

Dolton Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held Monday 18th June 2007 7.30pm Village Hall

Present: Cllr.Lock in the chair, Cllrs. Boyes, Partridge, Burnage, Grigg, Genge, Giles, Jury, The clerk Mrs.R.Lock 28 members of the public

Apologies: Cllr.Berkley-Sage

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 14th May 2007 having been duly circulated were signed by the Chairman as being a true and correct record. Proposed Cllr.Jury seconded Cllr.Burnage. All agreed.

The minutes of the Council meeting held 14th May 2007, having been duly circulated were signed by the Chairman as being a true and correct record with the following amendments:-

a) Min. 446 to read: Hector Close (min.366 refers) nothing further heard from TDC or the developer. Resolved that Clerk write again.

b) Min.447 to read: Village Hall (min.411 refers) the Chairman of Dowland Parish Committee had reported to the Clerk that the Village Hall Committee should be writing to him about funding, not the Parish Council.

Proposed Cllr.Genge seconded Cllr.Jury. All agreed.

The minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held 21st May 2007, having been duly circulated were signed by the Chairman as being a true and correct record with the following amendments:-

a) Present: Cllr.Boyes not Boyce

b) Min. 4c after the words “wanted a parish poll on this subject” to be added –

Proposer asked if any of the 27 were not on the electoral roll. Nobody indicated this was the case.

Proposed Cllr.Boyes seconded Cllr.Jury

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

489. Register of interests (min. 1d refers) Clerk reminded councillors to return their registers of interest.

490. Declaration of acceptance of office (min.2 refers) Cllr.Lock signed his acceptance of office as chairman, witnessed by the Clerk.

491. Representatives on Committees (min.6b refers) resolved that Cllr.Jury be added as the second village hall representative.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

492. Village Hall (min.447 refers) Village Hall Committee had been informed of the remark by Dowland Parish Chairman.

493. Rubbish Chapple Cross (min.449 refers) no further action taken by Cllr.Grigg or Berkley-Sage.

494. Village Green (min.454 refers) copies handed to Cllrs.Giles, Jury and Berkley-Sage.

495. Planning application Jenner Parsons (min.457c refers) Listed Building Consent application received 15th May. Same comments returned as minuted for full application in min.457c.

496. Crime figures (min.478 refers) PCSO Brown confirmed that crime figures given were for the financial year 1.4.06 – 31.3.07. Resolved that police still be invited to a meeting as Council still have concerns over the crime rate.

497. Hectors Close (min.479a refers) DCC Highways reported “Hectors Close is a private road and County Council has no obligation or funding to provide a sign directing drives on Aller Road”. Resolved that Clerk reply:

- a) Aller Road is a County road?
- b) how much would a sign cost?

498. Sound system (min.484 refers) Cllr.Burnage will check village hall system, but did not think it was suitable.

499. 30mph sign Stafford road (min.485 refers) DCC Highway reported:-

- a) to move speed limit is a lengthy and costly process. No funds available – will investigate funding from other sources.
- b) further option might be to provide “pedestrians in road” warning sign sited near sewage works entrance.

Resolved that Council persist with having the 30mph signs moved.

500. Recycling Centre (min.487 refers) TDC had now removed all rubbish, which had included engine block and can of creosote. Resolved that further notice be put on noticeboard and diary concerning the continued misuse of the recycling centre.

MATTERS ARISING FROM ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MINUTES

501. Deed of Dedication Referendum (min.4b refers) copy of e.mail and open letter sent to the chairman by Paul Allen of NPFA circulated to all councillors.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

502. Clerk presented the following accounts for payment:

a) Dolton Village Hall	hire	£ 13.20
b) DAPC	village green copies	£ 15.60
c) DAPC	training days	£ 90.00
d) Cornwall & Devon Media	advert for clerk	£ 51.00
e) S.W.Water	15.3. – 7.6. 07	£ 36.64
f) Zurich	ins.premium	£ 885.35
g) K.Hardy	wages	£ 107.00
h) K.Hardy	expenses	£ 3.00
i) D.Jones	grass cutting	£ 244.00

Proposed Cllr.Burnage seconded Cllr.Giles that the above accounts be paid and Cllrs.Lock and Jury signed the cheques.

