



Doddiscombsleigh Parish Council
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 11 March 2021 at 7.30
pm online

Zoom Meeting ID: 831 7856 2461
Password: 799588

Present: Cllr Turney (Chairman), Cllr H Hanson, Cllr M Moorhouse (from item 3), Cllr J Sawyer, DCC Cllr J Brook (at item 3) and 2 members of the public
Clerk: A Miller

Open Forum

No questions were raised.

1 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Burdge, Cllr Davis and District Cllr Purser

2 Declarations of Interest / Requests for Dispensations

None.

3 County and District Councillors' Report

County Cllr Brook reported about the accepted budget. He highlighted that Devon Highways will receive the same amount of money as last year, which is insufficient. Holiday traffic is expected to increase this year, putting additional pressure on the road network.

Cllr Moorhouse joined the meeting.

Answering questions from the Parish Council, County Cllr Brook promised to investigate the drainage problem at Ducks Pool.

District Cllr Purser sent his report to the Parish Council which was read out.

4 Ratification of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Extraordinary Council meeting of 28 January 2021

Resolved Accepted as a true record. Proposed Cllr Turney Seconded Cllr Hanson All agreed

As the Applicant was present, the Council decided to discuss item 5.2.4 next.

Item 5.2.4 21/00229/FUL Hereford Cottage

Extension and conversion of existing Linhay to holiday cottage

Resolved The Council decided to raise no objections to the proposal.

Proposed Cllr Turney Seconded Cllr Hanson All agreed

The Council decided to discuss item 6.2 next, because the Lengthsman was present at the meeting, but he needed to leave shortly.

Item 6.2. Highways Update

The Council thanked the contractor for his good quality work, which made a difference in the state and safety of the roads. The Lengthsman raised the following issues.

- One small part of the listed jobs – the gullies between Straithead and Dent House – has not been done because it was over the ordered value of £200. It is estimated to require an additional 1.5 hours work.
Resolved The Council decided to order the remaining work from the Lengthsman. Proposed Cllr Sawyer Seconded Cllr Turney All agreed
- There are a series of drains from the school which ends in a chamber. It should discharge to a field behind Burnt Meadows, but the ditch is blocked. It needs 2-3 hours work to clear the area and ensure proper drainage for this network. The maintenance of this system would be much easier afterwards. Cllr Moorhouse offered to contact the landowner and ask permission for the work.
Resolved The Council decided to order the drain clearing from the Lengthsman if the landowner gives permission for the work. Proposed Cllr Turney Seconded Cllr Moorhouse All agreed
- Between the Straithead and the Triangle there are broken kerbstones which cause the water to flow on the road instead of into the gully. The stones need repositioning and repointing in dry weather, e.g. in the summer. It would be about a day's work. The Council agreed to treat this work as a separate project and ask the Neighbourhood Highways Officer about a possible grant to cover some of the costs. Also, ask the Officer about possible funding for the raised footpath between the Church and the Pub. Clerk to ask.

5 Planning Matters

5.1 To Note Planning Decisions
None.

5.2 To Discuss Planning Applications

5.2.1 20/00262/NPA Little Leigh Farm

Application for a Prior Approval under Part 3 Class Q (a) and (b) and paragraph W of the GDPO change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling

Resolved The Council decided to raise no observations.

Proposed Cllr Turney Seconded Cllr Sawyer All agreed

5.2.2 21/00349/AGR Tall Barn, Whitemoor Farm

Replacement boiler house and log store

Resolved The Council decided to inform the Planning Authority that due to a system error on the District Council's website, the Parish Council could not access the drawings relating to the 21/00349/AGR planning application and was not in the position to make observations. Proposed Cllr Turney Seconded Cllr Hanson All agreed

5.2.3 21/00415/CAN Straithead House

Remove tree which is damaging wall

Resolved The Council decided to raise no observations.

