

Dolton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held Monday 16th October 2006 8pm Village Hall

Present: Cllr.Lock in the chair, Cllrs.Heal, Giles, Berkley-Sage, Grigg, Kendrew Jury, Chivers. The Clerk Mrs.R.Lock. 17 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr.Siltow

The minutes of the meeting held 7th August 2006, having been duly circulated, were signed by the Chairman as being a true and correct record. Proposed Cllr.Kendrew seconded Cllr.Jury.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

161. Dennis Cross slide (min.124 refers) Cllrs. Kendrew and Lock had installed the slide. Resolved that further work be left until future revamping of Dennis Cross takes place.

162. Noticeboards (min.125 refers) Cllr.Kendrew still awaiting information from TDC about planning permissions. Clerk had not found any suitable leaflet boxes for the shop as yet.

163. Toilet, The Square (min.157a refers) Chairman had inspected the toilet on 8th August. Mr.Levett has now unblocked and fitted a new cistern handle. The building still needed painting.

164. Aller Road (min.157b refers) DCC Highways confirmed that the area in question by Hectors Close does not form part of the highway and is owned by the developer Mr.S.Pickard. Due to budgetary constraints unlikely that any works of a substantial nature will be carried out in Aller Road.

165. Cross Cottage Chapel Street (min.158a refers) land in question actually owned by Cross Cottage. DCC Highways have no objection to the owner putting lining or hatching down, or erecting bollards to keep traffic off his property.

166. Rubbish bin Rectory Road (min.159 refers) Clerk had placed an order.

The minutes of the meeting held 13th September 2006, having been duly circulated were signed by the Chairman as being a true and correct record with the following amendments: a) 4th question in public session to read Ms P.Gander. b) last question in public session N. Woods to read "is the housing association key to ensure that affordable houses are kept in perpetuity".

MATTERS ARISING there were none.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

167. The Clerk presented the following accounts for payment:-

a) Chris Hodgson	door playing field toilet	£ 58.24
b) H.J.Ward	materials slide Dennis Cross	£ 95.88
c) Village Hall	hire Aug/September	£ 26.40
d) S.W.Water	9/6 – 13/9 06	£ 52.14
e) E.Levett	repairs toilet The Square	£ 30.00
f) K.Hardy	wages Aug/September	£202.00*

g) K.Hardy	expenses	£ 3.65
h) Mrs.R.Lock	quarterly wages	£ 438.75
i) Mrs.R.Lock	expenses (inc.defrib.cabinet)	£ 235.81
j) Cllr.Berkley-Sage	DAPC AGM costs	£ 15.00
k) P.P.Construction	keys village hall	£ 77.00

*minimum wage increase to £5.35 (from £5.05) from 1st October.

Proposed Cllr.Kendrew seconded Cllr.Grigg that the above accounts be paid and Cllrs. Jury and Chivers signed the cheques.

168. Moneys received:-

a) Hortic.Society	rent Dennis Cross	£ 7.50
b) Dolton Scouts	rent Dennis Cross	£ 7.50

169. Inland Revenue have again sent Company tax return. Clerk had sent copy of last years "self assessment closure" notice.

170. Audit Commission – accounts had been certified and returned. Resolved that Clerk display approval notice and relevant part of form on the noticeboard. Further resolved that accounts be posted on the web site.

171. Cllr.Kendrew requested financial resume for presentation at the next meeting on the defribillator money.

172. Grant applications – Clerk confirmed applications and accounts received from the following organisations: - Dolton AFC, Dolton Scouts, Dolton Village Hall, Dolton Church PCC and Torrington Care Forum. Request for donation received from Torridge Community Transport Group. Resolved that as no application had been received from Dolton Pre School, grants would not be allocated until the November meeting. Cllr.Giles to contact Treasurer of Pre School.