503. Devork Plant – account for Dennis Cross work £9,635 (inc.vat of £1,435) Clerk reported that TDC Peter Kemp Sec.106 Officer had been sent copy of invoice and confirmed that cheque for £7,500 would be drawn on Friday 22nd June. Resolved that this sum be paid direct into Portman Dennis Cross account and the sum of £9,635 be withdrawn to pay the invoice. Cllrs.Lock and Giles signed the withdrawal form

504. Signatories to Nat.West account – Clerk reminded Cllrs. who wished to be signatories to supply their details to the Bank.

505. Audit Commission form – Clerk read Sec. 2 Annual Governance Statement to the Council. Councillors approved the statement which was duly signed by chairman and clerk.

506. Financial regulations - Cllr.Genge asked if Council had any written financial regulations. Clerk reported usual good practice followed of no cheques being signed between meetings, two councillors proposing and seconding payment, with two different councillors signing the cheques and internal audit being carried out each year. Resolved that Clerk ascertain what other councils a similar size to Dolton have for financial regulations.

507. Village hall improvements – Village Hall committee had now received three quotes for new doors/windows and had accepted Team Windows in sum of £20,217.12, including vat. Clerk had ascertained that Parish Council could not pay the bill and reclaim the vat as when the windows and doors were installed, the Parish Council would not “be the owners of the doors and windows”. Resolved that:

- a) copies of the quotes be put in the reading file.
- b) Village Hall committee be asked for breakdown of their financial position.

PLANNING MATTERS

508. Adjoining parish notices in reading file.

509. Applications to consider:-

- a) Mr.Stokes Barlands 2 open market/ 1 affordable dwelling.
(Cllr.Genge declared a prejudicial interest – close associate of adjoining property owner – and left the room)

Council made the following comments:-

- a) further/full details of building materials to be used would have been helpful.
- b) ratio of open market to affordable – would like have been more affordable
- c) thought should be given to the height of the properties
- d) will any financial contribution towards an off site local area of play be made?

- b) Cleave Hill Developments Edgefield 15 dwellings.

Under declarations of interest/code of conduct issues only one councillor available to discuss this application. Therefore no further comments could be made – the council not being quorate.

510. Permissions granted:-

- a) Mrs.Crisp Cartlinhay conv. garage to sitting room
- b) Mr.Mrs.P. Pearson Hideaway 2 storey rear extension

511. Refusals advised: None

512. Edgefield/Cleave Hill Developments – provision for LAP developer’s contribution of £15,572. Following code of conduct/declaration of interest issues brought to the attention of the Monitoring Officer by the Clerk and Cllr.Genge (copies of Mr.Preece’s letter and Monitoring Officer’s reply to Clerk’s queries being supplied to all councillors) it was resolved that no decision on funding for a local area of play be taken until after a decision is taken by TDC on the planning application.

513. Rural Housing Trust – following article in NDJ stating that “the Rural Housing Trust hoped to build 10 affordable houses in Dolton” Clerk had contacted Moira Constable to ask about site and planning application progress. Reply “we will let you know when we are ready to submit a planning application. I am not going to be drawn into village politics at this stage. If questions are asked, the Parish Council can truthfully say that we know nothing”. Councillors welcomed the news however that ten houses may be built.

ADOPTION OF NEW CODE OF CONDUCT

514. Resolved that the new code of conduct is not adopted until training has been given. Clerk to ascertain training details from TDC.

