



**MINUTES OF DODDISCOMBSLEIGH'S extraordinary PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MEETING (planning)**  
**Thursday 22 September 2016 at 7.30pm in St Michaels Church**  
**Doddiscombsleigh**

**Present:** Cllrs B Plummer (Chairman), S Stanley, M Porter, B Prest., S Parrett, & 2 members of the public

**Clerk:** Sarah Sharpe

**Open Forum:** A discussion took place regarding the requirement for councillors to declare an interest in planning matters. In a small parish, councillors will undoubtedly know most applicants for planning applications. It is important that consideration is given as to whether a councillor has close affiliations with the applicant or may or could be likely to receive a pecuniary advantage or financial benefit from the application. If this is the case a declaration of interest must be made.

It was agreed that when a fellow councillor was the applicant, it would be most appropriate for the council as a whole not to make a comment on the application. A member of the public raised the fact that the council should be acting in the interests of the parish and it could be perceived that if no comment was made, being a member of the council could be seen as an easy route to get planning applications accepted.

It was pointed out that the parish council is just one consultee in an open process and that every parishioner is a consultee in their own right, so can make representations themselves. It was agreed that the Clerk would seek further guidance from Teignbridge regarding the appropriateness of a policy decision not to comment on fellow councillors applications in the future.

No other matters were raised in open forum.

1. **Apologies for Absence** - Cllr Turney
2. **Declarations of Interest / Requests for Dispensations** – Cllr Plummer and Cllr Stanley, Cllr Prest and Cllr Porter declared an interest in Item 3
3. **Planning Application**  
16/02198/AGR  
Location: Oake Park Nursery  
Proposal: Replacement Barn for Storeage  
Applicant: Mrs B Plummer  
Due to the declarations of interest in this application, the meeting was held not to be quorate and it was agreed that no discussion would take place and no comment would be made in the consultation.
4. **National Lottery Conditional Offer Letter** – The National Lottery has made a conditional offer of £1,817 for the purchase of a defibrillator. Clause 4.1 was discussed as it states the offer includes VAT and the application was made with the VAT deducted. The Clerk is to

discuss this with the National Lottery team. It was agreed that the Clerk should sign the offer letter on behalf of the parish council once the clause is sorted out. **Proposed Cllr Porter Seconded Cll Prest. All agreed**

When the funds are deposited Vanessa Fraser to be asked to place an order for a defibrillator and cabinet and to manage the installation process. The Clerk will maintain the project accounts and will do a final report to the National Lottery at the conclusion of the project. **Proposed Cllr Stanley Seconded Cllr Porter. All agreed**

5. **DALC Training Events** - The planning course is over-subscribed but the Clerk has requested a quote from DALC to run a bespoke course for the combined parish councils of Shillingford and Doddiscombsleigh. The Clerk to report back to the next meeting.
6. **Council Tax Referendum Principles** – There is a proposal to cap the increase in the parish council precept in the council tax to 2% or £5 whichever is the greater. This could inhibit the ability of the parish council to raise funds in the future. It was agreed that a consolidated response should be made to the consultation process. Deadline is 28 October. The Clerk to collate responses and circulate a proposed submission.

#### **7. Clerks Correspondence –**

- HMRC -No response received to the letter sent regarding the previously claimed VAT deposited to an account not belonging to the parish council. However, this years' VAT claim of £13.05 has been received.
- The previous Clerk has been emailed asking for the missing accounts for year 2013/14. No response has been received. The Clerk and Chairman to seek advice as to how to proceed.
- A Litter Pick will be arranged with Teignbridge for the spring so that volunteers can help to tidy up the village.
- There has been no contact yet with Steve Angeloni regarding the bus shelter. Jackie Le Marchant has agreed to pass on the parish council request to contact.
- The parish council noted that website funding is still available should the current provider continue to be difficult to engage. The website is currently not compliant with the Transparency Code and alterations cannot be made without co-operation from the provider.
- A planning application had been received for Hereford Cottage and a further extraordinary meeting will be required in order to submit comments in the consultation period.

8. **. Chairman's Remarks** - Cllr Plummer thanked the public and the councilors for their participation

9. **Date of Next Meeting – Thursday 6 October 2016 (extraordinary planning) and Thursday 3 November 2016 (Ordinary meeting) both at 7.30pm**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25pm.

Signed.....

Chairman