

DOLTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY JUNE 3rd 2024

PUBLIC SESSION: 5 members of the public attended.

A member of the public mentioned that in spite of the signs in place at Dennis Cross, dogs have been seen running around the playground. Unfortunately without knowing who the owner(s) are there is nothing that can be done. Yvonne Amor also complained about the amount of mess left by dogs and that there are some dogs in the village that she find aggressive. Again without seeing the guilty dogs and owners leaving a mess, nothing can be done. The Parish Council is not able to act on any of the points raised but could only bring the matters to the attention of the dog owners if known. Yvonne Amor also complained about the state of the pavements and hedges following recent weed killing and spraying. It was made clear that no products on sale contain any chemicals that are harmful to animals and that this maintenance to help keep the village clear of weeds is done on a voluntary basis by members of the public

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: Cllr Smith declared a personal interest in an item he will raise in any other financial matters and also the water bill for the public toilet. No prejudicial interests were declared by the Councillors.

PRESENT: Cllr Walker (chair), Cllr Giles (vice chair), Cllrs Barwell, Devine, Jones, Martindale, Rendell, Smith and Tremayne. Ward Cllr Elliott. Also in attendance: Clerk D Edmeads

32 (24/25) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Ward Cllr Lock and C Cllr Saywell sent apologies for their absence from the meeting.

33 (24/25) MINUTES:

The Draft Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on May 13th had been circulated. They were agreed to be a correct record by all Cllrs and were signed by Cllr Walker. This was proposed by Cllr Martindale and seconded by Cllr Smith

34 (24/25) MATTERS ARISING

No matters were brought forward to be reviewed

35 (24/25) CLLRS' REPORTS

C Cllr Saywell sent the following report that was read in his absence (copied directly from his email):

Apologies I cannot be with you this evening. Only a very brief report tonight as most of the issues I reported on last month are still current/ongoing so there are not many 'new' items to report back on. It was also relatively 'quiet over the Bank Holiday and Half Term week.

Devolution – *Currently waiting for clarification as to where we stand on this following the announcement of a General Election and the dissolution of Parliament. As both main parties are committed to the devolution agenda, I would still expect a deal to be formally passed by Parliament following the election though whether there are any further changes remains to be confirmed...*

20mph Zone – *No major update this month but I'd expect the final consultation results and approval to be sent to me soon...*

Ward Cllr Elliott had nothing to report this month but did confirm that many ongoing projects had been halted until after the general election

36 (24/25) DIGITISATION OF DOLTONS BOOK OF WALKS

Cllr Tremayne suggested that various "apps" could be tested if some of the Cllrs would assist by walking route(s) and mapping them to determine which app works best

37 (24/25) END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS 2023/2024

The end of year account should be ready for the meeting in July as NatWest statements have now been received. The external auditors have been made aware of our delay and have confirmed an extension to the original deadline for us

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38 (24/25) FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Accounts to pay 3rd June 2024

Payee	Date of Invoice		Gross	Inc VAT	Cq No
C Herniman	28/04/24	Tree clearing	195.00		1481
M Lock	30/05/24	caretaker	195.00		1482
D Lock	27/05/24	Grass cutting	1205.00		1483
P Greenwood	07/05/24	Grass cutting / football field	230.00		1484
D De-Pinto	31/05/24	Home office	10.00		1485
Village Hall	31/05/24	Hall hire	18.00		1486
Horticultural Society	See below (d)	Donation	100.00		1487

The Payments had been circulated to all Cllrs and checked by Cllr Tremayne. These were proposed by Cllr Smith, this was seconded by Cllr Barwell. Cheques were signed by Cllrs Walker and Giles.

- b) Receipts - NatWest paid £150.00 into the current account as compensations / apology for their lack of service

c) Statement of Accounts: Bank Reconciliation for NatWest accounts

BANK RECONCILIATION TO 22 MAY 2024

Balance at bank 22/05/24

Current Ac 22/05/24	48,140.51
Reserve Ac	0.14
35 Day Ac	138.90

Less un-presented cqs at 22/05/24	1,490.98	chq	amount
		1471	20.00

Plus un-cleared credits at 22/05/24		1474	13.96
		1475	12.00

Total Balance at bank at 22/05/24	46,788.57	1478	1372.23
		1479	50.00
		1480	22.79

Cash Book

Opening Balance from accounts at 1/4/24	43,016.69
Less payments to 22/05/24	4,961.03
Plus receipts to 22/05/24	8,732.91

Closing balance per cash book at 22/05/24 **46,788.57**

1490.98

Variance **0.00**

- d) Donation for Horticultural society: : A request for a donation of £100 has been received by the Horticultural Society to help with the costs of the annual show. All Cllrs agreed to this suggestion and it was agreed that this cheque be added to the cheques to be signed at this meeting, This was proposed by Cllr Smith and seconded by Cllr Martindale
- e) Water bill for Public toilet: the Parish Council has paid for the water usage in previous years and after checking the records it would appear that no invoice for payment had been received since 2019. As the meter for this water is now accessible it was agreed that a meter reading would be taken at regular intervals to enable payments to be made to the Royal Oak as this is currently included in their bill.
- f) Other financial matters:

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i: Cllr Smith spoke of the Dolton Diary and the difficulty they face in balancing editorial and advertising entries. It was suggested that the Parish Council assist the Diary with the printing costs, enabling any advertising contributions to be redirected to village and charitable organisations. Cllrs pointed out that the Diary had always been run independently and should remain that way.

ii: although not financial, it was mentioned at this point by Cllr Smith that using Facebook as a platform to publish agendas and minutes would be beneficial to the community. Cllr Jones offered to look into this and report at the next meeting.

39 (24/25) PLANNING APPLICATION

- a) Applications to consider: 1/0479/2024/FUL & 1/0480/2024/FUL - Down Farm, Dolton, Winkleigh, Devon. No objections were made
- b) Applications granted: none
- c) Applications withdrawn: none
- d) Applications refused: none
- e) Any other planning matters: none

40 (24/25) PARISH GROUNDS- any matters relating to:

- a) Dennis Cross Playground Equipment update: no updates at this time. Cllr Devine mentioned that the terms and conditions sent from 4grants need to be read by other Cllrs so that they can be agreed to and that she will forward these to others after the meeting. It was mentioned that the exercise equipment should be removed as quickly as possible and that the picnic benches will need some attention. Cllr Walker and Jones will look at this
- b) Bus Shelter in the Square: No replies have received from Sarah Chappell. Ward Cllr Elliott will try to get in touch with her on behalf of the PC.
- c) Any other Parish Grounds issues:
 - i) the possibility of lighting the beacon on June 6th was raised. Although short notice Cllrs will see if this is possible to arrange.
 - ii) Cllr Devine asked about the what3words being assigned to the Parish Council assets, Cllrs Martindale and Jones confirmed that they are working on this.

41 (24/25) MAINTENANCE AND TRAFFIC ISSUES

- a) village clean-up day – It was agreed that this will be held in September after the Summer holidays.
- b) any other maintenance and traffic issues – none

42 (24/25) VERBAL REPORTS FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED IF ANY

Cllr Giles advised that there is a meeting on June 12th in the Village Hall at 7pm. This is being held by the Church regarding the appointment of a new priest

43 (24/25) ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD

No items were brought forward

Date of next meeting will be July 1st 2024 in the Village Hall

Signed Date