

Meeting of Doddington Parish Council held on Monday, 20th July 2015 in the Pavilion, Benwick Road, Doddington at 7.30p.m.

Prior to the commencement of the Council's official business, Rebecca Robinett the Street Pride Co-ordinator from Fenland District Council, gave a brief overview on the Street Pride organisation and how a local group could be formed.

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

1. Apologies:- All members were present.

2. Minutes:-

The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman as correct.

3. Matters Arising:-

- a. Cllr Mason advised that Mr Joe Elener had not yet contacted him regarding correcting the wiring in the Clock Tower. The Clerk will chase.
- b. The Clerk reported that the Council's views on the Electoral Review of Cambridgeshire had been noted and would be taken into account when the Local Government Boundary Commission is formulating its final recommendations.
- c. Members agreed to remove the unofficial dog walking sign in Abbey Recreation Ground and deferred making a decision on whether dog walking should be allowed to a later date.
- d. It was agreed that Parish Council meetings should be moved from the Pavilion to the Church Rooms at the end of the current commitment to the Recreation Committee and that future meetings would take place on the third Tuesday of each month commencing at 7.00pm. It was therefore hoped that this change in venue may help ensure that parishioners would be prepared to attend an open forum session at each meeting.
- e. Members were advised that the estimate for the repairs to the Bier House doors and brickwork would cost £1,980.10. It was suggested that there may be the possibility that a grant towards the cost may be available from either FDC or WREN. The Chairman agreed to make enquiries before works there implemented.

4. Police Matters:-

- a. PC Rem Kajzer gave an update on incidents that had occurred in the area over the last month. Members raised concerns over the increase in car parking near the entrance to the school.
- b. The Chair advised the meeting that she had written to Sir Graham Bright, Police & Crime Commissioner, over the switch of cover from March to Whittlesey and was awaiting a reply.

5. Highway Maintenance:-

- a. Members advised that a tree's branches were obstructing the footway in Newgate Street and secondly brambles were encroaching onto the footway in Ingles Lane. Cllr Connor agreed to take these matters up with the owners or FDC.

- b. The Clerk reported that an email had been received pointing out that a large conifer tree near the Methodist Church Hall may need attention. The trunk was surrounded by a large pile of pine needles and the tree appeared to be very dry. Cllr Mason agreed to speak to a relative of the owner.
- c. It was reported that white lines were due to be painted on the recently resurfaced road during the week commencing 26th July.
- d. The Clerk advised that a report in the Fenland Citizen from CCC on proposals to change various speed limits in the village had caused some confusion. The Chair had received confirmation that part of the notice referred to the moving of a 40mph limit on Newgate Street in accordance with the information discussed by the Parish Council at their meeting on 20th April 2015. The second part of the notice was to ensure that all roads in the parish are covered by a speed limit order.
- e. CCC had published arrangements for the 2016/2017 Local Highway Improvements initiative. Members considered requesting 30mph speed limits be made along the full length of Newgate Street, Wimblington Road and Benwick Road.
- f. CCC had published its proposals for grass cutting of public rights of way during the current year and for 2016. For this year, one cut is taking place now, a second cut is planned for August and a third optional cut is due in October. Next year they plan to make a first cut in May, a second cut in July and an optional third cut in September/October.
- g. It was reported that a public footpath sign in the Coneywood area had been broken. Cllr Connor was monitoring its replacement.
- h. CCC had advised that they had no plans to switch off or dim any CCC owned street lights in the village.

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

- a. Cllr Connor informed the meeting that following the sec 215 order being served on the owner of the unfinished units in Newgate Street he had been advised that the owner was claiming he had no funds to undertake the improvements. FDC were now considering the position.
- b. The Old Swan Bungalow. Planning Enforcement were investigating the issue. Members informed Cllr Connor that the bungalow had recently been sold to one party and the two remaining plots were owned by other people. Cllr Connor would pass that information back to planning.
- c. Cllr Connor advised that FDC had agreed to replace the peach coloured roses with red ones.
- d. Cllr Connor agreed to chase FDC over the installation of a dog bin in Wood Street.

7. Doddington Village Action Group:-

The Chair advised the meeting that posters had now been purchased to promote the completion of village questionnaires when they are distributed in September.

8. Planning:-

a. Administrative Arrangements:

- a. Cllrs Gowler and Shepherd had prepared a summary spreadsheet of all planning matters that had been received since the last meeting together with their comments and any additional information that they thought would be of interest when members came to consider the application. Members considered that this approach was very beneficial to them.
- b. FDC were arranging an opportunity for Parish Councillors to attend a training session on planning applications. A number of members expressed an interest in attending.

b. New Applications:

No new applications had been received.

c. Other Planning Matters:

i) F/YR15/0484 Development at 65 Newgate Street.

It was reported at the last meeting that this application was recorded on the FDC website but no information had been provided by FDC to the Parish Council. This information had now been received and the planning committee had considered that there were no issues as it just replaced an existing application.

ii) F/YR15/0460 Development north east of 7 Wimblington Road.

It was reported at the last meeting that this application was recorded on the FDC website but no information had been provided by FDC to the Parish Council. This information had now been received and the planning committee had considered that the access arrangements did not adequately support the proposal and the proposed design was not in keeping with the neighbouring properties. An objection was sent to FDC.

iii) F/YR14/0503/FDL 62 dwellings and access east of Bevills Close.

FDC republished this application and sort any further comments by 30th July 2015.

Members agreed that as this was such a contentious application that full publicity be made within the village to ensure that as many comments and objections are received by FDC before the closing date.

iv) Possible development in Wimblington Road.

Members considered a pre application approach from Morton and Hall for the construction of 8 dwellings along Wimblington road. Members noted that the siting of these units abuts the Wimblington boundary and therefore is at a variance with FDC's Planning Policy LP12 which advises that new development should not result in coalescence with any neighbouring village.

v) Wimblington Parish Council – Proposed Anaerobic Digester at Fengrain.

Wimblington PC has sought support from the Parish Council in objecting to the proposed digester. A number of members had concerns about lending their support but the majority agreed to send a letter of objection on the grounds that the development is likely to bring an increase of tractor and trailer traffic through the village.

9. Developer Contributions:-

a. Section 106

The Chair informed the Council that a meeting had been agreed with Mr S Manley from FDC on 20th August to discuss ways by which the Parish Council can influence the allocation of Section 106 monies.

b. Ransonmoor Environmental Fund

The Chair advised the meeting that a panel of interested parties from the villages of Wimblington and Doddington had been formed and that a suggested criteria by which grants can be agreed had been presented to FDC for their consideration.

10. Benwick Road Cemetery:-

Cllr Mason advised that the hedgerows had been pruned.

11. Website:-

Members were advised that a meeting had been arranged with John Clarke from Wimblington who had offered to give some advice on the creation of a site.

12. 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	E Mason & Son – village maintenance	648.00
FDC – Concurrent grant	2,683.00	J Cutteridge – grass cutting	1,488.00
		Clerk’s Salary	424.32
		Petty cash reimbursement to Clerk	129.50
		HMRC – Income tax on clerks salary	106.08
	<u>£2,818.00</u>		<u>£2,795.90</u>

13. Any Other Business:-

- a. For members information, Cllr Welcher gave a brief history of the village charity.
- b. The Council agreed that the carnival bunting can be left on display for two weeks at carnival time. They also agreed to send a letter of congratulation to the carnival committee.
- c. Cllr Connor agreed to speak to Larkfield Homes over the condition of “The Swamp”.
- d. Members agreed, due to the holidays of the Clerk, that the next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on 10th August.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.17pm.