



DODDISCOMBSLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 11 July 2019 at
7.30pm in Doddiscombsleigh School

Present: Cllr H Hanson (Chairman), Cllr E Davis, Cllr M Moorhouse, Cllr S Burdge, TDC Cllr S Purser and 7 members of the public

Clerk: A Miller

As the Chairman of the Council, Cllr Turney could not attend the meeting, the councillors who were present elected Cllr Hanson to chair the meeting. **Proposed** Cllr Davis **Seconded** Cllr Burdge All agreed

Open Forum: The following questions were raised.

- A member of the public pointed out that in the last newsletter the information about the cause of the erosion on footpath 1 was not only this winter's rainfall, but the last six years' rainfall, since the owner redirected the stream. The correction was noted.
- Questions were raised on how the Village Plan Working Group would like to address issues such as the planning application at agenda item 6. There have been 11 planning applications and 1 appeal relating to this plot.
- How to stop potholes forming? New technology that is able to check what is happening underground was mentioned. The state of the road at Burnt Meadows is beyond repair.
- State of the drainage at the Triangle. The drain was cleared of the debris but there is still a problem with a slipped bank. Hedge trimming can block the drains.
- The hedge needs trimming at Teign Housing. Sending a reminder of their responsibility might have an effect.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr Hornby and Cllr Turney

2. **Declarations of Interest / Requests for Dispensations** - None

3. **Ratification of Minutes of Previous Meetings (circulated)** – Annual Council meeting of 9 May 2019 and extraordinary meeting of 13 June 2019 – Signed and accepted as a true record.
Proposed Cllr Moorhouse **Seconded** Cllr Hanson All agreed

4. **County and District Councillors' Report** – After his successful election as district councillor for Teign Valley, TDC Cllr Purser attended our Parish Council meeting and talked about the changes at the District Council. The ward now consists of 8 parishes and 2 councillors represent the area. The District is now under liberal democrat leadership and they are setting out a new direction. The environment continues to be an important issue. Teignbridge aims to be a carbon neutral council and is making efforts to improve recycling and reduce landfill. Rough sleeping has decreased, only one rough sleeper left in the District.

5. **Teign Valley Hall Refurbishment** – Graham Read from Teign Valley Hall gave a presentation about the condition and the planned improvements to the building. The Hall is well used, but there were complaints mostly about the heating and the acoustics. The Hall Committee carried out a survey to identify the main issues for the Hall users. They are working on detailed plans to modernize the building and will apply for grant funding to achieve their aims. Doddiscombsleigh Parish was one of the founders of the Hall, and it is now used by the School, which holds its Art Show in the building. The Hall Committee asked for a letter of support from the Parish Council to help apply for grants. The Council decided to support the improvement works in the Teign Valley Hall and provide the letter of support.
Proposed Cllr Davis **Seconded** Cllr Hanson All agreed

6. **Planning Application:** 19/01013/NPA

Location: Little Park Farm

Proposal: Application for Prior Approval under Part 3 Class Q (a) and (b) Paragraph W of the GDPO change of use of agricultural building to two dwellings

The Parish Council discussed the application and the following points were raised.

- There were several previous planning applications on the site by the same applicant, which were granted with different conditions. Before another planning permission is granted, it should be checked whether these conditions were met – e.g. planting schemes – in order to ascertain that any new conditions attached to this particular case would be met in the future.
- The applicant made contradictory statements in different applications – growing agricultural business for the approval of a new barn 18 months ago and now a redundant agricultural barn, suggesting a decreasing business in this case. This contradiction weakens the reasoning behind this application.
- The scale of the development on this farm in the past years had a considerable impact on the environment and on the landscape in an Area of Great Landscape Value.
- It was mentioned that new affordable dwellings for young families would be useful in the village. The affordability of the proposed dwellings was questioned.

The Parish Council decided not to support the planning application.

Proposed Cllr Davis **Seconded** Cllr Moorhouse Three members voted in favour and one abstained.

