

DOLTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 1st FEBRUARY 2021

VIA ZOOM

PUBLIC SESSION : 2 members of the public attended the meeting and there were no points raised

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: Cllr Lock stated an interest in Morrowills Farm and Cllr Martindale stated an interest in Acorn Farm

PRESENT:

Cllr Walker (chair), Cllrs Giles, Herniman, Lock, Martindale, Rendell, Rolls and Tremayne and C.Cllr A Saywell. Also in attendance : Clerk D Edmeads.

114 (20/21) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Ward Cllrs Clarke and Lock sent apologies for their absence from the meeting.

115 (20/21) MINUTES:

The Draft Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on January 11th 2020 had been circulated and were agreed to be a correct record. The minutes were proposed by Cllr Lock and seconded by Cllr Herniman and will be signed by Cllr Giles

116 (20/21) MATTERS ARISING

No matters were brought forward to be reviewed.

117 (20/21) CLLRS' REPORTS

C.Cllr Saywell gave the following report: (copied directly from the written report that was received)
Coronavirus

- *Stats – As of 1st February DCC area of Devon now up to 17,953 coronavirus infections since the start of the pandemic.*
- *Since the 27th January that is a weekly increase of 667 infections.*
- *By way of comparison... in Torridge there were 30 new infections in the last 7 days, North Devon 48 in the last 7 days, West Devon 58 cases in the last 7 days. (West Devon's numbers have been affected by a couple of care home outbreaks)*
- *There are now over 20,000 tests a week being carried out in the County.*

*Positive news... **cases are falling, locally, District-wide and County-wide.** The seven day rolling average for infections in Devon (98.4), is now the lowest since 7th December. **Locally we are still doing incredibly well to keep our infection rates low. Torridge has the lowest infection rate in England (43.9). Devon has the lowest upper-tier infection rate in England (84.4).** Infection cases in Devon are highest in the working age population and the very elderly, with elderly cases, sadly, mainly attributable to some care home outbreaks. In Torridge, cases are very much in the working age bracket, with outbreaks in workplace settings and subsequently households.*

As infections fall and vaccinations ramp up, we must not let our guard down now. Please stay at home, and only leave home if you absolutely have to. When you do go out, don't forget to socially distance, wear a face covering in indoor public spaces and wash your hands regularly.

Community Testing

DCC has started to roll out Community Testing for coronavirus.

Community testing will help to find individuals who have COVID-19 but do not have symptoms and need to isolate and who may inadvertently be spreading the virus. A positive or negative result will not remove the need to follow existing COVID measures socially and in the workplace.

DOLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Rapid lateral flow tests will be used, which will provide a result within thirty minutes. This will not be a substitute for the national coronavirus testing – if you are symptomatic, people should book a free NHS test via the [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) website or by calling 119.

The first site opened at the end of January, at County Hall in Exeter, with other sites planned to become available across the County in February and March.

DCC are also planning to use mobile testing sites to deploy at a workplace or community if there are any localised outbreaks.

COVID Vaccinations

The rollout of the vaccine in Devon and in Torrington Rural has, so far, been going well.

Main points for vaccine rollout:

- *Every time someone in Devon is vaccinated, it brings us a small step closer to the end of the pandemic.*
- *Two new large-scale vaccination centres opened in Devon on 26 January at Home Park, Plymouth, and Westpoint Exeter, creating the potential for thousands more vaccinations each week.*
- *Three pharmacies in Devon are now offering booked vaccine appointments to people who have received a letter from the national booking system.*
- ***Even when you have been vaccinated, you must still continue to follow the COVID-19 safety rules – stay at home as much as possible and remember hands, face, space.***
- *Beware vaccine scammers – remember the vaccine is free and only available on the NHS; and you will never be asked for financial information if contacted for an appointment.*
- ***97% of care homes across Devon have now received a vaccine visit from local GPs*** – teams have worked tirelessly to vaccinate vulnerable people and those who look after them.
- ***Torrington's GP Surgeries now administering vaccines locally*** – Castle Gardens surgery held their first Covid vaccine clinic on Saturday 23rd January and plans are afoot to have a constant Covid clinic running throughout the week. They are targeting those that they know cannot make it to Barnstaple or other vaccine centres.
- *The NHS is also looking at mobile roll out for more isolated rural communities.*
- ***145,148 people had received their first jab in the NHS Devon CCG area up to 24 January and around 80% of people aged 80 and above have been vaccinated in Devon.***

This remains a huge logistical exercise, very much dependent upon the speed and rate of vaccine supplies. Please wait for the NHS to contact you when it is your turn. Rolling is getting more localised, those who cannot travel far should be able to get their jab administered locally.

Covid-19 Prompt Action Grant

A reminder that DCC's COVID-19 grants have opened again for the third lockdown. The guidance is slightly amended and can be found on this link along with the online application

form. <https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/covid-19-fund/>

The biggest difference to the first two waves is that DCC are working in partnership with Devon Community Foundation to fund food projects. So any project that is for food provision needs to apply here <http://devoncf.com/apply/community-food-programme-2/>

DCC Budget

The Budget has now gone through the Scrutiny process for approval at the Council's Cabinet on 12th February, followed by Full Council. As exact details are still TBC I will brief the Parish Council at the March meeting.

