

DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of the Parish Council held in The Church Rooms, New Street on Wednesday 10th November 2021 at 7.00 pm.

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

Prior to the commencement of official business, Adam Garford from Cambridgeshire County Council gave a short presentation on the Doddington Community Hub.

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

2. Apologies: - Apologies were received from Cllrs R Leonard, I McNulty, J Shepherd and Cllr M Davis (District Councillor)

3. Declaration of Interests:- No declarations were made.

4. Minutes: -The minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 2021 were approved following the correction of a typo in item 5e where C Webb was amended to J Webb. The corrected minutes were then signed by the Chair.

5. Updates and matters arising:-

a) The Chair advised members that no response had been received from FDC regarding the quotations that they were inviting to repair the stone walls that surround St Marys Church. Cllr Connor undertook to make enquiries with FDC. Members also asked if there would be any issue if the Parish Council contacted a local builder to refix any dislodged coping stones back onto the wall in order to prevent any further damage to the walls.

b) Members received an update on the concerns raised by residents at Octobers' Open Forum and by email to the Clerk regarding speeding near Askham Row, Benwick Road. Data from the MVAS system had been downloaded and forwarded to them. The results for one day showed that 85% of traffic was below 40mph, the limit set at that point. Further monitoring will continue including possibly revisiting the correspondence with CCC on providing yellow lines and buildouts closer to the village centre.

6. Queen's Platinum Jubilee:-

a) Following on from last month's comment over lighting beacons to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, members suggested an oil drum could be modified to provide the base on which to create a beacon.

b) Members were in agreement on planting trees in support of The Queens Green Canopy. In addition Fenland DC had advised that the Forestry Commission's Local Authorities Treescape Fund had granted £48,570 to plant new trees and maintain them for three years. Members agreed to consider possible sites within the parish next month.

c) Members considered whether to hold a Community event to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. A village picnic was suggested. It was agreed to circulate village groups to enquire if any of them were planning on holding any functions to celebrate the Jubilee.

7. General Administration Items:-

- a) Members deferred to the next meeting a review on the membership of the Parish Council committees.
- b) The Clerk reported that the Cambridgeshire Local Councils Conference for 2021 would be held virtually on 14th January 2022.

8. Police Matters: -

- a) Members noted the previously circulated minutes of the Police / Parish representatives meeting held on 28th October 2021.

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

- a) The Clerk had previously circulated to members a consultation from Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority on the future of transport in the region.
- b) The Clerk advised members that The Local Government Boundary Commission was holding a consultation of ward boundaries for Fenland DC. The Commission is suggesting that the number of Councillors for the District Council should be increased from 39 to 42. The Clerk agreed to circulate the details of the consultation and members agreed to consider the matter at the December meeting.

10. Highway Issues: -

- a) The following minor items required attention by either the DC or CCC:-
 - i. Manhole cover in front of the new bus shelter on Benwick Road is bent and broken and has become a trip hazard,
 - ii. The tarmac around the drain on the road just past The Tuns is broken up,
 - iii. The post on the Church parking area has been hit and is broken and lying on the road.
- b) Members noted that CCC was applying for a Temporary Traffic Order covering a road closure on Dykemoor Drove from 29th November to 13th December.

11. Pedestrian Crossing - Survey Works:-

Members were advised that CCC should be in receipt of the surveys by the end of November. Cllr Connor agreed to keep in contact with CCC Highways to ensure that we are advised of the outcome as soon as is practical.

12. Planning:-

a) Withdrawal of planning application:-

Members were advised that application F/YR21/0711/F Temporary siting of a mobile home, porta cabin office and formation of a ménage (retrospective) at land south of Coneywood South Farm Wood Street Doddington had been withdrawn.

The Clerk advised that the withdrawal was taken on the advice of FDC Planning who suggested that a resubmission would be considered if further information were to be provided.

b) New applications:-

- i. F/YR21/1162/VOC Variation of condition 02 to enable amendment to approved plans of planning approval F/YR19/0295/RM (plot 2 only), land north of Cathedral View Turf Fen Lane Doddington
Members voted to oppose the application on the grounds that the proposed amendments are significantly different from the approved plans.