PLANNING MATTERS

173. Adjoining parish notices in reading file.

174. Applications to consider: none

175. Permissions granted:

a) Mr.Mrs.Allam	Venstave Cottage	single storey side ext.
b) Mr.C.Cook	Cobblers Cottage	attached garage
c) Mrs.M.Grigg	Allerford	2 single storey rear exts.
d) Mrs.J.Brown	Cherubeer	rethatching of roof
e) Mr.D.Offley	Bramble Cottage	demolition defective wall & alteration of position
f) Mrs.M.Grigg	Allerford	single storey outbuilding
g) Dr. Mrs.Pole	Westlake Farm	barn conversion into holiday accommodation

176. Refusals advised:

a) Dixon Construction	land off Aller Road	2 dwellings
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HOUSING SURVEY

177. Clerk had supplied each Councillor with copy of the housing survey and e.mail from Sue Southwell, which they had considered. Cllr.Berkley-Sage questioned the difference in the number of forms/houses used for the Vital Village Survey and the current survey. Chairman confirmed there were approx. 400 houses in the Parish. Council resolved to make the following comments on the survey:-

- a) Page 4 1.2. will the survey be audited?
- b) Page 9 3.11 agree that this point merits further investigation.
- c) Page 10 4.4. anyway of knowing where the “37” come from?
- d) Page 18 9 when would a 2nd stage survey take place?
- e) Page 23/24 suggested sites – maps to be sent highlighting each area

Resolved that Sue Southwell be invited to the November Council meeting.

178. Cllr.Berkley-Sage informed the council that Moira Constable of RHT had a meeting with TDC Planners on 26th October and she had been asked to attend. Resolved that Cllr.Berkley-Sage attend this meeting, together with another Councillor who should contact Cllr.Berkley-Sage regarding details.

DENNIS CROSS

179. Cllr.Jury reported as follows:-

- a) A.Bockh produced plan , cost £250, for the revamping of the area.
- b) Had meeting with Vicky Braddick of TDC who was very positive on funding. TDC were applying for grants and village projects were just what they were looking for.
- c) She had been through the list of equipment that children had highlighted, and approx. cost , including installation and safety surfaces was £30,000. Vicky Braddick said go for grant of £40,000.
- d) To obtain 5-a-side football equipment for the area it was suggested that “after school football club for 5/7years” be set up with the backing of the school and football club. Cllr.Jury to contact and obtain letters of support.
- e) Planning permission – conflicting information received. One party said that as it was already a play area, no permission needed. Another voice said planning permission would be required. Cllr.Jury will check, and had requested that this be discussed at the next Torrington Advisory group meeting.

180. Councillors discussed all the above points and resolved:-

- a) to give the project their backing
- b) immediate neighbours to Dennis Cross should be sent letters informing them of the Council’s plan.

Councillors thanked Cllr.Jury for her hard work in getting the project off the ground.

PLAYING FIELD TOILET

181. Cllr.Kendrew reported that the new door had been fitted. He considered that a window was needed. Resolved that he obtains price for “toughened glass” and report back next meeting. Agenda item next meeting.

BUS SERVICE 315

182. DCC Transport Co-ordinator had confirmed that the 315 service was not being axed . Stagecoach were operating a new timetable from 1st October. This new timetable was in the bus shelter and had been published in the diary.

DEFIBILLATOR GROUP

183. Cllrs.Kendrew and Berkley-Sage reported as follows:-

- a) additional keys for 1st responders had been sorted out.
- b) 3 call outs to date – all to Beaford.
- c) confusion about contact – the 1st responders are accessed through dialling 999.

184. Resolved that Chairman contact Chairman of Beaford Parish Council and ascertain if anybody from Beaford would be interested in training to be a 1st responder and joining the Dolton Group.

EDGEFIELD/PLAYING FIELD

185. Ms.C.Beedles letter – Clerk had contacted DAPC for advice and Cllr.Kendrew who had chaired all aspects of Edgefield planning matters had circulated all councillors with a reply to the letter. Main bullet points as follows:-

- a) Advice from DAPC:-
 - i) any decisions made by Parish Council are corporate council decisions
 - ii) after outline planning permission was granted by TDC, Parish Council reacted to the circumstances of that decision, by considering the reserve matters. Just because they did not agree with the planning permission, it does not mean that they disown those people who may live there. Parish Council have a responsibility to them as well as everybody else.
 - iii) Deed of Dedication – aim for flexibility of the situation – waiting for advice from NALC.
- b) Draft letter by Cllr.Kendrew:
 - i) The footpath situation was not meant as one of support but a way of safe passage for housing already granted by TDC. Work in connection with the path such as surfacing and lighting to be at no cost to the Council.
 - ii) Deed of Dedication – unique set of circumstances surrounding the playing field, right that Council gain more information before acting.

