

DOLTON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD MONDAY NOVEMBER 1ST 2010 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 PM

Present: Cllr J Lock, Chairman, Cllrs Burnage, Jury, Rolls ,Boyes , Partridge, the Clerk , Ward Cllr R Lock and 6 members of the public.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Grigg, Giles and Byrne

ACTIVE VILLAGES PROJECT

The Chairman, Cllr. Lock, introduced Mr James Jarroudi Torrridge District Council's Health & Recreation Officer who gave a talk on The Active Villages Project. He explained that Active Devon had put in a successful bid for money from Sport England to co-ordinate and deliver the partnerships Active Villages project to deliver sustainable sports opportunities within selected rural villages across Devon, of which Dolton is one of the nineteen villages in Torrridge. The sum of £3,500 has been allocated to Dolton and the TDC Culture & Leisure services team need to identify what opportunities the local community wants and need and provide support to kick start the relevant activities. It is envisaged that it would bring activities in for all levels of the community from say, the over 50s, such as yoga, running, walking groups; perhaps a youth club for teenagers; the school for whatever assistance they need such as basketball nets, hockey sticks, footballs; would also pay for people to train as coaches for various activities, or whatever Dolton needs but the scheme cannot provide money to build, repair or maintain facilities or buildings. Posters and Questionnaires for both adults and children are available to gauge the needs of the community. Mr Jarroudi would like to come back in a month or so to update the Parish Council on the implementation of the scheme. Phase 1 of the 3 phase scheme starts in March. Cllr Burnage will include details of this scheme in the Parish Newsletter and a Poster will be placed on the village noticeboard. Following a short questions and answer session Cllr Burnage, on behalf of the Parish Council, thanked Mr Jarroudi for attending.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4th October 2010, having been circulated, were signed by the Chairman as being a true and correct record on the proposition of Cllr Boyes, seconded by Cllr. Burnage with all in favour.

66(10/11) Matters arising from the Minutes.

62(10/11) Inconsiderate Parking. Cllr Boyes reported PCSO Brown had said there is nothing she can do regarding the complaints about inconsiderate parking. The Clerk was asked to pass the complaints to the Highways Authority to see if they can assist.

62(10/11) Lights from Beacon Buses. Cllr Lock had spoken about this and so far there has been an improvement.

65(10/11) Allotments. Cllr Partridge reported that he had not had the opportunity to further discuss the matter of 'spare' Allotments in Ashreigny for Dolton people but would try to do so before the next meeting.

67(10/11) Correspondence

Correspondent	Subject	Action
DRCC (DALC)	Government's Spending Review	Reading File & email
Ashtead Plant Hire	Notice of road closure Cleave Hill 24/01/2011 9.30 to 15.30 for 5 days to renew BT telegraph poles	Noted but to be confirmed
GT&DLCP	Invitation to Cllrs to attend meeting on 9 th December – The Big Society. Agenda & Minutes of last meeting	Reading file & email
DALC	A proposal to look at insurance requirements of smaller councils with the aim at improving insurance deals on a county wide- basis.	Clerk to investigate

TDC	Emergency Planning	See agenda item 10.
TDC	Parish Council Vacancy Procedures	Noted
DCC Minerals & Waste Planning Authority	Leaflets and survey form to obtain views on the issue of minerals planning.	Noted. Distribute survey forms
Zurich	Engineering inspection Report – Dennis Cross	Discuss in Agenda item 7
DCC NHS Devon	Recommendations for Devon Provider Services -aiming to strengthen community services	Reading file
TDC Head of Finance	Budget questionnaire on how TDC should allocate resources in 2011/12	In reading file. Closing date for responses 7 th January.
DCC	Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Service annual report	Reading file
DCC	Mobile Library Service – proposed changes to route & stop times from January 2011.	Reading file and send details to D&D Diary
DPFA	Devon Playing Fields Assoc Newsletter	Reading file
GM Planning	Final draft Survey Form with covering letter for your comments	Discuss in Agenda item 8.

68(10/11) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Lock and Jury declared personal interests in respect of matters relating to the Village Hall.

PUBLIC SESSION

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders to invite members of the public to speak.

Name	Subject	Response
Mr Sam Percival	Planning Application to widen shared access, South View, Fore Street	Comments noted.
Ward Cllr R. Lock	Above application	Conservation Officer has no concerns

69(10/11) Finance

a) Accounts to pay

Supplier	Description	VAT	Total	Chq.No
Mrs J Sidey	Clerk wages 5 Oct -1 Nov(inc) 4 weeks @ 8 hrs per week = 32 hrs @ £8.34 £266.88 £10 home office		£276.88	
DALC	Budgets & Precepts Course Fees	8.75	58.75	

Proposed by Cllr Burnage and Seconded by Cllr Rolls that the accounts be paid. All agreed.

Cheque signatories: Cllrs Partridge and Lock.

b. Income – 2nd instalment of Precept £6150 from TDC now received

Any other financial matters: Precept form received for 2011/12. Agenda item for December.

