

DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of the Parish Council held by remote video conference on Wednesday 11th November 2020 at 7.00p.m.

Present: Cllr. R Hufton (Chair), Cllrs H Fisher, I Gowler, L Howard, R Mason, K Presland and J Welcher. Cllr M Davis (District Councillor), Cllr D Connor (District and County Councillor) and the Clerk Mr R Wilkin were present.

1. Open Forum: - No residents were present.

2. Apologies: - Apologies were received from Cllrs A Harrison and J Shepherd.

3. Declaration of Interests:-Declarations were declared by Cllrs Fisher, Gowler and Welcher on planning applications that were to be considered later in the meeting.

4. Minutes: -The minutes of the meeting held on 14th October 2020 were approved. They would now be signed by the Chair following the meeting and forwarded to the Clerk.

5. Updates and matters arising:-

Updates on a number of projects / subjects are still awaited although some are delayed due to the coronavirus pandemic:

- a) Age UK Community Warden arrangement – no further update
- b) The report on the condition of the Churchyard wall was still awaited
- c) The Chair gave a report on the AGM of The Connections Bus Project that took place last month. Members reaffirmed their earlier decision that they would defer any take up in supporting arrangements for the youth until “face to face” facilities were possible.

6. Police Matters: -

a) The Chair had previously circulated the minutes of a Police and Councillor meeting that took place on 28th October 2020. Members noted the minutes in which it was reported that 9 crimes had taken place within the village during the preceding month. No crimes details had been given within the report.

7. Fenland DC, CCC and other external organisation matters:-

a) It was reported that FDC were launching “Small Business Grants” to assist business affected by the covid-19 pandemic and they should be notifying business direct on their availability.

8. Highway Issues: -

a) Members raised the following new items:

- 1. It appeared that the telegraph pole near Thickens Farm in Doddington Road may have been hit by a lorry.
- 2. The road surface near Delflands in Benwick Road needed attention.
- 3. The pavement in Beech Lane had broken slabs that needed attention.

b) Updates had been received on the following items:

1. Gullies throughout the village were to be cleared as soon as possible.
2. CCC are continuing to monitor the dips in Primrose Hill and on Doddington Road outside Thickers Farm

3. The overhanging branches of trees fronting Hospital Road had been cut.

4. Suitable road signs that Turf Fen Lane was unsuitable for heavy vehicles were being pursued with CCC.

c) The Chair had previously circulated members with an issue regarding lorries using Ingles Lane as a cut through and as a consequence some were experiencing difficulty in safely negotiating the tight corner and passing vehicles parked along the lane. Discussions with CCC showed that the best course of action would be to make an application under their "Privately Funded Highway Improvements" scheme for suitable worded signs to be installed at both ends of Ingles Lane. Members agreed to seek a costing for providing suitable signs.

d) The Chair updated members on progress being made on the proposed pedestrian crossing outside the local primary school. She informed the meeting that CCC had advised that two surveys would be required to enable their Signals Team to commence detailed designs for a crossing. These two surveys covered a topographical/land survey and a speed/traffic survey at a cost of £2,862.65. She was proposing writing to CCC to ascertain if there were any further costs or activities that we should be aware of. Members agreed to defer authorising the surveys until full clarification of potential costs was known.

The meeting was reminded that, although the PC had earmarked some £30,000 within its reserves towards the cost of a crossing this only covered approximately half of the possible costs involved. The Chair advised members that the PC was still sourcing potential grant funding and as the Cambs & Peterborough Combined Authority was releasing significant monies to fund crossings in March that perhaps an approach should be made to Mayor James Palmer for funding. Members supported this course of action and agreed that a public consultation seeking support for a crossing should take place in March 2021. In the meantime it was agreed that an initial notice updating residents on action taken and proposed should be reported in the December issue of Doddington Diary

9. Planning:-

a) New Applications:-

i. F/YR20/0935/F Erect a single storey rear extension with hydrotherapy pool and conversion of garage loft space to a 1 bedroom annexe 10 Askham Row Benwick Road Doddington

Members voted to support the application

ii. F/YR20/0983/F Erect a single storey side/rear extension and single storey to front of existing dwelling involving demolition of existing utility at 16 Walden Close Doddington

Cllr Fisher declared an interest. Members voted to support the application

iii. F/YR20/1002/F Erect a single storey extension to front of existing dwelling (part retrospective) at The White House Parsons Land Drove Doddington

Cllr Gowler declared an interest. Members voted to support the application

iv. F/YR20/1007/O Erect up to 2 dwellings (outline application with matters committed in respect of access and layout) land east of 4 May Meadows Doddington

