

# DOLTON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup> 2021

**PUBLIC SESSION:** 4 members of the public attended the following points were raised.

Caroline Cole raised the subject of speeding along Rectory Road and this was answered in the report from C.Cllr. Saywell. She also volunteered to take care of the flower box / planter on Rectory Road. This was accepted by Cllr Walker and seconded by Cllr Herniman.

**DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:** No personal interests or prejudicial interests were declared by the Councillors

**PRESENT:** Cllr Walker (chair), Cllr Giles (vice chair) Cllrs Barwell, Herniman, Lock, Martindale, and Tremayne. Ward Cllrs Clarke and Lock. Also in attendance: Clerk D Edmeads.

### **68 (21/22) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Cllrs Rendell, Rolls and C Cllr Saywell sent apologies for their absence from the meeting.

### **69 (21/22) MINUTES:**

The Draft Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on September 6<sup>th</sup> had been circulated and were agreed to be a correct record by all Cllrs and will be signed by Cllr Walker. This was proposed by Cllr Lock and seconded by Cllr Martindale

### **70 (21/22) MATTERS ARISING**

No matters were brought forward to be reviewed.

### **71 (21/22) CLLRS' REPORTS**

C Cllr Saywell sent the following report relating to the recent speed survey on Rectory Road (copied directly from his email):

*Only a very short report from me for tonight – I can give a fuller update if Cllrs wish to have one when I'm back but I thought the Parish Council would be interested in the update from the Neighbourhood Highways Officer below. It looks as though Rectory Rd would be eligible for a 'SID' sign, which is a device that shows you your actual speed as you are travelling. Whereas the VAS is the sign that tell you to slow down if you are over the speed limit.*

*Russell – and myself for that matter when I'm back later this week – are going to argue there isn't much difference between the two and that you as a Parish should be allowed to install the VAS sign! Will let you know more when I have more information.*

Ward Cllr Lock had the following items to report:

Following the issue raised by Pym Gander in last months meeting relating to the inspection pit at Halfpenny Yard – after speaking to the planners, this pit is perfectly OK and can be used for their own vehicles. It can not be used for vehicles belonging to others without applications being made. In reply to the posts on Facebook regarding the arrival of for caravans/lodges to Acorn Park without prior knowledge, Cllr Lock emailed to her contact at Royal Parks and received an automatic out of office message. No reply had been received at the time of the Parish Council meeting.

Ward Cllr Clarke reported that Afghan refugees will not be placed into rural areas but will be housed (if housing is available!!) in the Bideford area.

Cllr Clarke is also working on a project for housing Pods. Some sites have been allocated in the Bideford and Torrington areas and will hopefully be used to help single mothers, teenagers etc., not rough sleepers. Currently the project is looking into converting unused offices into single dwellings.

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## 72 (21/22) QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS:

The Jubilee committee are moving forward with planning events, fund raising and are allocating people to be responsible for specific tasks. There is now a Facebook page active for these celebrations and grants are being looked into in addition to local funding

## 73 (21/22) EMERGENCIES COMMITTEE / VH SOLAR PANELS AND EMERGENCY HUB INFRASTRUCTURE

Cllr Martindale spoke in relation to the Village Hall Solar Panels and the possible use of the Village Hall and an Emergency Hub, this would allow residents to gather at the Hall in the event of major power cuts where heating and lighting would be available. If the Village Hall committee would be in agreement, then additional electrical changes would be needed at an estimated cost of £1500.00. No objections were raised by the councillors and it was agreed in principle that the Parish Council would cover the costs (to maximum £1500.00) for any works needed to facilitate this. This was proposed by Cllr Walker and seconded by Cllr Tremayne. This proposal will be put forward to the Village Hall Committee.

Cllr Martindale also confirmed that he had spoken to Harrison Jennings and that he and his brother are happy and ready to continue their roles as snow wardens.

## 74 (21/22) FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) The proposed payments were made.

| Payee        | Date of Invoice |                       | Gross   | Inc VAT | Cq No |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------|---------|-------|
| Colin Jones  | 13/09/2021      | Website hosting       | 100.00  |         | 1291  |
| S Martindale | 28/08/2021      | Telephone box repairs | 61.47   | 10.24   | 1292  |
| N Walker     | 13/07/2021      | Zoom subscription     | 143.88  | 23.98   | 1293  |
| T D C        | 27/09/2021      | Clerks salary         | 2032.14 |         | 1294  |
| Village Hall | 30/09/2021      | Village Hall hire     | 6.00    |         | 1295  |
| M Lock       | 28/09/2021      | caretaker             | 120.00  |         | 1296  |
| M Lock       | 28/09/2021      | Caretaker supplies    | 45.97   | 2.08    | 1297  |
| D De-Pinto   | 30/09/2021      | Home office           | 10.00   |         | 1298  |
|              |                 |                       |         |         |       |

The Payments had been circulated to all Cllrs, they were proposed by Cllr Walker and seconded by Cllr Herniman. These were checked by Cllr Tremayne. Cheques were signed by Cllr Giles and Lock.

