

# DOLTON PARISH COUNCIL

## **Draft Minutes of meeting held Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup> 2010 in the Village Hall @ 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Lock , ( Chair ) Giles (Vice Chair), Burnage, Boyes, Grigg, Partridge, Rolls, Byrne and Jury, the outgoing Clerk - Mary Harris, incoming Clerk – Jeanette Sidey and 7 members of public, Ward Cllr Mrs Rose Lock, DCC & TDC Cllr Mr Andy Boyd

The Chairman introduced Maria Bailey the Community Planning & Development Manager of Torridge District Council who attended in place of Mr George Backovic who is unwell. Mrs Bailey outlined the processes the Council go through in making their decisions on Planning Applications. Mrs Bailey then addressed the concerns of the Parish Council that their comments on applications are disregarded and reassured them that all such comments are taken into consideration in terms of planning merits as well as those of the Highways Department and said they also seek the advice of the Police Architectural Liaison Officer. Specific mention was made regarding the development of land off Barlands Way and of the decision on the siting of the footpath into Aller Road. In view of the opinions expressed by the Parish Mrs Bailey promised to undertake a comprehensive investigation into how and why the decision taken was reached and give a detailed written response to the Parish Council. In conclusion Mrs Bailey referred to the Local Development Framework and said there would be a slippage in the timescale before moving on to the next stage of the process. Mrs Bailey was thanked for her attendance.

The minutes of the meeting held on February 1st 2010 having been duly circulated, were signed by Cllr Lock (Chair at the meeting) as being a true and correct record.

**Proposed: Cllr Giles**

**Seconded: Cllr Jury**

**All Agreed**

### **101 (09/10) MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

It was reported that following the Chairman's talk with the Manager of Dolton Beacon Buses regarding the lights from the buses blinding approaching motorists there had been a great improvement.

### **102 (09/10) CORRESPONDENCE:**

<b>Correspondent</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Action</b>
Torridge Community Transport Assoc.	Thank you letter for the Grant.	Note that the document is placed in the reading file
Dolton & Dowland Village Hall Committee	Screen and Projector installation, insurance and details on usage	Mr Burnage to contact with responses to questions asked
Mr G. Madge	LAP Edgefield which was previously discussed in Part 2, now to be in public domain	To be discussed in Planning

### **103 (09/10) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

#### **a) personal interest as defined by the Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors**

**Cllrs Lock and Jury on all matters concerning the Dolton & Dowland Village Hall**

#### **b) prejudicial interests as defined by the Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors**

**Cllr. Burnage on all matters concerning Edgefield**

## PUBLIC SESSION

The Chairman closed the meeting to invite members of the Public to speak.

Name	Subject	Action
Cllr. Andy Boyd of DCC, TDC for Torrington & Town Council	Money for Community Projects, everyday issues with highways with limited budget for repairing potholes, verges, etc. Attending AGMs and Adult Community Health Support Group	Noted
Roger Dunn	Proposed Bistro Cafe - a good amenity for parishioners and would not mean extra traffic so does not see highway objections	Noted
Ward Cllr Rose Lock	TDC Council Tax set at 2% - an increase of £2.80 on a Band D house.	Noted
Clive Burnage	Edgefield LAP – consider taking on the LAP or if not a S106 contribution	Noted
Landlord Royal Oak	Proposed Bistro Cafe – concerned at extra parking making it impossible for emergency services to get into/through the Square	Noted

### 104 (09/10) FINANCE:

a) **Accounts to Pay** - the Clerk presented the following accounts for agreement to pay:

Supplier	Description	VAT	£	No
M Harris	Clerk salary 257.28 expenses 26.43		283.71	424
D D Village Hall	February Hire		16.0	425
J Sidey	Clerk salary (handover period of 3 weeks)		200.16	426
K Hardy	Caretaker wages 91.60		98.60	427
S Jury	Catering for Vision Group		39.30	428

**Proposed: Cllr Boyes    Seconded: Cllr Rolls    All Agreed** Cheque signatures    Cllrs Giles and Grigg

b) **Income:** None

c) **Any other financial matters:**

**c.1) In view of the huge difference in the amount of interest paid between the two accounts**, Cllrs Lock and Giles to seek advice from D.A.P.C. and/or the District auditor on legality of whether to put the bond into their two names as before to achieve the higher rate of interest (£2,500) or whether it should be put into the name of Dolton Parish Council and achieve the lower rate (£850/900)

**Proposed Cllr Burnage**

**Seconded Cllr Partridge**

**All agreed**

**c.2)** Incoming Clerk is seeking a new internal auditor/accountant for end of year accounting procedures due to resignation of Mrs Gist. Has suggested Mr Terry Farrington of West Lane who would be willing to serve. He would not charge a fee but only reimbursement of expenses, if any. DAPC have confirmed to Chairman that the internal auditor could be any person with substantial accounting experience able to ask pertinent accounting questions and not connected to the Parish Council.

