

DOLTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 6th JANUARY 2020

IN DOLTON VILLAGE HALL

PUBLIC SESSION :

Two members of the public spoke at the public session, and the points raised included:

It was suggested that at least one Parish Cllr attends the Acorn Park Appeal to speak on behalf of the Parish Council, taking with them any relevant Minutes as factual evidence. It was being claimed that the 2014 condition was never implemented, but they were also saying that if it was implemented the condition was ambiguous. It was considered important that evidence is produced to show that the condition was implemented, and therefore valid. Cllr Martindale agreed to attend the meeting and take all relevant papers with him.

Devon Climate Emergency Network. There is a need to find a way to live and prosper in a carbon neutral environment. The member of the public proposed that the Parish Council should join the Climate Emergency Network and appoint a person (not necessarily a Cllr) to report back to the Parish Council. This would mean that the Parish Council would have to accept that there is a climate emergency and receive regular reports from the appointed link person.

PRESENT:

Cllr Walker (Chair); Cllrs Giles, Haynes, Herniman, Martindale, Rendell, Rolls and Tremayne. Also in attendance : Clerk L Morris; Ward Cllr M Clarke. In addition, there were 5 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 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.

106 (19/20) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Cllr J Lock had sent his apologies for absence from the meeting. Apologies had also been received from C.Cllr A Saywell and Ward Cllr R Lock.

107 (19/20) MINUTES:

The Draft Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 2nd December had been circulated. They were agreed by all to be correct and signed as a true record.

108 (19/20) MATTERS ARISING

The matters arising from the last meeting had been summarised and these were reviewed.

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109 (19/20) TORRINGTON 100

The Chair welcomed Cathy Richards from Torrington 100. Grants of up to £500 are available to extend existing activities or to start new ones which fall within the criteria, but bids have to be submitted by 30th January. They are especially interested in projects which have a link to the arts but anything will be considered.

110 (19/20) CLIMATE EMERGENCY NETWORK

A discussion was held about the Climate Emergency Network. Cllr Clarke informed the Cllrs that he was on the sub-committee for climate change. James Kendrew had volunteered to be the link person, and Cllr Tremayne said he would be happy to support. It was proposed by Cllr Walker and seconded by Cllr Herniman that Dolton Parish Council should declare a Climate Emergency and join the Climate Emergency Network. All were in favour. It was agreed that Climate Emergency would be an agenda item at each meeting to accommodate any reports or discussions to move this forward.

Cllr Martindale reported that the information about transport links to the rail network had been compiled and uploaded to the Parish Council website.

111 (19/20) CLLRS' REPORTS

- a) C.Cllr Saywell had sent a brief report with a budget update and information about road repairs.
- b) Ward Cllr M Clarke reported that in addition to the Climate Change group, he was the lead for homelessness and had re-written the Homeless Reduction Policy which had been adopted by the full Council. Cllr Clarke reminded the meeting that there are grants available to help individuals with a disability make changes to their homes, but the deadline is the end of March. He also asked if there were any Armed Forces families in Dolton as there is an Armed Forces Covenant.

112 (19/20) CLERK'S REPORT:

The Clerk reported that there had been four applicants for the Clerk's role.

- i) It was agreed that the interviews would be held from 7 pm on Monday 20th January 2020. Clerk to book the Village Hall and contact applicants.

113 (19/20) CORRESPONDENCE:

The list of correspondence received was reviewed:

Ref	Date	Correspondent	Content	Action
10/1	12/12/19	Torrige DC	Planning Appeal Notification	Information
10/2	17/12/19	Geoffrey Cox MP	Surgery Dates	Information
10/3	18/12/19	Devon Wildlife Trust	Torrige River Restoration Project	Information
10/4	3/1/19	Kathlene Crane	Public Rights of Way	Information
10/5	2/1/19	DALC	Nomination for Royal Garden Party	Discuss
10/6	3/1/19	Devon NHS Trust	Personal Enablers' - Vacancies	Discuss

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114 (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
Mr M Lock		Caretaking December	120		1190
Mr D Lock		Grasscutting December	255		1191
Linda Morris		Home Office December	10		1192
D&D Village Hall		Hall Hire December	12		1193
SWW		Football pavilion	180.93		1194
KDL Mini Diggers		Works to Football Parking area	630		1195
			1207.93		

The payment to KDL Mini Diggers had been agreed by Cllrs in order to get the work completed in a timely manner and which would provide a better surface for cars. The Payments were checked by Cllr Haynes. 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 13 December 2019.

BANK RECONCILIATION TO 13 DECEMBER 2019			
Balance at bank 13/12/19			
Current Ac sheet 191 to 13 December 2019	8,406.16		
Reserve Ac sheet 85	1,152.88		
95 Day Ac sheet 69	41,936.34		
Less un-presented cqs at 13/12/19	0.00	cq no	amount
Plus un-cleared credits at 13/12/19	0.00		
Total Balance at bank at 13/12/19	51,495.38		
Cash Book			
Opening Balance from accounts at 1/4/19	50,564.19		
Less payments to 13.12.19	15,115.94		
Plus receipts to 13.12.19	16,047.13		
Closing balance per cash book at 13/12/19	51,495.38		
Variance	0.00		

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- c) Any other financial matters: Precept. The Precept request was reviewed. Cllr Rolls proposed, and Cllr Tremayne seconded that a precept request of £14820 be submitted. This represented a three year period with no increase. All were in favour.

115 (19/20) TO CONSIDER PLANNING MATTERS

- a) Applications to consider: 1/1071/2019/FUL and 1/1072/2019/LBC, Down Farm. These applications were discussed. There were no objections.
- b) Applications granted – 1/0973/2019/LBC North Ham, Cleave Hill
- c) Application withdrawn – there were none
- d) Applications refused – there were none
- e) Any other planning matters. Acorn Farm. It was agreed that Cllr Martindale would attend the Appeal and speak on behalf of the Parish Council. Relevant Minutes would be copied for Cllr Martindale to take as evidence.

116 (19/20) TO APPROVE TENDER DOCUMENTS FOR GRASS CUTTING AND CARETAKING

The documents had been distributed prior to the meeting. They were agreed with a deadline date of 28 February 2020.

117 (19/20) TO APPROVE THE DOCUMENTS FOR COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATIONS

The documents had been distributed prior to the meeting. They were agreed with a deadline of 28 February 2020.

118 (19/20) PARISH GROUNDS. Matters Relating to:

- a) Car Park. i) Ethel Turner bench. The reimbursement had been received.
- b) Football Field. This would be an agenda item in February following the presentation in December.
- c) Dennis Cross. There was nothing to discuss.
- d) Memorial Garden. There was nothing to discuss.
- e) Telephone Box. There was nothing to report.

119 (19/20) MAINTENANCE AND TRAFFIC ISSUES

- a) Speed signs. The re-siting of the speed sign is still being worked on. Highways had agreed to carry out another speed test.
- b) Verges. Cllr Martindale reported that the verges had been cleared and seeds sown. The Parish Council agreed that it was in support of the Community Wildlife Garden Day on June 14th.

120 (19/20) VERBAL REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED.

There were no reports from meetings attended.

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121 (19/20) ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD FOR INFORMATION ONLY.

Several complaints had been received about hedges encroaching on the public highway or pavements. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to all properties where this was the case.

Signed **Date**