|                                            |         |
|--------------------------------------------|---------|
| <b>b) RECEIPTS after 15 September 2021</b> |         |
| Precept 2 <sup>nd</sup> instalment         | 7513.50 |
|                                            |         |

## c) Statement of Accounts: Bank Reconciliation

### BANK RECONCILIATION TO 15 SEPTEMBER 2021

#### Balance at bank 15/09/21

|                              |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Current Ac 15 September 2021 | 1,892.53  |
| Reserve Ac                   | 1,154.18  |
| 35 Day Ac                    | 42,224.51 |

|                                   |       |       |        |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|--------|
| Less un-presented cqs at 15/09/21 | 26.00 | cq no | amount |
|                                   |       | 1288  | 6.00   |

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|                                     |      |      |       |
|-------------------------------------|------|------|-------|
| Plus un-cleared credits at 15/09/21 | 0.00 | 1290 | 20.00 |
|-------------------------------------|------|------|-------|

|                                          |                  |  |       |
|------------------------------------------|------------------|--|-------|
| <b>Total Balance at bank at 15/09/21</b> | <b>45,245.22</b> |  | 26.00 |
|------------------------------------------|------------------|--|-------|

## Cash Book

|                                         |           |  |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Opening Balance from accounts at 1/4/21 | 43,677.97 |  |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------|--|

|                           |          |  |
|---------------------------|----------|--|
| Less payments to 15.09.21 | 6,076.02 |  |
|---------------------------|----------|--|

|                           |          |  |
|---------------------------|----------|--|
| Plus receipts to 15.09.21 | 7,643.27 |  |
|---------------------------|----------|--|

|                                                  |                  |  |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------|--|
| <b>Closing balance per cash book at 15.09/21</b> | <b>45,245.22</b> |  |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------|--|

|                 |             |  |
|-----------------|-------------|--|
| <b>Variance</b> | <b>0.00</b> |  |
|-----------------|-------------|--|

## 75 (21/22) PLANNING APPLICATION

- a) Applications to consider - none
- b) Applications granted - none
- c) Applications withdrawn – none
- d) Applications refused – none
- e) Any other planning matters:

## 75 (21/22) PARISH GROUNDS. Matters Relating to:

- a) Telephone Box: This is leaking. Cllrs are trying to resolve this and as soon as it is fixed then it can begin to be used. A local map has been prepared and has been sent to a local company. The cost of this is within the original budget for the works.
- b) Car Park: It has been agreed that an additional sign should be placed in the Car Park to clearly state that all vehicles should be fully road legal, taxed MOT'd and insured and that no commercial activities should take place without the prior consent to the Parish Council. Owners of vehicles currently not compliant with these new rules will be contacted before the sign is erected. The new sign will be sourced as soon as possible
- c) Trees/hedge at Dennis cross: All Cllrs agreed that the trees at Dennis Cross are not looking healthy and that it would be best if they were removed. It was suggested at this point the any replanting could become part of the Queens Jubilee celebrations. It was noted that the hedges could benefit from trimming and Cllr Walker proposed that Mr C Herniman was contacted to undertake this work. Cllr Martindale seconded this proposal. It was further agreed that the hedges around the car park could also be trimmed as they are getting overgrown.
- d) Defibrillator at Pavilion/helicopter site; The was agreed by all to be a very good idea and Cllr Herniman suggested that she contact the first responders as she believed there to be funds available for this.
- e) fireworks at football field: A request was made for a firework display to be held at the football field. The request was denied mainly due to the fact that this is the landing site for the helicopter /air ambulance.

## 77 (21/22) MAINTENANCE AND TRAFFIC ISSUES:

- a) flower boxes on Rectory Road: this was confirmed in the public session of the meeting
- b) overgrown hedges - Stafford Road and Rectory Road: Hedges are overgrown on both Roads and letters will be sent to the property owners that this applies to. It was also reported that some street lights in the village are obscured by overgrown trees and the street lighting team of DCC should be contacted about this. Finally a report of an

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overgrown tree at Stafford Road near the steps was reported and Mr C Herniman will be asked to look at this as well.

c) benches needing attention – this was reported in last months meeting and the bench in question has been looked at and does not seem to be in too bad a condition. The bench in question is not one owned by the Parish Council but it believed to be the property of the land owner. Westward Housing will be contacted to see if this is still their land or if it has been sold to new Orchard Gate Developers.

d) dog bins – we are still waiting for the 2 new bins for West Lane and following the comments of last months meeting regarding the broken lids on some of the existing bins, it appears that these are not easily fixed and would probably be easier to replace them. This will be looked into when the 2 that are still pending are received and installed.

### **78(21/22) VERBAL REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED:**

No meetings had been attended

### **79 (21/22) ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD FOR INFORMATION ONLY.**

No items were brought forward

**Date of next meeting will be November 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 in the Village Hall**

Signed ..... Date .....