PARISH PLAN REVIEW

515. Copies of Cllr.Genge's suggestions on parish plan review circulated to all councillors. Comments as follows:-

- a) Cllr.Genge – too early for full revision, but a fact finding exercise/review of what issues are outstanding, what issues need revisiting.
- b) Cllr.Burnage – felt that parish plan was not reflective enough, needed to expand boundaries.
- c) Cllr.Partridge – felt that not all organisations/groups had been involved.

Resolved that working party comprising Cllrs.Lock, Genge, Burnage and Jury look into the parish plan review and report back to full council in September.

THE RETREAT

516. Nothing further heard from the owners of the property. Insurance company needed more details of problem to ascertain cover on policy.

BARLANDS WAY ALLER ROAD FOOTPATH

517. Resolved that Clerk write to the developer Mr.Dixon and TDC planning to ascertain if the path was the subject of a Sec.106 agreement.

TRAFFIC CONTROL RECTORY ROAD

518. Cllrs.Partridge and Jury reported that residents of Rectory Road were extremely concerned about the ongoing serious situation of speeding traffic. Resolved that we write to DCC Highways, Police and County Councillor to arrange a meeting.

HOUSING REFERENDUM

519. Resolved that Cllrs.Giles and Burnage explore this matter and produce a document for the September meeting.

PUBLIC SESSION GUIDELINE

520. Cllr.Burnage asked as a public session was not part of the meeting, was the Chairman still in control. Clerk confirmed yes.

521. Cllrs.Lock and Giles suggested that perhaps to get the most out of the public session, that questions should be sent to the clerk in advance of the meeting so that answers could be readily at hand. Agenda item next meeting.

DENNIS CROSS

522. Cllr. Jury reported:-

- a) Phase one now completed. Had lots of positive feedback.
- b) Sign on entrance gates states "no bicycles" Resolved that this part of notice be taped over for a trial period upto September and situation monitored for any misuse.

523. Clerk reported she had completed 1st stage application for Torridge "Getting serious about play" grant application.

VILLAGE PLAY AMENITIES

524. Covered elsewhere in minutes

VILLAGE HALL REFURBISHMENT

525. Cllr.Burnage asked for details of the full refurbishment of the hall. Cllr.Boyes to arrange this.

PARISH CLERK VACANCY

526. Part 2 to be held at end of council meeting

MEETINGS ATTENDED BY COUNCILLORS

527. Cllr.Burnage – attended AGM of MCTA reported:-

- a) main speaker talked about “eco houses not affordable”.
- b) project tracker stated that Dolton Parish Council had planning permission for new doors windows and roof. He had corrected this statement at the meeting.

528 Cllrs.Burnage and Boyes had attended training day. Both found it useful and informative.

AFFORDABLE HOUSES ORCHARD GATE

529. In the absence of Cllr.Berkley-Sage, this would be an agenda item at the next meeting.

ALLER ROAD HEDGES

530. Cllr.Grigg requested that DCC Highways be asked to cut the hedges as soon after 31st July as possible.

CORRESPONDENCE

531. Torridge Community Transport – Clerk to complete and return questionnaire.

532. Devon Playing Fields Assoc. AGM Thursday 12th July at Winkleigh. Cllrs. Jury, Giles, Genge and Clerk to attend. Clerk to book places.

533. Devon Playing Fields Assoc. – nominations for Executive Committee – none

534. TDC leader James Morrish – open letter to all councillors circulated.

535. Devon Community Recycling Network – meeting 29th June Crediton. Nobody available to attend.

536. Devon Air Ambulance – letters from Air Ambulance, Eaglescott and Mr. Trute in reading file for information and consideration.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

537. Clerk requested change of date for July meeting to 9th July.

538. Cllr.Genge:-

- a) agenda item next month – setting of agenda and agenda details
- b) TDC Housing allocation policy – can clerk obtain a copy.

539. Date of next meeting Monday 9th July.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked those present for their attendance and closed the meeting at 10pm.

Signed.....chairman.....dated