Members voted to object to this application on the following grounds:

- a. Cars cannot pass each other on the access road to May Meadows and the construction of passing places cannot take place as the adjoining land is in private ownership.
- b. The footpath issue is still outstanding
- c. Building of additional plots will raise infrastructure issues
- d. Members considered that this application breached a number of policies within the Fenland Local Plan, notably LP2, LP16, LP12c and LP12k

v. F/YR20/1039/TRTPO Works to 1 Oak Tree covered by TPO 07/2012 at 62 Benwick Road Doddington

Members voted to support the application

vi F/YR20/1018/F Installation of 2 aluminium cowls involving the removal of 2 existing aluminium louvres at Telephone Exchange Childs Lane Doddington

Members voted to support the application

vii F/YR20/1041/F Installation of ground mounted 150kw solar PV array, 4 x CCTV security cameras mounted on 4.0m high poles and associated infrastructure at land north of Fields End Livery Benwick Road Doddington

Cllr Welcher declared an interest. Members voted to support the application but drew the attention of the EHO to the possible effect that noise from the adjoining land could be picked up on the equipment and bounce further into the village.

b) Other Planning Matters

i. The minutes of the PC meeting held on 20th October 2020 to consider the additional sites within the Doddington area that had been received by FDC as part of their revised consultation exercise for a new Local Plan was approved and signed by the Chair.

At this point in the meeting, Cllr Connor left.

iii. The Chair advised the meeting that Mr. Toby Farlow had indicated that he would be prepared to assist in the re-launch of a Neighbourhood Plan for the village. The Chair advised that any re-launch was unlikely to take place until February 2021 at the earliest.

10. Abbey Recreation Ground:-

a) The Clerk reported that following the renewal of the safety inspection contract with Sovereign Play last month that an inspection was scheduled to take place later in the month.

11. Benwick Road Cemetery:-

a) Update on progress in completing matters raised at the Cemetery Committee meeting on 24th June 2020:-

1. Spraying of the grasscrete roadway to keep the weeds down was outstanding
2. **An order had been issued to Anglian Water to make the water connection and provide a water meter.** A push down water tap was to be installed and local plumbers names were suggested
3. The surrounding hedges and trees are to be checked to ascertain if any need replacing
4. **Two waste bins have now been supplied and are currently stored in the Chair's garage.** Arrangements need to be made to safely secure them on site.
5. **A request for a quotation from FDC Construction has been issued to provide a concrete pathway between the roadway and the cremation plots. In addition the first two rows of cremation plots are to be marked out with touching paving slabs. A quotation had been received and members requested that a second quotation be obtained. They also agreed to use standard paving slabs in place of decorative slabs and slate to be used between the cremation slabs.**
6. Arrangements will be made to acquire small circular stainless steel disks showing plot numbers. These will be fixed to either the concrete plinths or cremation slabs.
7. **The Clerk was proposing to seek a meeting with the Clerk of Wimblington PC to clarify what official cemetery record books and application forms would be needed.** These would be supported by a computerised system.
8. It was agreed that "Reserving of Plots" would be allowed but would be restricted to those rows identified for immediate use. The Rules and Regulations would be updated to take this into account.

9. The Clerk confirmed that FDC were charging double rates for internments from people outside of the area.

10. Arrangements to inform the local undertakers would be made when we were in a position to become operational.
11. Arrangements would be made to source a suitable notice-board that could be fixed near the cemetery entrance.

b) Members were informed that the VE bench had been temporary fixed within the area pending a more permanent site to be agreed.

12. Street Lighting:-

- a) The Chair updated members on progress for the removal of street light FP22 and confirmed that Cable Testing had been asked to provide a quotation for the work.
- b) It was reported that light FPC15 in Cooks Green was consistently on.

13. Village Maintenance:-

- a) The Clerk informed members that the Councils insurance company had advised that the maximum that they would reimburse for a replacement of the bus shelter would be £2,900 based on the estimate of rebuilding cost provided by Neil Sooley. Members agreed to defer the replacement issue until discussions took place on what provision should be included in the 2021/2022 precept that may involve costings to replace a further two wooded bus shelter within the village.

15. Financial Items:-

- a) Payments:

The Clerk had circulated a listing of invoices for payment. It was agreed that cheques be drawn for the following items:

Doddington Scout Group	Litter picking Abbey Rec	100.00
Eon UK PLC	Street Lighting power	182.62
Brian Elmore	Pavilion shutters	960.00
Cambridgeshire ACRE	Membership renewal	57.00
R Wilkin	Clerks net salary + expenses	734.92
HMR&C	Income Tax	182.10

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.07pm.