Locality Budget

Please note if you have any projects in mind, funding for these will need to be allocated by the beginning of March.

Stay safe, and if there are any issues you need me to follow please don't hesitate to contact me.

DOLTON PARISH COUNCIL

118 (20/21) VACANCY FOR PARISH COUNCILLOR:

The vacancy has been advertised and a cut-off date has been set for mid February. This will be discussed in part II meeting in March

119 (20/21) SOLAR PANELS AND ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGERS:

Cllr Rendell has spoken to Shaun Craze regarding electrical vehicle chargers and gave the following information for future reference:

Costs and charging times differ according to power outputs:

7kw base unit charger costs approx. £1750 and will take 6 or 7 hours to charge vehicle

22kw base unit charger costs approx. £2100 and will take 2 to 4 hours to charge vehicle

There is still the need for a cable feed and it is estimated that each unit could cost in excess of £3000

It is believed that the Village Hall could cope with feeding the power to one of these units but technical assistance and funding grants could be looked into at a future date

120 (20/21) SALT POLICY FOR SNOW WARDEN

Cllr Giles has spoken to James Kendrew to ascertain when the roads had previously been treated. Mr Kendrew advised that he gritted/salted the roads and pavements when snow had fallen. The question was raised as to if this should also be done when it is icy. Cllr Walker will contact Sarah Campbell of the highways agency to see if there are any set guidelines to be followed so that the Parish Council can in turn inform the new Snow Wardens.

121 (20/21) FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) The proposed payments were made.

Payee	Date of Invoice		Gross	Inc VAT	Cq No
M Lock	29/01/2021	Caretaker	120.00		1261
Diane De-Pinto	31/01/2021	Home office & ink	20.00		1262

The Payments will be checked by Cllr Walker. Cheques will signed by Cllr Giles and Cllr Lock after approval. Proposed by Cllr Walker and seconded by Cllr Martindale

b) RECEIPTS after 15 January 2021

none

c) Statement of Accounts: Bank Reconciliation

BANK RECONCILIATION TO 15 JANUARY 2021			
Balance at bank 15/01/21			
Current Ac sheet 204 to 15 January 2021	7,553.56		
Reserve Ac sheet 98	1,154.10		
95 Day Ac sheet 82	42,184.92		
Less un-presented cqs at 15/01/21	6,884.80	cq no	amount
Plus un-cleared credits at 15/01/21	0.00	1257	6514.80
		1258	120.00
Total Balance at bank at 15/12/20	44,007.78	1259	10.00
		1260	240.00
Cash Book			6,884.80
Opening Balance from accounts at 1/4/20	50,026.20		
Less payments to 15.01.21	21,748.71		

DOLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Plus receipts to 15.01.21	15,730.29		
Closing balance per cash book at 15/01/21	44,007.78		
Variance	0.00		

- d) Annual Precept: The Annual Precept paperwork was completed as stated in the previous meeting and submitted to TDC
- e) Other financial matters: none

122 (20/21) PLANNING APPLICATION

- a) Applications to consider - 1/0078/2021/FUL - Morrowills Farm , Rectory Road, Dolton, - no initial objections were made
- b) Applications granted - 1/0916/2020/FUL- Halfpenny Land And Buildings, Dolton, Devon,
- c) Applications withdrawn – none
- d) Applications refused – none
- e) Acorn appeal - Appeal ref; APP/W1145/X/18/3217092 – Cllr Martindale attended the virtual meeting in January and reported that this was a very long meeting dealing with legal matters only. There is a 2nd meeting scheduled for February 8th to continue this discussion but again this will cover no planning issues just the legal and technical details
- f) Any other planning matters: none

123 (20/21) PARISH GROUNDS. Matters Relating to:

- a) Dennis Cross Playground: A safety inspection of the equipment is scheduled for March (Date not confirmed). Cllrs Martindale and Rolls will visit the playground to check that everything is in order prior to the official inspection. Trimming of the hedge will also begin in the next few weeks (weather permitting)
- b) Car Park mirror: a member of the public has mentioned that the mirror at the car park entrance appears to be broken. This has indeed been cracked for a long time but is still working and it was decided that this does not need to be replaced at the moment. It was also mentioned that there has been a car left in the car park for quite some time now, Cllrs will enquire with the owner how long it is expected to stay there.

124 (20/21) MAINTENANCE AND TRAFFIC ISSUES

- a) New Flag: Cllr Walker will order the flag this month, this has been delayed due to payment problems as the company being used will not accept cheques at the moment

125 (20/21) VERBAL REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED

No meeting have been attended in January

126 (20/21) ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD FOR INFORMATION ONLY.

For information - deer remains (not the nice bits!!!) have been found dumped at Woolridge Cross.

The next meeting of the Dolton Parish Council will take place on Monday March 1st 2021 at 19:30
The meeting will take place via ZOOM as social restrictions still do not allow actual meetings to take place .

Signed Date