Current acc. bal. £14,715.90 (less above cheques to be paid) Dep Acc: £5,556.12

70(10/11) Planning

a. Applications to consider –1/0901/2010/CON SouthView, Fore Street, Dolton – Widen shared access- no objections provided that the reinstatement of the granite gate pillar and metal railings conform to conservation area requirements and standards.

b. Permissions granted – 1/1035/2008/FUL Land off Barlands Way North of Aller Road – Erection of 2 dwellings, one affordable and one open market. 1/0814/2010/LBC Drakes Barton – New Conservatory

c. Refusals advised – none

d. To receive any other planning matters- Change of Use Wood Farm, Dolton – 1/0269/2010/FUL will be presented at next Plans Committee on 4th November, Riverbank House, Bideford at 2 p.m. Parish Council may now send a representative to verbally give the views of the Parish Council. Standing Orders were suspended to allow Ward Cllr. Lock to say that a site visit is arranged for 11.30 am at Wood Farm before the Plans Committee meeting takes place.

71(10/11) Parish Grounds

i. Dennis Cross. An Engineering Inspections report has been received from Zurich detailing remedial work they consider necessary. Cllrs Lock and Burnage each took a copy of the Report to ascertain exactly what work is required to rectify any issues raised and will report at next meeting..

Cllr Jury has now conferred with a number of older children and the consensus is that the Sutcliffe Activzone Compact Climber is their choice of equipment (Model XZU 500 including safety grass and security netting at a cost of £9,998). In accordance with Minute 19(10/11) ii. that £10,000 be allocated for play equipment for older children, it was agreed that Cllr Jury should proceed with ordering the Activzone Compact Climber subject to the satisfactory completion of the remedial work to the ground beneath the new toddler swings by Sutcliffe Play.

ii. Football field. The new sign for the gate is now in place.

iii. War Memorial Garden. Unfortunately due to technical problems with her computer, the editor of the diary had not inserted the Clerk's notice on the removal of plants. It is hoped that the problems are now resolved and the notice will appear in the next issue.

72(10/11) Parish Action Plan.

The Clerk distributed copies of the email received today from GM Planning containing the final draft of the Housing Needs Survey form and the proposed covering letter to accompany the survey form, and requesting a speedy response to enable them to get the forms out on Friday. Cllr Jury was not happy with the shortness of time which Councillors would have to study the survey form and letter and reach a considered opinion as she wished to compare it with the John Scott CCD Survey form.

Cllr Burnage felt it would be beneficial to recap on the Parish Plan concept and subsequent work. He recalled the 2005 Parish Plan, its review which led to the 2009 Parish Action Plan, the formation of the voluntary Dolton Vision Group in October 2009 whose remit is to explore issues raised in the Plan and how that in-turn has led to the drawing up of the new Dolton Housing Survey.

He said how informative and inspirational all the community driven planning events and workshops he has attended over the last twelve months have been and reiterated the importance of communities taking a much greater interest and having a more effective say in the future if a properly balanced rural life is to be sustained. He also acknowledged how important it is that others are given information and the best opportunity to understand how community projects and community trusts can work to be of maximum benefit to the people who live, work and play in the Parish.

The findings of the Dolton Vision Day were recalled - in particular how 98% of the people indicated how the Parish should 'take control and get involved' in the community led planning process and also how 100% of the people thought that the local groups and organizations should be 'working together' to find solutions to Dolton's needs and aspirations.

It was explained how major planning applications in Rural areas require evidence of local need in order for the District Authority to be able to process them. Cllr Burnage felt that an essential part of genuine community driven planning is getting the people of the parish to believe that the contribution of their thoughts and opinions can actually make a difference in the way the Parish is shaped and what provisions are delivered in the future. As such, he felt that if the findings of the new Housing Survey were made available to the Local Authority, to apply in whichever way suits the Authority rather than the people of Dolton, then the Community driven aspect of an effective 'Parish Vision' would be negated.

There was a debate on this issue with Cllr Boyes suggesting that private developers would not be too keen on the approach being recommended. Cllr Burnage said it would be essential for the Parish Council to engage with the Local Authority and seek their support and guidance in setting up a Community Trust and helping Dolton deliver projects and schemes which have been driven by the Parish and its people. He also pointed out to the meeting how the last decade of planning approaches and decisions have both baffled and divided the community and felt that this was an opportunity to take a fresh and more effective approach to the issue.

Given how important it is that the covering letter which is to be circulated with the Housing Survey explains any approach being taken, Cllr Burnage felt a resolution on this should be sought before the Survey is sent out to the Parish.

Standing Orders were suspended to receive comment from the public and members of the Vision Group. The Chairman proposed that an open meeting be arranged for two weeks time to discuss the matter further. Cllr Partridge agreed with the need for the community to have a greater say in steering its future and made an alternative proposal that the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and the the Chairman of the Dolton Vision Group meet with GM Planning and TDC to explore ways in which the findings of the Parish Council's Housing Survey could be tied-in for use with Community driven schemes only. The Chairman withdrew his proposal in favour of the one made by Cllr Partridge. Carried.

73(10/11) Maintenance and Traffic Issues - To receive updates on local issues.

See Matters arising from the Minutes.

74(10/11) Parish Emergency Planning – To be an Agenda item in January Meeting

75(10/11) Pride in our Village - Nothing to report

76(10/11) Meetings Attended.

Cllrs Lock and Burnage together with Ward Cllr Lock had attended the Rural Affordable Housing Conference opened and addressed by Princess Ann at Woolserly on 26th October and each had attended a different workshop and each gave verbal reports. The general opinion was that emphasis should be put on working with the community, that villages should keep growing and national planning policies are changing. Princess Ann was very keen to get people doing things for their community and said because times are hard now communities should get ready to spring into action when money becomes available.

77(10/11) Any Other Business

i. Cllr Burnage has started to prepare a Parish Newsletter and asked for items to be included.

A PART 2 was convened and the Chairman requested the public to vacate the building.