

Meeting of Doddington Parish Council held on Monday, 16th March 2015 in the Pavilion, Benwick Road, Doddington at 7.30p.m.

Present:- Cllrs C Curtis, A Clapham, S Cross, P Jolley, R. Hufton, R. Mason, J. Welcher and B. Whittaker. Cllr D. Connor (District & County Councillor) and the clerk, Mr R. Wilkin, were also present.

1. Apologies:- Police representative

2. Minutes:- The minutes of 16th February 2015 were agreed after changing the final sentence of item 4b (Police Matters) from “Cllr Whittaker was attending.” to “Cllr Whittaker withdrew from attending.” The minutes were then signed by the Chairman as correct.

3. Matters Arising:-

a. The Clerk advised that the cost of a “Keep of the Grass” sign would be in the region of £10 plus the cost of fixing to a suitable post. Members agreed to purchase 3 signs to be fixed along the kerbing area of the grass opposite the clock tower.

b. Members agreed not to pursue the suggestion of purchasing “Check Speed 30 mph” stickers that people could affix to their bins on the grounds of excessive cost.

c. The Clerk advised that our request to retain the old street lighting columns for Parish Council use had been agreed on the basis that we would be liable for any cost in transporting the columns to a central site. Cllr Welcher confirmed that the columns could be stored at his farm. The Parish Council will need to ensure that a suitable disclaimer will need to be prepared if the columns are past or sold to any resident.

d. The Clerk advised that he had submitted a grant application to CCC for potential WW2 community celebrations..

e. The Clerk reported that additional repairs to the war memorial had been completed and appeared to be satisfactory.

f. The Clerk reported receipt of a letter of thanks from the Doddington Christmas Lights Committee thanking the Council for the electrical work recently undertaken to the Clock Tower. Members were advised that the switch on event was planned for Saturday 5th December 2015.

4. Police Matters:-

a. In the absence of a representative from the Whittlesey Safer Neighbourhood Team their report on incidents within the village during February 2015 was read out by the Clerk. Members felt that the information provided was sparse and would like further elaboration. They also felt that as it was now three months since the new team had taken over the policing for the village that they would like a representative to introduce themselves to the Council.

5. Highway Maintenance:-

a. Cllr Hufton gave a report to the meeting on the Cambridgeshire Future Transport Working Group meeting that she and Cllr Whittaker had attended.

b. Cllr Connor reported that the pot hole issue in Parsons Land Drove had been raised with CCC and there was the possibility that some repair work would take place, should there be any surplus tarmac available from other contracts, but there was no planned resurfacing being scheduled.

- c. The Clerk reported receipt of an enquiry from Mr John Bennett on his concerns over pollution from the high level of HGV's travelling through the village. Members advised that meetings with Greenvales had received some reduction in the movements but there was no action that could be taken to prevent vehicles duly taxed and licenced from using any public road.
- d. It was reported that the footpath surface near Bier House had dropped where the water meter point was sited. It was also reported that the water meter cover had been damaged by a FDC refuse lorry at the entrance to Washbrook Farm.
- e. Weeds were reported to be growing through the footpath opposite the Clock Tower.
- f. Members reported that notices advertising events within the village are not being taken down after the event had been held.

6. Fenland District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council Matters:-

- a. Cllr Connor was asked to press for a section 106 contribution to upgrade the footpath surface along Benwick Road between Askham House and the entrance into Washbrook Farm should the planning application to build 10 units in that area be approved.
- b. Cllr Connor was investigation if section 106 funds may still be available from the windfarm development for possible eco based schemes.
- c. The Clerk reported that CCC had launched an online survey regarding the future approach for the library service within the County. It was agreed to circulate members with the link.

7. Doddington Village Action Group

Cllr Hufton reported that the questionnaire was shortly being printed.

8. Planning:-

a. Applications

i) F/YR15/0120/F Erection of a 2-storey 3-bed dwelling, land south west of 1 Eastmoor lane Doddington. Members supported the application.

9. Financial Matters:-

a. Receipts and Payments.

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

Receipts:-	£	Payments:-	£
Rent Benwick Ath FC	135.00	Clerk's Salary	424.32
		Petty cash reimbursement to Clerk	146.00
		HMRC – Income tax on clerks salary	106.08
	<u>£135.00</u>		<u>£676.40</u>

10. Correspondence:-

- a. The Clerk reported receipt of an application for grant funding from Magpas, the emergency medical charity. Members regretted that they did not have funds available from which they could make donations to organisations.
- b. The Clerk reported receipt of a report on the work undertaken by the Cambridgeshire Police Shrievally Trust who either assist victims of burglary, domestic abuse and other crimes, or who are concerned about home and personal security.

11. Any Other Business:-

- a. Members noted that at present there is no central record kept of incidents involving sewerage overflows within the Parish. It was considered that it would be beneficial if such a record was maintained and asked the Clerk to arrange for this to take place.

b. Members were advised that building in Benwick Road that had received planning approval for change of use to a child nursery had changed its designation from child nursery to a child care establishment. As such, it was no longer bound by the planning requirements over parking and signs. Members expressed their surprise at this change of designation.

c. Cllr Hufton advised the meeting that the Burnt House Wind Farm grant scheme had received three applications from organisations within the village for financial assistance. Members were pleased to note the position.

d. The Clerk advised members that the Annual Parish Meeting normally took place in late April each year but in view of possible Parish Council elections on 7th May 2015 wondered if members wanted the meeting arranged after this date. Members agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting in May and suggested Thursday 28th May 2015.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.