

Meeting of Doddington Parish Council held by remote video conference on Wednesday 15th April 2020 at 7.00p.m.

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

1. Open Forum: - No residents were present.

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

3. Standing Orders:-

In view of the current Coronavirus pandemic, legislation has been passed that allows Parish Councils to hold meetings by remote video facilities. The Council's current Standing Orders having been updated and circulated to all members were formally adopted.

4. Declaration of Interests:-

Cllrs I Gowler and R Mason declared interest in one planning application that was to be considered later in the meeting.

5. Minutes: -The minutes of the meeting held on 12th February 2020 were agreed as correct and signed by the Chair following the meeting, and were forwarded to the Clerk.

6. Police Matters: -

- a) The Fenland Neighbourhood Policing Team Monthly report for March 2020 had been circulated.
- b) Members noted an appeal by the Police for information following masked men breaking into a Doddington home on 13th March.

7. Coronavirus – Effect on village activities:-

- a) Letters had been sent to all homes where a resident was over 76 years of age entitled "Can we help you". A number of prescriptions were picked up from the surgery and dropped off to residents. This service is now carried out by the surgery and organised for elderly and vulnerable residents. Five emails and phone calls were received that praised our efforts.
- b) Under The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020 that came into force on 4th April 2020, the Annual Assembly meeting, planned for 23rd April 2020, is cancelled and will not be rescheduled.
- c) Connections Bus Project – arrangements have been suspended for the foreseeable future.
- d) Repairs to Abbey Pavilion and Skate Park panels. The window guards have been constructed and despatched for powder coating but the company undertaking the work is closed for the duration of the lock down. These will be fitted as soon as they are released. Work to repair the damaged skate park panels is also delayed.
- e) Litter picking in Abbey Field is continuing for the time being by one of the scout leaders. Cllr Fisher advised that no litter picking was being done in the village by the Street Pride Group for the foreseeable future.

8. Highway Issues: -

- a) The Clerk reported that CCC had advised that all non-essential works to footways and road surfaces had been suspended until further notice.

- b) The Chair reported that she had had complaints that two footpaths had been ploughed up. The land owner where this had happened to one footpath had confirmed that this was an error on behalf of the contractor and the footpath would be reinstated. The second complaint would be taken up with the contractor responsible.
- c) The Clerk reported that the application period for making LHI submissions for 2021/2022 had now opened. Members agreed to seek an extension to the recently approved footway resurfacing from the local school to Ingles Lane to cover the footway from Ingles Lane towards the Clock Tower junction. Members also agreed to include within the application an offer to provide a maximum contribution of £5,000 towards the costs.

9. Planning:-

a) New Applications:-

- i. F/YR20/0225/VOC Variation to conditions on planning permissions to allow operation of personal training business from existing home gym at 9 Primrose Hill Doddington. Members supported the application
- ii. F/YR20/0265/RM Reserved matters application relating to detailed matters of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale to erect a dwelling on Land east of 4A Primrose Hill Doddington. Members supported the application

10. Street Lighting:-

- a) The Chair updated members on the future maintenance of the parish street lights and the current position regarding the outstanding works. A vote of thanks was recorded for the work undertaken by Pat Amos, Clerk of Wimblington PC, in sourcing and obtaining quotations. Cllr Davis undertook to pass Doddington's thanks onto Pat. Members agreed to effect a formal agreement with Cable Test. With regards to the outstanding installation works, members agreed to chase ETL one more time to provide a date when outstanding works would be completed before passing the works onto Cable Test.
- b) The Clerk advised members he had received the FDC contribution of £7,102 towards the replacement of the parish cat 2 units and that the additional offer from FDC that was reported at the last meeting has been formally accepted. We are currently awaiting confirmation on when this will be paid. Members recorded their thanks to the Chair, Clerk and Cllrs Connor and Davis in resolving the long standing issues relating to the financing of Parish owned street lights..

11. Update on matters outstanding:-

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

- a) Age UK Community Warden arrangement within the village
- b) Quotations from CCC on the Benwick Road parking issue
- c) Any further consultation arrangements from FDC on the Fenland Open Plan. Doddington's comments on the 19 sites have been submitted.
- d) Clarification on the maintenance issue for the pedestrian crossing and progress on grant applications
- e) A second grant application request has been received from Amey to cover the CCTV facilities on Abbey Field
- f) Removal of surplus gravel from Benwick Road cemetery – Cllr Welcher confirmed that this is in hand.
- g) Awaiting report on the Churchyard wall
- h) Awaiting plans for a possible allotment area within the village
- i) Village maintenance review including quotation for rebuilding the bus shelter

12. VE Day:-

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, no village community event will be taking place. However, it was agreed that the “Tommy” sign should be fixed to the Clock Tower and the flag should be flown. The bench order would be chased.

13. 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 Scouts	Litter collection Abbey Field	100.00
E Mason & Son	Grass & hedge cutting	258.00
I Gowler	Postage – Over 76’s letters	107.92
EON PLC	Street Lighting Electricity	184.30
R Wilkin	Net Salary	710.94
R Wilkin	Petty Cash	17.50
HMR&C	Income Tax – Clerk Salary	177.74

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20pm.