Actions arising from the last meeting were reviewed and there were no matters outstanding.

83 (19/20) CLLRS' REPORTS

- a) Ward Cllr R Lock explained that the planning for the Cleave Hill site had not yet been validated
- b) Ward Cllr M Clarke reported that two requests had been submitted for the Facilities Grant, and both had been successful.
- c) C.Cllr A Saywell had submitted a report which included information about Education and Social Care Funding as well as updates on road repairs and pavement resurfacing works.

84 (19/20) CLERK'S REPORT:

There was nothing to report other than items already on the agenda.

85 (19/20) CORRESPONDENCE:

The list of correspondence received was reviewed:

Ref	Date	Correspondent	Content	Action
8/1	16/10/10	Kathleen Krane	Public Rights of Way	Agenda item
8/2	18/10/19	Cllr Saywell	Road resurfacing	Information
8/3	21/10/19	DCC	Road Permit Scheme	Information
8/4	22/10/19	SW Heritage Trust	Records Office Support	Information
8/5	25/10/19	Clements	Letter re Beech Tree	Information
8/6	4/11/19	P Clarke	Suggestion for Speed Sign	Information

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86 (19/20) TO CONSIDER FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) The proposed payments were scrutinised and approved for payment.

Payee	Date of Invoice		Gross	Inc VAT	Cq No
Torridge District Council	10/10/2019	Parish Salary Recharge	1844.94		1178
Mr A Haynes (Hampshire Flag Co)	24/10/2019	Flagpole Finial	44.99	7.5	1179
D&D Village Hall	01/11/2019	Village Hall Hire	18		1180
M Lock	28/10/2019	Caretaker October	120		1181
Linda Morris	31/10/2019	Home Office & Reimb Paper	14.5		1182
			2042.43		

The Payments were checked by Cllr Herniman. Cheque payments were proposed by Cllr Rolls and seconded by Cllr Tremayne. Cheques were signed by Cllr Giles and Cllr Lock.

b) Bank Reconciliation. The Clerk presented the bank reconciliation to 15 October 2019:

BANK RECONCILIATION TO 15 OCTOBER 2019			
Balance at bank 15/010/19			
Current Ac sheet 189 to 15 October 2019	12,439.68		
Reserve Ac sheet 83	1,152.50		
95 Day Ac sheet 67	41,877.81		
Less un-presented cqs at 15/10/19	1,711.00	cq no	amount
		1160	1,206.00
		1169	240.00
		1172	255.00
		1175	10.00
			1,711.00
Plus un-cleared credits at 15/10/19	0.00		
Total Balance at bank at 15/10/19	53,758.99		
Cash Book			
Opening Balance from accounts at 1/4/19	50,564.19		

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Less payments to 15.10.19	12,276.27		
Plus receipts to 30.9.19	15,471.07		
Closing balance per cash book at 30.09.19	53,758.99		
Variance	0.00		

c) Any other financial matters: There were no other financial matters.

87 (19/20) TO CONSIDER PLANNING MATTERS

- a) Applications to consider: 1/0878/2019/FUL Brightley House Cottage: demolition and erection. This was discussed and there were no objections
1/0915/2019/FUL Eastlake Farm: demolition and erection affecting a public right of way. This was discussed and there were no objections.
- b) Appeals to consider: i) 1/1306/2018/FUL Eastlake Farm small scale wind turbine. This was discussed and the previous letter of support for this project was still felt to be appropriate. It was felt that no further action would be useful.
ii) 1/1065/2018/CPL Appeal ref APP/W1145/X/18/3217092 Acorn Farm Park. A discussion was held, following on from the points made in the public session. It was felt that it would be useful to send a representative from the Parish Council to the hearing to make a case to reject the appeal. It was understood that the hearing would not take place until the new year. This accommodation is not included on the Local Plan and this was felt to be another valid point which could be raised.
- c) Applications granted – there were none
- d) Application withdrawn – there were none
- e) Applications refused – there were none
- f) Any other planning matters. Cleave Hill site. There was to be a meeting between several of the Cllrs and GTH to find out more about the initial information. This meeting was planned for Wednesday 13th November at 10.30 am.

88 (19/20) FOOTBALL PAVILION

There had been no further meetings.

89 (19/20) PARISH GROUNDS. Matters Relating to:

- a) Car Park. i) Ethel Turner bench. This has been bought and will be installed very soon.
ii) Deed of Easement. The papers for this were ready for signature: The Clerk and the Chair signed and their signatures were witnessed by a member of the public. It was agreed that the cheque paying for the legal work would now be released.
- b) Football Field. The request from Winkleigh U16 team to use the football field on Saturday mornings was agreed, with the proviso that occasionally it might not be possible due to other longstanding village events. A hire charge of £5 per session (half day) was agreed, with the understanding that the use would be covered by Winkleigh

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Football Club insurance. It was felt that this increased use might be a first step to re-invigorate the use of the whole site.

- c) Dennis Cross. Following some local discussions, the exclusion of dogs from the playground was confirmed, with no exceptions (except guide dogs). Cllr Rolls was planning to meet with Roger Dunn to discuss maintenance etc.
- d) Memorial Garden. The flagpole has a new top and the granite has been cleaned In preparation for Remembrance Day. Arrangements for flag lowering and raising, and laying the poppy wreath were agreed.
- e) Half Barrel Planters. These are being planted up.
- f) Telephone Box. Work on the telephone box is underway.

90 (19/20) MAINTENANCE AND TRAFFIC ISSUES

- a) Speed signs. Following a dialogue with Highways, it has been agreed to re-site the speed signs to a site within the 30 mile an hour zone.
- b) Verges. There had been no progress with the Aller Road verge as permission is needed from all the tenants. Two areas had been marked out at the Dennis Cross verge, ready for the trial.
- c) Public Rights of Way. A letter had been received asking whether the footpaths in Dolton were walked and reported on. This does not now happen, so it was agreed to follow this up to explore what might be possible.

91 (19/20) VERBAL REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED.

Cllr Martindale had attended a meeting about bus and transport services. As the Tarka rail line is being upgraded it was agreed to write to other parishes to explore whether the creation of a taxi-bus be a possibility to link with the rail station.

Cllr Tremayne had attended a Parish and County Council meeting where the topics of discussion had included Road Wardens, Community Speedwatch, Overhanging Hedges and pothole reporting and repairs.

92 (19/20) ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD FOR INFORMATION ONLY.

There were no items brought forward for information only. It was requested that Agenda items next time would include Christmas Lights and Climate Emergency.

Signed **Date**