Proposed Cllr Moorhouse Seconded Cllr Sawyer All agreed

5.2.4 21/00229/FUL Hereford Cottage

It was discussed after item 4.

5.3 To Discuss Planning Enforcement/Potential Planning Enforcement Issues
None.

6 To Receive Reports

6.1 Parish Path Partnership and Footpath Update

The annual forms were sent to Devon County Council. It was reported that the unclassified road is still in a bad condition. The County Council will inspect the road and it may be possible to bring it up to a bridleway standard. It was clarified that the Parish Council can order smaller works, e.g., vegetation clearing from the Lengthsman if there are no volunteers and there is a need for general maintenance on the footpaths.

6.2 Highways Update

It was discussed after item 5.2.4.

6.3 Bus Shelter Project Update

Cllr Moorhouse reported that Mike Wye delivered the materials for the bus shelter repair. Cllr Turney offered to paint the windows after the render has been done.

7 To Discuss the Use of Social Media in the Parish Council's Communication

At the last meeting a member of the public suggested that the Parish Council post the Notices of its meetings on Facebook. The Council discussed the idea and agreed that the way social media works does not fit easily into the procedures of the Parish Council. Members of the public can start conversations with the Council at the meetings, which is a better option. Currently the Notice and the Agenda are published on the notice board and on the website in line with the regulations. It is possible to be informed directly about Parish Council meetings if members of the public subscribe to receive an email notification when news is put on the website by contacting the clerk.

Resolved The Council decided not to post news on social media.

Proposed Cllr Turney Seconded Cllr Hanson All agreed

8 To Appoint New Representative to Cranbrook Charity

The charity was set up over a hundred years ago to provide boots for the children going to Dunsford school and this was then extended to Doddiscombsleigh school children. Over time the Objects were changed so that the two schools could be helped along with people in "necessitous circumstances", school children and students all of whom must reside in the two parishes. The four trustees meet approximately twice a year and consider who might need assistance. Money is paid out in July and December and amounts to £100 for singles and £150 for couples.

The Parish Council has not found a candidate for the position yet who was ready to accept the responsibility.

9 To Discuss Consultation Response for the Draft Resource and Waste Management Strategy for Devon and Torbay

The Council agreed that Cllr Turney would fill in the questionnaire on behalf of the Parish Council.

10 Finance

10.1 Report

The Clerk reported that the bank balance at 5 March 2021 was £4,678.80. Earmarked funds: Community Plan £511, Climate Emergency support £200, Defibrillator £17, Website £200, Office Equipment £200, Maintenance £100 and Election £40. Grants: CIL £1,402.84, Parish Path Partnership £291.44 Locality Budget £500.

10.2 To discuss how to spend the CIL fund

It has been clarified with the District Council that the Parish Council can spend the money for the replacement of the school playground equipment or for road maintenance and drain clearing if the project happens in 2021 or 2022. The Parish Council would prefer obtaining a new asset to maintaining existing ones from the ringfenced fund. Ideas will be discussed further at the next meeting.

10.3 Approval of Expenditure

Zoom Pro monthly fee £14.39

Clerk's SLCC training £30.00

Road cleaning £200.00

Bus shelter repair materials £208.08

Resolved The Council approved the expenditures.

Proposed Cllr Turney Seconded Cllr Hanson All agreed

11 Reminder About Census 2021

There will be a census on 21 March 2021. Everybody should receive their access code for the online form before that date.

12 Clerk's Correspondence

None.

13 Date of Next Meeting

The Council considered that that there is uncertainty about holding meetings in May. The legislation, which allows parish councils to hold remote meetings, expires on 6th May. According to the roadmap out of lockdown, there will still be restrictions in place regarding indoor gatherings. Following DALC's advice, the Council decided to hold the Annual Parish Council meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting of the Electors online on 6th May 2021.

14 Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman thanked everyone for their participation.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.18 pm.

Signed.....

Chairman

Date