**Proposed Cllr Burnage that Mr Farrington be appointed internal auditor    Seconded Cllr Boyes    All agreed**

**c.3)** Cllr Burnage asked how much of their budget Dolton Vision Group had spent. Clerk to inform next meeting.

## 105 (09/10) PLANNING:

**a) Applications considered:** 1/0065/2010/COU Change of Use and conversion of first floor store to coffee shop/bistro Church St Stores – Cllrs discussed the application and made some comments – as this falls within our Parish Plan it could be a positive amenity for the village, but concerns are: No disability access, access is by spiral staircase only for access/egress, consider the implications of additional parking and noise for neighbours. Ensure that conversion is suitable in the conservation area.

**b) Permissions granted:** 1/1227/2009/LBC Stafford Barton – windows

**c) Refusals advised:** none advised

### **d) Any other Planning Issues:**

d1.) **The SkateBoard /MUGA** planning application needs renewing. The Ward Cllr is arranging to meet with the Planning Officer for this purpose. The Chairman has renewal form for completion but there will be a fee to pay.

**Proposed by Cllr Burnage that renewal fee is paid Secoded Cllr Partridge All Agreed**

d2.) **LAP Edgefield.** Cllr Burnage declared an interest and left the room. The Chairman reported that the School have no plans to put any equipment in the Parish field. It was agreed that the Parish Council do not wish to have or be responsible for a LAP on the Parish field and do not wish to have any responsibility at all for the Edgefield LAP. Clerk to reply to Mr Madge in those terms and copy to TDC.

**Proposed Cllr Grigg Secoded Cllr Byrne All Agreed**

**Cllr Burnage was recalled to the meeting**

## 106 (09/10) PARISH GROUNDS

The Clerk reported that Simmons Services are happy to extend their contract for 2 months to allow the new tender process to be finalised and Mr Hardy has been sent a letter giving him three months notice.

War Memorial Garden – The tree stump has been removed by Cllr Lock, the pots with plants need to be removed and the area to be turfed and then flower beds to be created. Cllrs Boyes and Byrne will remove rubbish.

Cllr Burnage would like to take on the playground inspection and get accredited (level one (Outdoor Routine) RP11 certification by attending the Play it Safe course on Playground Inspections on 28<sup>th</sup> April at Ipplepen Village Hall at a cost of £60 for the exam and £30 for the course. It was agreed to meet the costs.

**Proposed: Cllr Lock Secoded: Cllr Rolls All Agreed**

## 107 (09/10) PARISH ACTION PLAN:

Cllr Burnage reported that the Dolton Vision website is now ready and has Minutes and Reports from all meetings to date. Devon Re-investment Service had attended a Dolton Vision meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> February which had been beneficial to all. The meeting was attended by Cllr Burnage, Louise Burnage, Cllr Lock and Mrs Rose Lock, Mrs Ann Coombes, and Mrs Dawn Madge. (Mrs Jury had attended as caterer.) Cllr. Burnage then spoke about the community led planning process and directions to go forward with, questioning how the housing needs surveys have been done in the past, whether it was apt and covered housing needs for all levels of the community at each stage of life, how new housing needs surveys need to be tackled in future to cover this and emphasizing that as a community you have to take hold and be community driven. Cllr. Lock will contact DAPC to enquire about housing surveys.

**108 (09/10) PRIDE IN OUR OWN VILLAGE:**

Cllrs. Jury and Lock are organising a working party to clean up the village. The Lengthsmen are due on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> March. The Chairman will ask for the lengthsmen to contact him prior to their visit to inform them of problem areas. The hedge has been cut back at the Stafford Way cut-through which is a great improvement.

**109 (09/10) HIGHWAYS, TRAFFIC & MAINTENANCE:**

The Clerk reported there is no news of the two salt bins. Cllr. Jury reported a very large pothole adjacent to the Post Box in Rectory Road where SWW had been working in a trench. Cllr Grigg reported potholes in Chapple Lane. There is also a bent road sign on the corner of Rectory Road and Barfield Road, and the broken Hydrants have still not been attended to. Clerk to pass on these concerns to Highways and SWW as appropriate.

**110 (09/10) MEETINGS ATTENDED:**

Local Development Framework. Cllr. Burnage had attended and commented that he felt rural areas should not be strangled by onerous policies designed for urban areas. He has formulated comments which he will summarise and forward to the Clerk for submission to TDC.

**111 (09/10) ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Parish News letter** – It was agreed that it should go out in March.

Cllr. Byrne wondered how to get more people to attend Parish Council Meetings. Cllrs Jury and Partridge considered that as fewer members of the public were attending the meetings that the Parish Council should meet in the small hall.

The new Clerk pointed out that due to the year end and the fact that Easter Monday is early this year, it will be necessary to rearrange dates of Council meetings. It was arranged that the meeting for April be brought forward to 29<sup>th</sup> March to avoid Easter Monday and to accommodate year end financial arrangements before 5<sup>th</sup> April, the AGM and PC meeting for May due on the May bank holiday be put back to 10<sup>th</sup> May and the Annual Parish meeting be set for 24<sup>th</sup> May, and the June meeting be set for 7<sup>th</sup> June.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....