



Doddiscombsleigh Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 10 October 2023 at 7.30 pm at Woodah Farm

Present: Cllr W Hole (Chairman), Cllr M Moorhouse, Cllr J Sawyer, Cllr R Crocker, Cllr K Salter, District Cllr A Swain and Mr A Porter, the Parish Council's representative at the Teign Valley Community Hall
Clerk: A Miller

1 Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chairman welcomed everybody. District Cllr Purser sent his apology.

2 Declarations of Interest / Requests for Dispensations

Cllr Moorhouse declared a personal interest in item 7.2.1. and did not vote on the issue.

Open Forum

No questions were raised.

3 To Receive a Report about the Teign Valley Community Hall

Mr Porter gave his report about the refurbishment and operation of the Hall. There is a need for volunteers to help with occasional maintenance. The Hall also runs a Community Raffle. Clerk to write in the Magazine about the Hall in the Doddiscombsleigh section.

4 County and District Councillors' Report

District Cllr Swain gave his report about the changes at the District Council. There was a mid-year review of fees and charges. Parking charges increased but there is no increase in planning fees.

5 Ratification of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolved The Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting of 12 September 2023 was unanimously accepted as a true record.

6 Councillor Vacancy and Co-option

There were no applications.

7 Planning Matters

7.1 To Note Planning Decisions and to Receive Planning Updates

Pending applications:

23/00519/FUL Land adjacent to Little Leigh Farm

23/00831/FUL Perry Bungalow

7.2 To Discuss Planning Applications and Planning Appeals

7.2.1 23/01563/FUL Land To West Of The Beehive

Agricultural building

Resolved The Parish Council agreed to ask the Planning Authority to clarify the size of the land and whether the land is registered as an agricultural holding. The Parish Council decided to raise concerns about the size of the building and to ask the Planning Authority that if permission is granted, consider applying a condition, which would not allow the conversion of the building into other use in order to safeguard the character of the area.

7.2.2 23/00033/REF Little Park Farm

Appeal against the refusal of 21/01073/FUL: Retention of mobile home for use as tourist accommodation

Resolved The Parish Council unanimously agreed to ask the Planning Inspector to object the proposal on the basis that the original condition of the permission for a permanent dwelling (16/02462/FUL) was imposed for a valid reason and this reason still exists. Allowing the temporary building to be retained would undermine trust in the planning system and would create a negative precedent. There is no need to retain the temporary building as holiday accommodation because there is already opportunity and capacity for tourist accommodation within the Farm.

8 To Receive Reports and Updates

8.1 To Receive a Highways Update

No items were raised.

8.2 To Receive an Update about the Triangle

The Parish Council needs to apply separately for licences to plant a tree and to place benches at the Triangle. Both applications need to provide a draft plan of the area. The Chairman drew a plan for this purpose. Devon Highways also wants to see sketches of the benches and the top. Sawmills Devon to provide the drawings.

Resolved The Parish Council unanimously agreed to apply for permission to plant a rowan tree at the Triangle.

Resolved The Parish Council unanimously agreed to accept the estimate of Green Trees for grinding out the stump of the beech tree and order the work.

8.3 To Discuss Possible Improvements on Down Lane

Cllr Sawyer reported about the meeting with Mr Fairs, the lengthsman, and discussions with landowners in the area. Some residents are ready to contribute to the solution and do the necessary works on their properties. Work is needed on the lane itself. The Council decided to ask residents with relevant expertise whether they can provide a suitable plan for the improvement of the drainage at the lane.

Some kerbstones along the gully leading to the Triangle need to be repaired and the line of kerbstones needs to be extended to avoid debris spreading to the Triangle after storms. These works are the responsibility of Devon Highways.

8.4 To Receive a Parish Path Partnership and Footpath Update

None.

8.5 To Receive an Update about the Bus Shelter

Cllr Sawyer reported that the floor of the bus shelter started to disintegrate, and it needs to be fixed before any frost.

The Foodbank decided to reduce the range of items available at the bus shelter larder after two incidents this year when items from the larder were used to vandalize the walls. They will remove the filing cabinets from the bus shelter as well.

Resolved The Parish Council agreed to ask for a quote for a small bench from the timber of the fir tree to provide additional seating in the bus shelter.

8.6 To Receive an Update about the Website Project

Resolved The Parish Council unanimously agreed to register the doddiscombsleighparishcouncil.gov.uk domain name for the new website. The Council also agreed to use the current Parish Council logo for the new website.

The Council discussed the options for a new email address as well. Considering the cost of migrating emails and contacts from the existing email address, the Council decided not to order this service.

9 Finance

9.1 To Receive a Finance Report and to Approve the Bank Reconciliation

The bank balance on 30 September 2023 was £16,770.00. After deducting the amount of earmarked funds and grants, the general reserve was £5,535.79.

Since the September meeting the second part of the precept, £3,894.00 has been credited to the account.

The Chairman reported that the bank reconciliation for 30 September 2023 was in order.

Resolved The Council unanimously approved the bank reconciliation.

9.2 To Receive an Update about the Parish Council's Banking Arrangements

Cllr Salter's access to authorize payments is not shown in the system. Cllr Salter to check the issue with Unity Bank.

9.3 Approval of Expenditure

Venue hire 10 October 2023 £10.00

WIX monthly fee £8.20

Card monthly fee Sep 2023 £3.00

Clerk's salary and home working allowance £934.50

SLCC membership fee £101.00

Resolved The Council unanimously approved the expenditures.

10 To Discuss Sending a Representative to the DALC event with Teignbridge District Council

The Chairman agreed to attend the event.

11 To Discuss Possible Trainings for Councillors

Teignbridge District Council will hold two online courses for parish councillors about its new Code of Conduct. The event is free.

12 Clerk's Correspondence

12.1 New Planning Application

23/01749/HOU Teign View Barn Great Leigh Farm application arrived after the agenda had been published. The Clerk will send a consultation response before 30 October, following the rules of the delegated power that was agreed at the July meeting.

12.2 Parish.uk Website

The Clerk reported that there is a parish.uk website for Doddiscombsleigh, which has no connection to the Parish Council or the government, but it still states that it is the official

website of the Parish. The site promises to send messages to the Parish Clerk, although the Parish Council has not asked for this service. The website collects personal data and contact details on its Contact the Clerk form.

The Parish Council agreed to ask for a clarification from the Information Commissioner's Office whether this data collection is legal.

Cllr Salter left the meeting.

12.3 Teignbridge Local Plan Addendum

The Teignbridge Local Plan has been modified, and the Addendum will be consulted later this year.

13 Date of Next Meeting

14 November 2023

14 Chairman's Remarks

A horse rider was injured in an accident at the beginning of October when a car speeded up next to her horse on a small lane. Clerk to write about the issue in the Magazine.

The Chairman thanked everybody for their participation.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15 pm.

Signed.....

Chair

Date