

## **Meeting of Doddington Parish Council held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2015 in the Pavilion, Benwick Road, Doddington at 7.30p.m.**

**Present:-** Cllr R Hufton (Chair), Cllrs S Cross, P Jolley, R. Mason, V McDougall, J Shepherd, J Welcher and B. Whittaker. Cllr D. Connor (District & County Councillor) and Cllr M Davis (District Councillor for Wimblington) and the clerk, Mr R. Wilkin were also present.

**1. Apologies:-** Cllr I Gowler.

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

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting dated 26<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as correct.

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

- a. Tour of Cambridgeshire. The Chair updated members on the meeting that she and Cllr Jolley had attended. The route for 2016 had been set but it was hoped that in 2017 the route could pass through the village rather than bypassing the centre.
- b. Bier House Renovation. The Clerk advised the meeting that the approved grant in the sum of £1,500 had been received and that Mr Baker had scheduled the works to take place in January 2016. The meeting was also advised that the building had been broken into but nothing had been stolen and no damage done other than the padlock had been cut off. The Police had been advised by the tenant.
- c. The Clerk advised the meeting FDC had agreed with the landowner that the street into the former site of 65 Newgate Street will be named Kingsland Close in memory of his late wife rather than The Willows which was the Parish Council's preferred choice. Members were very disappointed with the stance taken by FDC.
- d. Local Highway Improvement Initiative. The Clerk advised the meeting that our application was being assessed and we would be advised if any further information was required.
- e. Parish Council Annual Dinner. The Clerk advised the meeting that it would be difficult to hold the dinner at The Three Tuns during January as the chef was away on holiday. Members agreed to that the date can be fixed for February.

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

PC Rem Kajzer was not present but his report was read out to the meeting which was noted. Members discussed the hare coursing issue in some length. Cllr Mason advised members that thieves had accessed Knowle's site via the allotments and had stolen a quantity of red diesel.

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

- a. It was reported that street lights in Newgate Street, Ingles Lane, Peyton Close and Church Lane were being obstructed by overhanging trees. It was agreed that these should either be referred to FDC or the owner of the trees.
- b. Various pot holes in Ancaster Way required attention by CCC.
- c. Cllr Whittaker suggested that if a pedestrian crossing which incorporated traffic lights was installed outside the local primary school this would aid the slowing down of traffic along the High Street. It was agreed to investigate possible funding and/or whether the scheme would qualify under the CCC Local Highway Improvement Scheme.

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

a. The Chair advised the meeting that agreement had been reached with each of the Parish Council's who were taking part in the survey of street lights that Doddington would coordinate the arrangements with Skansa in that Doddington would pay for the survey in full, including the VAT which it would recover, and recharge each Parish Council with their share of the net cost. The Clerk advised the meeting that invoices had been sent out to each of the Parish Councils and the invoice from Skansa was included in the cheques to be signed later in the meeting.

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

a. Cllr Connor provided an update on various matters to the meeting:

- i. Site of 65 Newgate Street: position of roadways
- ii. Old garage site Primrose Hill: Owner had agreed to improve the appearance of the site.
- iii. Partially built units Newgate Street: Section 215 notice had been served but the fear was that this would have no effect.
- iv. As part of the spending review carried out by CCC, the Chief Executive's role was now being shared with Peterborough Council.
- v. FDC spending review's results were being presented to cabinet later this week.

b. The Clerk informed the meeting that a further limited consultation was being carried out on the Electoral Review of Cambridgeshire. This review only affected the Cambridge City Centre but the effect of this would be that the overall recommendations for Cambridgeshire will now be published on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2016 rather than 17<sup>th</sup> November 2015 as originally planned.

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

The Chair advised the Council that a second meeting of the working party was planned to take place on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015

## **9. Planning:-**

### **a. New Planning Applications:**

#### **i) 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 reminded members that this application was discussed at the last meeting although formal paperwork had not been received from FDC. This paperwork had now been received and members comments from the last meeting had been formally reported to FDC.

