

DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of the Parish Council held in The Church Rooms, New Street on Wednesday 12th January 2022 at 7.00 pm.

Present: Cllrs H Fisher, L Howard, R Leonard, R Mason, I McNulty and J Shepherd. The Clerk Roger Wilkin was also present.

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

2. Apologies: - Apologies were received from Cllrs R Hufton (Chair), K Presland, J Welcher, Cllr M Davis (District Councillor) and Cllr D Connor (District and County Councillor).

Cllr H Fisher chaired the meeting

3. Declaration of Interests:- Cllr Mason declared his interest in a planning matter that was to be discussed later on the agenda.

4. Minutes: -The minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2021 were approved and signed by the Chair.

5. Updates and matters arising:-

- a) The minutes of the December meeting of the Doddington Hub had been circulated to the Chair and Vice Chair. Members thought that the siting of the “Bus” should be sited in a more central position rather than at the Hospital. Members noted that the next meeting was scheduled to take place on 26th January.
- b) The Clerk reported on details of a new scheme offered by Age UK in which a Community Warden was now able to offer assistance to residents aged 60 and over in Doddington, Wimblington, Benwick and Manea.

6. Queen’s Platinum Jubilee:-

- a) Provision of a beacon:- Members agreed that a metal frame should be constructed to retain an oil drum and Cllr Shepherd offered to discuss arrangements with Brian Elmore. It was agreed that some forward of community event should take place culminating with the beacon lighting.
- b) Tree planting:- Members agreed, in support of The Queens Green Canopy, to plant two trees, species to be agreed, in the village. The first should be near the village sign but care should be taken in fixing its location to avoid any underground services. The location of a second tree is still to be agreed. A suggestion was made to invite the Mayor of the Combined Authority to plant one of the trees.
- c) It was agreed that contact would be made to all village organisations asking what arrangements they may be organising in 2022 to celebrate the Jubilee.

7. Police Matters: -

- a) Members awaited the minutes of the January 2022 Police / Parish representatives meeting.

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

- a) The Clerk advised the meeting that our observations on The Local Government Boundary Commission review of ward boundaries for Fenland DC had been submitted and acknowledged.

9. Highway Issues: -

- a) The following minor item required attention by either the DC or CCC:-
 - i. Cooks Green road surface near number 3 was breaking up
- b) Cllr Shepherd reported that data from the MVAS system was not downloading the system may needed to be reformatted.
- c) Members discussed whether to proceed with traffic calming measures near the Scout Hall by installing yellow lines or building “build out”. It was agreed not to continue with these possible works.

10. Pedestrian Crossing - Survey Works:-

The Clerk advised members that the County Council’s LHI Panel would be meeting on 2nd February 2022 and Doddington’s application was to be heard at 9.30am. The Clerk and the Chair would be presenting the submission on behalf of the Parish Council..

11. Planning:-

a) New applications:-

- i. F/YR21/1386/F Erect 16 dwellings with associated garages, parking and landscaping north of 43-53 High Street Doddington.
Members strongly objected to the application as there was little revisions to the original application (F/YR21/0065/F) and in addition members stated that should FDC be mindful to approve the application that the attenuation basin and the Juniper Close reservoir must be constructed before any development takes place.
- ii. F/YR21/1423/O Erect up to 3 dwellings and the formation of 4 accesses at land east of Highland View Benwick Road Doddington
Members considered that this application for ribbon development should be in keeping with nearby property ie chalet type. Members would also like to see the units sited further back from Benwick Road to allow for the construction of an internal roadway to serve the three properties thereby making one access onto the main road instead of the three that were shown as serving the dwellings.
- iii. F/YR21/0947/F Erect 2 dwellings at land east of 4 May Meadows Doddington
Members objected to the revised drawings shown on this application and would prefer that the floor plans revert back to the earlier design. Members also reaffirmed its wish that any planning approval for development on sites 5 and 6 includes a condition that ensures that the footpath from May Meadows towards the village is constructed.
- iv. F/YR21/1510/RM Reserved matters application relating to detailed matters of appearance, landscaping and scale, land south of 63-77 Newgate Street Doddington
Members supported the application.

b) Other Planning Matters:

- i. Update on Nature Reserve, Primrose Hill Doddington
The Clerk reported that no response to the Parish Councils requirements had been received from either the agent or the land owner.

13. Abbey Recreation Ground:-

- a) The meeting was advised that the repairs to the fencing at the back of the skate park would consist of minor works to replace 2 wooded rails.

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.**
A site meeting was to be organised with FDC Construction to finalise works and costings
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) Members were informed that the WI have planted their tree in the cemetery in celebration of their 100 year anniversary.

15. Street Lighting:-

a) The Clerk circulated a number of designs of Victorian style lanterns that could be fixed to the four corners at the top of the Clock Tower. Members chose the black traditional design from Black Country Metalworks Ltd at a cost of £249.99 each subject to there being no conservation issue on style or size. It was also agreed to seek a Certificate of Proposed Lawfulness to cover the work.

16. Village Maintenance:-

- a) The Clerk advised members that the two new defibrillators had been order and Cllr Leonard agreed to undertake regular checks on the power supply on all defibrillators to ensure that the units were fully charged.
- b) The Clerk reported that FDC were still considering revised quotations for the repairs to the stone walls around the Church. With regard to the repairs to the wooded fencing the supply of wooden gates was still be sourced.
- c) Possible bus shelter on Primrose Hill. The Chair reported that there was difficulty in contacting the Lord of the Manor for agreement to use the land but in the meantime GLP Installations were considering the work involved in extending the base and building a shelter.

17. Website and Communications:-

Members were advised that a new Parish Council Facebook Page was now up and running along side the new website. It was agreed to consider the use of official email address at next months meeting.

18. Financial Items:-

- a) The Clerk had circulated a paper on the options regarding the precept for 2022-2023. Following discussion by members it was agreed to seek a precept for the next financial year of £60,000.

b) Payments:

It was agreed that cheques be drawn for the following items:

Imperative Training Ltd	New defibrillators (cheque drawn 15 th December)	3,163.20
Doddington Scout Group	Litter picking Abbey Rec	100.00
Npower Business Solution	Street lighting electricity	330.38
Cable Test Ltd	Lighting repairs	407.44
R Wilkin	Clerks net salary + expenses	756.80
HMR&C	Income Tax	187.20

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25pm.