Resolved that draft letter by Cllr.Kendrew be sent to Ms C.Beedles with no amendments or further discussion taking place.

186. Right of way Edgefield development/playing field – information received from NALC and copied to each Councillor. Discussion took place as follows:-
(Cllr.Lock – neighbour, Cllr.Jury – son/work, Cllr.Berkley-Sage – sent letter of objection to the planning application – all declared interests and left the room and took no part in the discussion).

- a) Cllr.Grigg had made various enquiries concerning best value, advertising such a right of way.
- b) NALC's conclusion was that it would be necessary to advertise any proposed grant of way. Additionally Council will be required to obtain the best price unless it falls within the terms of the general consent, in which case council have a discretion to seek a lower sum. The general consent allows councils to dispose of properties at an undervalue where the local authority considers that the purpose for which the land is to be disposed is likely to contribute to the achievement of any one or more of the following objects in respect of the whole or any part of its area, or of all or any persons resident or present in its area:

- i) the promotion or improvement of economic well-being.
- ii) the promotion or improvement of social well-being.
- iii) the promotion or improvement of environmental well-being

Resolved that the information be kept on file for consideration in any future planning application.

187. Area of land donated by Mr. Mrs.J.Lock to Parish Council –letter from Mr.Mrs.Madge concerned that no attempt has been made to incorporate this piece of land into the playing field and there is no new lease in place regarding drainage from the tarmac area. Council resolved:-

- a) that Chairman and Vice Chairman obtain quote from contractors for the removal and reinstatement of the hedge.
- b) Lease – Clerk to write once again to DCC who were dragging their feet on this matter.

188. Cllr. Kendrew – reported that the holly tree situated at the rear of the property known as Retreat is overgrown and branches are on the roof of the new toilet block. Resolved that Council seek permission from the new owners to cut back this tree.

189. Cllr.Berkley-Sage- copy report from DCC Property Resources Directorate – Tree inspection report form – oak tree behind the far goal – deadwood needed removing. Chairman and Vice Chairman to inspect.

COUNCILLORS REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED

190. Cllr.Berkley-Sage attended the AGM of the DAPC reported as follows:-

- a) 3% increase in subscriptions. Based on number of registered electors.
- b) Resolution from Burrington to fight to save sub post offices.
- c) Networking in the afternoon on a variety of subjects.

CORRESPONDENCE

191. CPRE Best Kept Village Result – Dolton scored 85 (79 last year) with an excellent report from judges. Resolved that full report be placed on noticeboard and in the diary. Village maps by schoolchildren had been returned. They had been awarded a framed “high commended” certificate. Clerk to ask permission from Head Teacher if these maps could be displayed in the village hall for the Xmas Fayre. Chairman thanked the working group, consisting of some councillors and members of the public, for all their hard work in making an improvement to the village.

192. Torrington Advisory Group meeting – Tuesday 21st November.

193. Copies of Torridge News and Torridge First in reading file.

194. D & C Police – looking for independent members to sit on the Police Authority. Notice to be displayed.

195. DCC Highways – One man gang visit scheduled for 15/17 Jan. 2007.

196. Torridge Housing Strategy 06/11 in reading file.

197. TDC proposed workshops for Parish Councils 2007 – resolved that Clerk sends out copy of the form/ideas with November minutes. Agenda item.

198. Village Green – in reading file. Clerk contact CCD to ascertain why extra copies had not been sent.

199. Speed Limit Guidance – information from NALC in reading file.

200. WDBC – notification of adoption of Statement of Community Involvement received.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

201. Cllr.Lock – reported that village sign opposite BG Elecrics was cracked and dangerous. He had taken it down. Chair and Vice Chair to reinstate.

202. Cllr.Heal – hedges Brook Road by Buckland badly need trimming.

203. Cllr.Grigg – agenda item for November “times of meetings”

204. Cllr. Kendrew – agenda item for November “ Design Statement”

205. Cllr.Jury:-

a) Community Police Officer has yet to attend a meeting. Clerk pointed out that “Police monthly newsletter” was in the noticeboard.

b) Blocked drains at Chapel Cross/Langham Cross and Rectory Road.

206. Cllr.Chivers – running spring outside Hector Close by the wall needed attention.

207. Date of next meeting Monday 6th November 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the chairman thanked those present for their attendance and closed the meeting at 10.15pm.

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