#### **ii) F/YR15/0993/F Erection of a 2 storey agricultural building involving the demolition of existing barn, Thackers Farm Parsons land Drove.**

Cllr Jolley declared an interest and took no part in the discussion or vote. No objection was made to the proposals as submitted but the Parish Council asked that a condition be placed on any approval that the new barn does not become either a permanent, temporary or holiday let dwelling.

#### **iii) F/YR15/1003/F Erection of a second storey extension to rear of existing dwelling including raising of the roof of the existing conservatory, 31 High Street Doddington.**

No objection raised.

#### **iv) F/YR15/1009/TRCA Works to 1 poplar tree within a conservation area, 3 Church Lane Doddington.**

No objection raised.

#### **v) F/YR15/1010/TRCA Works to 3 lime trees covered by TPO 11/1967, 3 Church Lane Doddington.**

No objection raised

**b. Proposed Pre-Application Charging Scheme:**

FDC were proposing introducing a pre-application charging service in line with the scheme already in place with Peterborough City Council. Members agreed that providing the system comes with some kind of guarantee timescale for the turn around of opinion on proposed applications then this will be a good thing and the proposed fees were not overly expensive.

**10. Doddington Village Action Plan:**

The Chair advised the meeting that questionnaires were still being collated and analysed.

**11. Abbey Recreation Ground – Agreement with Benwick Athletic FC:**

The Chair advised members that the Benwick Athletic FC were experiencing a significant loss of members however they now only had a need to use one pitch on the Abbey Field. Members discussed the matter in some detail and agreed that a new arrangement be negotiated with the club whereby the Parish Council will pay for 50% of the cost of grass cutting and the matter be reviewed on a year to year basis.

**12. Website:**

The Clerk advised members that it was hoped to use the FDC link into members Declaration of Interests but this was not up to date. He asked if anyone had a multi scanner facility that could be used to copy members forms in order that these could be uploaded. Cllr Davis advised that she had such a copier and would make it available.

**13. Venue Change for future Parish Council Meetings:**

The Chair advised members that the Church Rooms were available on the second Tuesday of each month at a cost of £20 per meeting. Members noted the position.

**14. Financial Matters:**

**a. Bank Account.**

The Clerk advised the meeting that the new mandate for the Council’s current account was now in place.

**b. Annual Precept.**

The Clerk advised members that FDC would not be in a position to provide information on the Council Tax Support Grant and Concurrent Functions Grant until after 17<sup>th</sup> December and as a consequence required our Precept requirements by 5<sup>th</sup> February 2016. The Clerk advised that he would prepare a first draft financial report for the December meeting with the final report being agreed at the January meeting.

**c. Receipts and Payments.**

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

Receipts:-	£	Payments:-	£
Rent Benwick Ath FC	135.00	J O Cutteridge – grass cutting	1,488.00
		D Williams – Wreath	18.50
		Recreation Committee – hire rooms	200.00
		Clerk’s Salary	424.32
		Petty cash reimbursement to Clerk	213.55
		HMRC – Income tax on clerks salary	106.08
		Skanska – Street lighting Survey	594.00
	<u>£135.00</u>		<u>£3,044.45</u>

**15. Correspondence:**

- a. The Clerk reported receipt of a note from CCC advising what Community Transport facilities were available in the Fenland area. It was agreed that those parts applicable to the Doddington area be published on the website.
- b. The Clerk reported receipt of a notice advertising the Wings for Life World Run charity race that would cause a number of roads to the south of the parish to be closed for the event on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2016.
- c. An application for grant assistance had been received from the Volunteer Centre Fenland but the meeting regretted that it did not have funds available.
- d. An enquiry had been received from the Christmas Lights Committee requesting if CCC or FDC have any rules over tapping into the street lighting electricity supply.
- e. A note had been received from a young resident regarding a dog running on the playing field and the handler not picking up the mess.

**17. Any Other Business:**

- a. It was agreed to approach the Village Hall Committee after their AGM and request a copy of their annual accounts for Parish Council records.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.45pm.