

## **Meeting of Doddington Parish Council held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2015 in the Pavilion, Benwick Road, Doddington at 7.30p.m.**

**Present:-** Cllr R Hufton (Chair), Cllrs S Cross, I Gowler, P Jolley, R. Mason, V McDougall, J Shepherd, J Welcher and B. Whittaker and the clerk, Mr R. Wilkin.

**1. Apologies:-** Cllr D. Connor (District & County Councillor) and Cllr M Davis (District Councillor for Wimblington)

### **2. Minutes:-**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting dated 21<sup>st</sup> September 2015 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as correct.

### **3. Matters Arising:-**

- a. A section 215 notice has now been served on the owner of the unfinished units in Newgate Street and FDC Planning are keeping the situation under review.
- b. The possible need for bus stops in Primrose Hill had been raised with CCC and an answer was awaited.
- c. FDC have not yet made contact with the owner of the ex garage in Primrose Hill regarding the tidying of the forecourt.
- d. Askham House have agreed to reinstate the footpath between their property and Washbrook Farm once their contractors had completed the extension works.

### **4. Police Matters:-**

PC Rem Kajzer was not present but his report was read out to the meeting. The Clerk also advised the meeting that the website link for information of crime statistics can be found at [www.cambs.police.uk/LocalPolicing/CrimeData](http://www.cambs.police.uk/LocalPolicing/CrimeData)

### **5. Highway Maintenance:-**

- a. It was reported that rubbish was being dumped in Dykemoore Drove. It was agreed to refer this matter to FDC.
- b. It was reported that conifers had been planted on private land in Dykemoore Drove by the occupants of the adjoining land. It was agreed to refer this to FDC and/or CCC if the private landowner was unable to resolve matters.
- c. The CCC were proposing to seek the assistance of the local communities and volunteers to grit local footpaths in periods of freezing weather. Volunteers would be trained by the CCC and would be covered by the CCC insurance. It was agreed to place a note in Doddington's Doings.

### **6. Street Lighting:-**

- a. The Chair advised the meeting that Skansa had quoted £495 for inspecting 40 street lights which worked out at £12.37 per light. Doddington's share therefore amounted to £61.87. Members agreed to support the survey.
- b. It was reported that street lights FPC40 (Ingles Lane) and FPC 30 (Doddington Hall) were not working.

### **7. Fenland District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council Matters:-**

CCC had announced that they needed to make £41 million of budget savings in the next financial year and had launched a consultation exercise to examine various proposals that may be suggested where cuts can be made.

## **8. Neighbourhood Plan:-**

The Chair advised the Council that this item would be discussed in committee due to the potential sensitivity of the subject. She then advised that the first meeting of the working party had taken place and displayed a plan of the village upon which various areas had been highlighted where development considerations may be supported. Further meetings would be taking place when additional information was known including the results of the Village Action Plan.

## **9. Planning:-**

### **a. Appeal Decision:**

#### **i) F/YR14/0989/F Erection of a 3 bed dwelling land south west 12 Benwick Road.**

The meeting was advised that The Planning Inspectorate had dismissed the applicant's appeal.

### **b. New Planning Applications:**

#### **i) F/YR15/0824/TRCA Works to 2 willow trees, 2 Benwick Road Doddington**

The meeting raised no objection to the application.

#### **ii) F/YR15/0825/TRCA Works to walnut tree and fell a rowan tree, 1 New Street Doddington**

The meeting raised no objection to the application.

#### **iii) F/YR15/0829/FDL Erection of a single storey 3 bed dwelling, land at Ancaster Way Doddington**

Cllr J Shepherd declared an interest as the applicant was a relative. The meeting raised no objection to the application.

#### **iv) F/YR15/0836/F Installation of external wall insulation to front and sides of existing dwelling, 7 Benwick Road Doddington.**

The Council had concerns that unless the finish to the edging of the insulation around the windows and corners was sound, the end result may detract the overall appearance. These comments follow observations noted on other installations in the district.

#### **v) F/YR15/0856/TRCA Felling of 1 silver birch and 1 ash and works to 1 silver birch and 1 hazel and 1 cedar, 55 New Street Doddington**

The meeting raised no objection to the application.

#### **vi) F/YR15/0911/TRTPO Works to 1 oak tree covered by TPO 09/2010 6 The Oaks Doddington**

The meeting raised no objection to the application.

#### **vii) F/YR15/0916/TRCA Fell 1 ash and works to 2 sycamore trees, land south west of 12 Benwick Road Doddington**

The meeting raised no objection to the application.

