

DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of the Parish Council held by remote video conference on Wednesday 10th March 2021 at 7.00p.m.

Present: Cllr. R Hufton (Chair), Cllrs H Fisher, I Gowler, L Howard, R Mason, K Presland, J Shepherd, A. Harrison and J Welcher. Cllr M Davis (District Councillor) was present as was the Clerk Mr R Wilkin.

1. Open Forum: - No members of the public were present.

2. Apologies: - Apologies were received from Cllr D Connor (District and County Councillor)

3. Declaration of Interests:- Cllr I Gowler declared an interest in two planning items that were to be considered later in the meeting.

4. Minutes: -The minutes of the meeting held on 10th February 2021 were approved. Following the meeting, the Chair would sign the minutes and forward them to the Clerk.

5. Updates and matters arising:-

- a) The Clerk updated members on the possible use by residents of the allotments managed by Benwick Parish Council. He was currently awaiting final details from Benwick.
- b) As no information had been received from the Government on the possible extension of time for holding virtual meetings, it was agreed to consider arrangements that will need to be finalised for holding “face to face” meetings during the pandemic at the next meeting.

6. Police Matters: -

- a) Members noted the minutes of the Police / Parish representatives meeting from 25th February 2021. The next meeting was planned for 1st April 2021.

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

- a) Cllr M Davis gave members a general review of the FDC business plan.
- b) The Clerk reported that FDC had issued a press release on the regeneration of Fenland's railway stations that consisted of a number of projects being delivered through FDC's Railway Station Masterplans and financed from Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined authority with support from Greater Anglia.
- c) Natural England were providing grants for the restoration and creation of ponds and had provided Parish Councils with a suggested article that could be used to advertise the scheme to local communities.. The Chair advised members that she had spoken to Preim/Larkfleet on the possibility of using these grants to improve the Wimblington Road pond. In the meantime it was agreed to pass the article to Doddington Diary for possible publication.

8. Highway Issues: -

- a) Updates on items previously raised:
 - 1. The pot hole in Dyke Moor was still outstanding while the pot hole in Benwick Road had been repaired.
- b) Members raised the following new items:
 - 1. There is a dip in the road opposite 17 Beech Avenue
 - 2. The hedge at the bottom of Wood Street, believed to be private, needs cutting back
 - 3. The area near the corner of Beech Avenue is overhanging with brambles

- c) Members expressed their pleasure on the appearance of the footpath improvements from the school towards the clock tower which were completed in February 2021.
- d) The Clerk advised members that our bid under the LHI 2021/22 scheme to extend the footway improvements in High Street was considered by the CCC panel on 1st March 2021. The Clerk presented the Council's case to the panel.
- e) The Clerk reported that micro asphalt surface treatment works would be taking place to 6 roads in the village during late March 2021.

9. Pedestrian Crossing Public Consultation:-

The Chair reminded members of the arrangements that would be taking place later in the month for the public consultation arrangements for the proposed pedestrian crossing outside of the school.

10. Planning:-

a) Planning Appeal:-

Members noted that an appeal had been lodged with The Planning Inspectorate against FDC's refusal to grant planning permission on application F/YR20/0728/O, Erection of one dwelling on land north of 25A Newgate Street Doddington.

The PC objected to the application when it was submitted in September 2020 and agreed to reaffirm its comments and clarify that views of this important open site which was adjacent to the Doddington Conservation Appraisal would be adversely affected if permission was granted.

b) New Applications:-

- i. F/YR21/0075/F Erect a 2 storey side extension and single storey rear extension to existing involving the demolition of existing extension at 3 Manor Estate Doddington
Cllr Gowler declared an interest. Members voted to support the application.
- ii. F/YR21/0085/F Erect storage and workspace building for equestrian use (retrospective) on land east of 10 Primrose Hill Doddington
Members voted to object to the application on the grounds that this is a retrospective planning application to replace a building and a mobile home for which no planning permission had previously been granted. Two previous applications to seek planning permission for these items were refused by FDC in 2016. In addition, the PC was still of the opinion that the mobile home and the side extension is an unnecessary and unwarranted extension to the original use of the land.
- iii. F/YR21/0123/F Erect a 2 storey side and single storey rear extension to existing dwelling at 53 Newgate Street Doddington
Cllr Gowler declared an interest. Members voted to support the application.
- iv. F/YR21/0131/TRCA Fell 1 weeping willow and works to 2 leyandii trees within a conservation area at 34 Benwick Road Doddington
Members voted to support the application.

c) Revised Proposal to an outstanding 2020 application

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

Members considered the revised proposals relating to this application and concluded that their objections to the application must still stand.

11. Abbey Recreation Ground:-

- a) Members were advised that BAFC had asked for permission to cement in the goal posts and for permission to install some brick built dugouts. Members considers the requests and in

response to the concreting of the goal posts they were prepared to grant permission subject to BAFC accepting ownership of all the goal posts used by the club including taking responsibility for their future security and maintenance. In addition, if at any time in the future the club wishes to remove the goal posts then they undertake to make good any ground disturbance.

With regard to the request to install brick built dugouts, members were not prepared to sanction this work and suggested that the Club purchases mobile units.

b) Members were informed that the back door to the Pavilion was rotten and needed repairing. A quotation to effect the repairs had been obtained from GLP Installations to replace the door and frame with new items and to use the existing metal security sheet and door furniture.

Decorating was to be undertaken by others. The cost of GLP's work amounted to £500 plus VAT and was accepted by the Council.

c) The Clerk informed members that a request had been received from Team Rubicon asking if they could organise small, fun, community led events for young people to showcase their talents on skate parks. A full days activities will include tuition and events with prizes. The event cost is £920. Members expressed their interest in the event and Wimblington PC indicated that they may be prepared to join in.

12. 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) It was reported that a number of the trees that had been planted by the Parish Council around the boundary of the cemetery needed attention. The Chair agreed to contact John Cutteridge to request a report on their condition.

13. Street Lighting:-

a) The Chair reported that she was still chasing the authorities on a date for the Cooks Green light to be attended to.

14. Village Maintenance:-

a) The Clerk and Cllr Shepherd updated members on progress for the replacement of the damaged bus shelter including arrangements for the removal of the damaged brickwork.

b) An inspection on the condition of the Bier House is to be arranged following the incident of flooding earlier in the year.

15. Website and Communications:-

Members were advised that there was still a number of entries to be transferred from the old website to the new site.

16. 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	164.94
E Mason & Son	Hedge cutting	504.00
Doddington Diary	Advert	20.00
CAPALC	Annual Subscription	639.33
R Wilkin	Clerks net salary + expenses	763.42
HMR&C	Income Tax	182.10

17. Correspondence:-

a) The Clerk advised members that elections would be taking place on 6th May 2021 to appoint County Councillors across the county, plus a Police and Crime Commissioner and fill the post of Mayor for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority.

b) The Chair gave a brief update on a video meeting that had been organised by Cambridgeshire County Council and Fenland DC on building on the work of local councils, health, public services, the community and voluntary sector over the last year.

18. Any other Business:-

a) The Chair reported that the local WI would like to decorate the area around the Clock Tower during the period 7th June to 21st June 2021 to celebrate The Isle of Ely Federation of WIs being 100 years old this June. Members were pleased to give their permission to the request.

b) The Chair reported that she had requested a meeting with Anglia Water Authority to discuss the disposal capacity of the system.

c) Members raised a question on whether yellow lines should be installed in Wood Street. It was agreed to discuss this suggestion at the next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20pm.