- 7. Village Plan Working Group Report** – The members of the Group reported on their meeting that was held in June. The Group is working on Terms of Reference and is deciding which type of plan is the most suitable for the village. Their next meeting will be in September when they intend to make this decision.
- 8. Telephone Box Repair** – The condition of the red telephone box was discussed. There is a possibility to adopt the telephone box, but then the Parish Council should pay the cost of the repair and the insurance. The telephone box is in a bad condition with a dangerous door. The estimated cost of repair is £900. The location of the box is not ideal because there is a bank behind it. The Council did not agree to adopt the telephone box and pay for the repair.
- 9. Website Accessibility** – There is a new regulation in place which requires that the Parish Council's website should be accessible for everybody, particularly those with disabilities by September 2020. There are specific principles and techniques to follow when designing, maintaining and updating websites in order to make them easy for people to use, especially those with disabilities. The Parish Council will have to publish an Accessibility Statement, showing how they meet the requirements. The Clerk has contacted the creator of the website to help with this task and asked the Council to approve the steps that are necessary to meet the requirements of the regulation. The Council agreed to support the work. **Proposed** Cllr Hanson **Seconded** Cllr Burdge All agreed
- 10. Climate Conference Report** – As Cllr Turney was not present at the meeting no report was received.
- 11. Highways Update** – As Cllr Hornby was not present at the meeting no report was received.
- 12. Dog Fouling in the Village** – A resident requested that the topic be put on the agenda, because dog fouling is an increasing problem in the village, particularly at the Triangle, on the footpath between the Nobody Inn and the Church and also, on the lane next to the school. The Clerk explained that there is a Public Space Protection Order in force since April 2019, and dog fouling can be reported to the Dog Warden of Teignbridge District Council on their website. Dog owners can get a £100 penalty on the spot for not picking up, or up to £1000 if the case goes to court. Following a recommendation from a member of the public, the Parish Council decided to highlight the problem and draw the attention of irresponsible dog owners to their lack of action. The highlighting will happen using chalk paint, then the findings will be counted and the number of dog mess sites will be monitored. The statistic will be available to the public. **Proposed** Cllr Davis **Seconded** Cllr Burdge All agreed
- 13. Operation London Bridge** – Teignbridge District Council has sent an email regarding the necessary arrangements for the passing away of the queen or the Duke of Edinburgh. Although the exact day is unknown and it is not expected, the authorities feel necessary to be prepared for when it happens. The following points need attention.
 - There will be a 10 days state morning period until the funeral. All celebratory events, e.g. fetes should be cancelled.
 - Union flags must be at half mast, but not on day 2 – Proclamation Day – when it has to be on full mast. The Parish has a union flag and the volunteer, who raises the flag, has to be informed about the necessary arrangements.

- Condolence Books will be organized by the District Council in larger towns. The exact locations will be published on their website.
- The Parish Council may consider to publish some suitable words from the Chairman on the community website.
- Parish Churches are encouraged to add services during the state mourning. The local church can make arrangements regarding the service.
- The District Council asked suggestions of a suitable location where the public can lay flowers. The Triangle was recommended as an appropriate location for flowers.
Proposed Cllr Davis Seconded Cllr Burdge All agreed

14. Information about the Consultation regarding the Proposed Changes in the Devon & Somerset Fire Rescue Service – There is a public consultation until 22 September regarding the future of the Devon & Somerset Fire Rescue Service. Further information about the proposed changes and link to the online questionnaire will be found at the parish website.

15. Finance

15.1 Report – The Clerk reported that the bank balance at 30 June 2019 was £8,239.43. After deducting the amount of unrepresented cheques, the net bank balance was £8,115.83. Earmarked funds: Elections £1,300 Emergency Fund £1,200 CIL £1,402.84 and Parish Path Partnership Grant £2,541.29. An additional Parish Path Partnership grant of £180 and a VAT refund of £232.72 was received. The end of quarter bank reconciliation was checked and signed by Cllr Hanson. The Council resolved to accept the accounts.

Proposed Cllr Hanson Seconded Cllr Burdge All agreed

15.2 Bank Mandate Update – There are six signatories for the bank account, including former Cllrs Plummer and Hewitt, who are no longer member of the Council. A new bank mandate is necessary to remove their signatures from the approved list. The remaining four signatories are Cllrs Turney, Davis, Hanson and Hornby. The Council decided to remove former Cllrs Plummer and Hewitt from the list of bank signatories and to submit a new bank mandate.

Proposed Cllr Hanson Seconded Cllr Burdge All agreed

15.3 Approval of the CIL Report for the 2018/19 Financial Year – The Clerk informed the Council that the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) annual report has to be sent to Teignbridge District Council and placed on the website. The Council received £701.42 CIL money in 2018/19 and it must be spent by 2023. The Council accepted the CIL report.

Proposed Cllr Hanson Seconded Cllr Davis All agreed

15.4 Approval of Expenditure

P3 works – Footpath 2. 1. payment	£294.17
Clerk's salary and expenses	£851.04

Cllr Hanson reported that she checked the work carried out on footpath 2 and it was done at a good standard. The Council approved the expenditures.

Proposed Cllr Moorhouse Seconded Cllr Burdge All agreed

16. Clerk's Correspondence – The clerk reported that a new planning application arrived. The Council may would like to hold a planning meeting.

The District Council is interested in how happy people are with their work. The Teignbridge Residents Satisfaction Survey can be filled in online at www.teignbridge.gov.uk/liveconsultations until 27 September.

17. Chairman's Remarks – The Chairman thanked everyone for their participation.

18. Date of Next Meeting – Thursday 12 September 2019

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.45 pm.

Signed.....
Chairman

Date