#### **ix) F/YR15/0942/F Erection of 2 single storey 1 bed holiday chalets to rear of existing dwelling involving demolition of glass house and timber shed**

The Clerk advised that the formal consultation documents had not yet been received but as information had been extracted from the FDC website members considered the application and raised no objection.

### **c. Potential Enforcement Issues:**

i) It was reported that the temporary mobile home sited at The Oaks whilst development took place is still being lived in although the temporary planning permission would have expired. It was agreed to refer the matter to FDC.

ii) FDC had taken up an issue that a mobile caravan sited in Wimblington Road and previously used as ancillary accommodation for an elderly relative was now being advertised for let as a holiday home.

#### **d. Planning Training:**

The Clerk advised that FDC were proposing to hold a planning training session for Parish Councillors on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at Fenland Hall. Up to 6 members expressed a wish to attend.

#### **10. Doddington Village Action Plan:-**

The Chair advised the meeting that some 221 questionnaires had been returned and these were currently being collated and analysed. She hoped that initial results may be available in November which would allow the Council to consider if there were any projects that could be provided or financed by the Parish Council and provision made in next years budget.

#### **11. Abbey Recreation Ground – Trimming hedges along the boundary:-**

The meeting was advised that hedge trimming would take place at the end of the month or in early November 2015.

#### **12. Bier House Improvements:**

The Clerk advised the meeting that our grant application in the sum of £1,500 had been approved and he would now arrange with Mr Baker for the works to take place. Members suggested that we ask Mr Baker to ensure that he hold an appropriate Health & Safety Certificate to cover the works. Members agreed to erect a plaque stating that the building had been a fire house and to advise that the project had been supported by a grant from The Burnthouse Farm Windfarm Fund.

#### **13. Website:**

The Chair commented that the website was now taking shape and she congratulated Cllr McDougall for the work completed to date. She asked that a copy of the link be circulated to all members in order that they could view progress. The Clerk undertook to let Cllr McDougall have links to the Declaration of Interests, Standing Orders and Financial Regulations all of which should be published in an appropriate administrative section on the website.

#### **14. Citizens Advice Bureaux Outreach Worker:**

The Chair asked members if there was any support for a suggestion that the Parish Council arranges for a CAB worker to visit the village on a monthly basis to provide facilities for local residents. The likely monthly cost, including hire of rooms, could be in the region of £150 per month. After a short discussion members concluded that there was no support for such an arrangement.

#### **15. Financial Matters:-**

##### **a. External Audit Report**

The Clerk advised that the external audit report had been received in which a comment had been made that the capital value of the Council's assets should remain fixed at the construction cost rather than the insurance valuation.

##### **b.. Receipts and Payments.**

The following receipts and payments were presented and accepted as follows:-

Receipts:-	£	Payments:-	£
Rent Benwick Ath FC	135.00	E Mason & Sons – grass cutting	66.00
FDC – Precept	13,750.00	J O Cutteridge – grass cutting	744.00
		Cambridgeshire CC – LHI	117.46
		P F Littlejohn – external audit fee	276.00
		NALC – publications	15.50

Benwick AFC grass cutting	225.00
Clerk's Salary	424.32
Petty cash reimbursement to Clerk	108.00
HMRC – Income tax on clerks salary	106.08

£13,885.00

£2,082.36

**16. Correspondence:-**

- a. The Chair agreed to attend a presentation for the 2016 Tour of Cambridgeshire on 29<sup>th</sup> October at Haddon, Peterborough.
- b. An application for grant assistance had been received from the East Anglian Air Ambulance but the meeting regretted that it did not have funds available.

**17. Any Other Business:**

- a. Due to timing restrictions in submitting articles for publication in the Doddington Doings it was not possible to submit Parish Council reports in that months issue. When the change of venue for Council meetings took effect in January, subject to the availability of the Church Rooms, dates of meetings should take place on the second Tuesday of each month.
- b. The Chair agreed to place the Parish Council wreath at the Remembrance Day Service.
- c. Members considered that a post and chain fence should be installed along the grass area in front of the Bier House. The Clerk was asked to seek to comments of the FDC Conservation Officer.
- d. Members raised no objection to daffodil bulbs being planted along Wimblington Road and Primrose Hill.
- e. Members raised no objection to a notice being fixed to the clock tower railings from 4<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> December advertising a Christmas Fete whose proceeds will go to supporting the Village Carnival.
- f. The Clerk asked if members wished to have a Council Dinner in January 2016. Members suggested we approach The Tuns.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.20pm.