- ii. F/YR21/1227/F Erection of glasshouses involving demolition of existing glasshouses to existing nursery, Delfland Nurseries Benwick Road Doddington
Members voted to support the application
- iii. F/YR21/1254/F Erect a 2 storey 5 bed dwelling with detached garage and stable block involving demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings at land east of Levells Cottage Forty Foot Bank Ramsey.
Members voted to support the application
- iv. F/YR21/1298/F Erect a single storey rear extension and first floor side extension to existing dwelling at 2A Church Lane Doddington
Members voted to support the application

c) Other Planning Matters:

- i. Update on Nature Reserve, Primrose Hill Doddington
The Chair advised members that a site meeting was being arranged with the CCC Biodiversity Manager on 16th November to discuss the pros and cons on taking on the project
- ii. Update on F/YR21/1072/FDC Erect 47 dwellings with associated garages, parking and landscaping, involving the demolition of existing agricultural building and garage to 44 Bevills Close at land East of Bevills Close and North of Eastmoor Lane Doddington
The Chair advised members that the “drop in” session on 26th October for residents to comment on the above application was well received and further comments had been forwarded to FDC Planning.

13. Abbey Recreation Ground:-

- a) The Chair reported that the fencing at the back of the skate park had been damaged and that Cllrs Mason and Shepherd would be investigating what repairs may be necessary.

14. Benwick Road Cemetery:-

- a) A meeting of the Cemetery Committee took place on site on 21st April 2021. That meeting updated or revised the outstanding items as follows:
 1. **FDC Construction are to be instructed to provide a concrete pathway between the roadway and the cremation plot site similar in design and length to the concrete footway on the burial side of the roadway. It had now become apparent that the design of the existing grasscrete cups would never permit grass to grow throw the roadway. It was therefore agreed that kerbing needs to be installed around the edging of the roadway and a thin layer of gravel laid on top of the existing roadway. In addition, two rows of cremation plots are to be marked out with touching paving slabs and standard paving slabs are to be used. Slate to be used between each duplicate row of slabs to create footpaths.**
 2. **An order had been issued to Anglian Water to make the water connection and provide a water meter.** Work had been delayed as there was a suggestion that the land may have been contaminated. This may require specialised pipework to be installed which ultimately will need to be directed through the brick wall and a push down water tap to be installed.
 3. A combination lock needs to be purchased to secure the main gates which in turn required some minor repairs to correct a bent rod.
 4. **The surrounding hedges and trees have been checked and a number of saplings need replacing. It had been agreed with the garden centre that replanting will take place in October/November.**
 5. **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.

6. **The circular stainless steel disks showing plot numbers and row names had been received and as these had been provided free of charge a donation of £50 had been given to Metalcrafts charity.**
7. **The Clerk was ordering the official cemetery record books and application forms.**
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) The Clerk and Chair advised that DEFRA were currently running a consultation on activities involving groundwater and whether this would affect cemeteries. As the expected number of burials within the cemetery would be below 100 per year the site would qualify as “exempt” under the proposed regulations.

c) A number of yew hedging trees required replacing. Cllr Mason agreed to find out how many replacement plants were needed and report this back to the Chair.

15. Street Lighting:-

a) Members were advised that repairs to the street light outside 7 Benwick Road would require a new LED lantern at a cost of £339.53 plus vat. Members sanctioned the repairs.

b) The Chair agreed to contact FDC’s Conservation Officer on the suggested lighting arrangements for the Clock Tower.

16. Village Maintenance:-

a) Members agreed that additional defibrillators should be installed in the village and agreed to investigate the feasibility of installing units at The Tuns and at the shop near Elmores’ workshop.

17. Website and Communications:-

Updates to the new web site are continuing including setting up a Council facebook page.

18. Financial Items:-

a) Payments:

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 electricity	209.88
Cabletest Ltd	Removal of obsolete column	601.03
Fenland DC	CCTV maintenance and reporting	3,000.00
Cambs & Peterboro’ Assn	Training courses	270.00
Cambs ACRE	Subscription	57.00
Chatt Comm Car Scheme	Donation	100.00
R Wilkin	Clerks net salary + expenses	769.80
HMR&C	Income Tax	187.20
HMR&C	Refund VAT paid to PC in error	6,093.17

19. Any Other Business:-

- a) Members agreed to consider the AGE UK Scheme at the next meeting of the Parish Council
- b) Members agreed with a request received from the WI to plant a tree in the Benwick Road cemetery to commemorate their 100year anniversary.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm.