

Dolton Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held Monday 4th February 2008 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall , Dolton

Present: Cllr.Lock in the chair, Cllrs Boyes, Burnage , Giles, Grigg , Jury and Partridge. The Clerk ,Mary Harris , 20 members of public

Apologies: none

The minutes of the meeting held 7th January 2008, having been duly circulated, were signed by the Chairman as being a true and correct record.

Proposed Cllr Jury Seconded Cllr. Burnage All agreed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

715 An amendment to minute 713 was requested - Cllr Grigg had voted against the Newsletter due to misgivings regarding the cost of the project.

716 Cllr Burnage requested that the Code of Conduct 12(2) issue previously highlighted by Cllr Julie Genge, be an item for discussion with the Torridge District Council Solicitor Ken Miles at the March meeting .

717 All the maintenance issues raised during the Any other Business item had been followed through by the Clerk and replies received from the relevant authorities. There remained just one outstanding issue of drainage problems at Hilliers garage area.

The Chairman closed the meeting to invite members of the Public to raise questions.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

718 Grant requests (4 a) The Councillors considered three grant requests.

- Churchyard funds : A request for any assistance . Cllr Boyes proposed £70 and this was seconded by Cllr Griggs . All agreed
- Dolton & Dowland Village Hall. A request for any grant towards the continuing refurbishment project. Cllr Partridge proposed that the grant request be deferred until the end of the year when the final budget would become clearer . Cllr Giles seconded. This was agreed.
- Pre SchoolGroup requested an £80 grant towards the cost of equipment . Cllr Burnage proposed that £80 be granted and Cllr Giles seconded. All agreed

719 Accounts to pay (b) The Clerk presented the following accounts for payment

1. South West Water	41.52
2. Parish Clerk wages and expenses	216.59
3. Dolton Primary School grant	150.00
4. Dolton Rangers grant	80.00
5. Ken Hardy wages and expenses	113.23
6. D Jones & Son (grass cut)	147.00

7. Devon CPRE subs	20.00
8. Sutcliffe Play	18005.72
9. D & D Village Hall	14.00
10. Paul Middleton (Repairs)	56.18

Cllr Boyes proposed that accounts be paid and Cllr Partridge seconded. All agreed.

720 Any other financial matters (4c) The Chairman noted that the current grass cutting contractor would be leaving his contracted work with Dolton and therefore the work would need to be re tendered in the summer 2008

PLANNING

721 Applications to consider (5a)
 1/0053/2008 Muffins .West Lane Dolton
Approved
 1/0015/2008 ,Church Cottage Church St Dolton
Approved with a note that the project is within the conservation area

722 Permissions granted (5b) None

723 Refusals advised (5c) None

724 Other Planning matters (5di.) Further to a letter posted on the Torridge District Council (TDC) website regarding the planning matter reference 1/109/2007 – Dixon Construction Ltd , for dwellings off Barlands Way, it was recommended that the Clerk re-iterate the previous comments made by the Parish Council to TDC.

Proposed Cllr Burnage and Seconded Cllr Partridge . All agreed.

(5dii) An update is required from the Rural Housing Estate trust. The Clerk to contact for information.

DENNIS CROSS UPDATE

725 Maintenance : Proposals for maintenance procedures are to be drafted by Cllr Boyes and the Parish Clerk and a report be brought back to the March meeting.

Opening Ceremony: Cllr Jury reported that the Opening Ceremony arrangements were progressing. Some discussion took place regarding suitable hospitality arrangements and invitations. The Clerk undertook to invite the TDC Leisure Officer and to ensure that the press were informed of the event.

REVIEW OF PARISH PLAN

726 Cllr Burnage reported that the working party had met to discuss the review process with Malcolm Harris from Torridge District Council . A key element in the review would be the need to develop an Action Plan. Some discussion took place regarding the make up of the working party and it was agreed to invite interested members of the public into the process. Cllr Burnage to publicise the opportunity.

FLAG POLE UPDATE

727 Cllr Partridge reported that donations had been collected to the sum of £200 which was over 50% of the total required for purchase and installation.

It was recommended that the Flag Pole be ordered and purchased by the Parish Council and Cllr Partridge would inform the small group of residents who had offered to proceed with the project and to maintain the structure.
Cllr Griggs proposed and Cllr Boyes seconded. All agreed.

AGENDA SETTING & PROCEDURES

728 Cllr Burnage presented a report on agenda and meeting procedures for discussion. The recommendations were discussed and agreed with the amendment to recommendation 1 that "Any Other Business " remain as an agenda item with maintenance issues properly recorded and forwarded to the Clerk. A template will be created to assist in report writing .

Cllr Boyes proposed the recommendations and Cllr Jury seconded.

- (1) That the item "Any Other Business" remains on the Agenda , with any requirement for action on maintenance issues properly recorded and passed to the Clerk prior to the meeting.
- (2) A template (both in paper and e-format) should be drawn up and utilised.
- (3) Councillors to consider implementation of a more focussed approach.
- (4) Councillors to consider revision of the Public Session Format.
- (5) Councillors to consider the use of Surgeries.

All agreed.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK CONSULTATION

729 The LDF consultation held on January 21st in the Village Hall had received a reasonable response. There were 14 written responses received from the public and these were opened in front of the TDC Community Officer at the January 28th meeting of the Parish Plan. The working party completed the LDF consultation questionnaire and the response was sent to Torrington District Council on the 5th February 2008.

CORRESPONDENCE

730 (a) There had been 2 resignation letters received from Cllrs Berkley-Sage and Genge. The Chairman noted that it was sad to see these resignations. Cllr Burnage reported that some of the content seemed to be inaccurate according to his calculations on issues that had been raised and agreed at meetings. Cllr Partridge and Boyes discussed the issues raised in the letters concerning bullying tactics and felt that the Councillors reputation may be called into question. Cllr Partridge proposed that a response be sent to the Councillors requesting further clarification of the issues discussed within their letters. Cllr Boyes seconded. All agreed.

(b) The CPRE Best Kept Village application had been received and this would be completed and returned accepting the invitation to participate

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

731

- Cllr Jury requested that Meetings Attended be returned to the Agenda items. She had attended the AAG in Torrington in February and had raised local travel issues.
- Councillors discussed the issue of blocked drains and asked the Clerk to report again on the Hilliers Garage area.

732 DATE OF NEXT MEETING March 3rd 2008

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

Signed.....Chairman.....dated

Contributors to the Public session

...David O'Brien Resignation of Cllrs