



# Dodington Parish Council

**MINUTES of Full Council Meeting** of the Parish Council held in Dodington Parish Hall on **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2023** at 7.30pm.

**PRESENT:** Councillors Richard Evans, David Fitt, Bob Graham, Christine Howard, Paul Hulbert, Sarah Hurley, Adrian Hutton, Sandra Jee, Jean Thomas and Chris Zapata (chairing the meeting)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Hannah Saunders Clerk to the Council – Clerking the Meeting and Ward Councillors Cheryl Kirby and Marilyn Palmer  
Alex Hammond (Green City Homes) was present from 8pm – 8:20pm approximately.

## **107/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs Laura Pearson Tong, Louise Harris and also from Ward Councillor Ben Stokes.

## **108/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION**

Cllr Jean Thomas declared an interest in Item 10 on the Agenda (min ref 116/23) as she is a resident adjacent to Tern Inn Development. She will refrain from comment.  
There were no other declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

## **109/23 CO-OPTION**

Clerk informed members that she hadn't received any Expressions of Interest or Applications for the 3 remaining seats that the Council are looking to co-opt for.

Clerk confirmed that vacancies were being advertised and asked what members wanted to do going forward.

Another open morning was suggested as a good way forward – in the Autumn. Clerk checked and not many Saturday's available...will put item on future agenda for consideration.

## **110/23 PARISHIONERS QUESTIONS**

There were no members of public present – and no questions. Alex Hammond from Green City Homes was due at 8pm to discuss Tern Inn Development.

## **111/23 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING**

It was resolved that the minutes of Full Council Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023 as printed / circulated were a true record – and they were duly signed by Cllr Chris Zapata.

Matters Arising :- (not covered off later on agenda)

- Clerk stated that Brass on Grass will be reviewed at CL&E Meeting.
- Memorial Stabalisation will be carried out from 31st August 2023 – notices are up in Burial Ground.
- FOI received has been satisfied.
- Clerk thanked members for visiting various community groups over course of last month.

### **112/23 TO NOTE MINUTES FROM FOLLOWING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

It was noted that CL&E, Planning, and FG&P would be approved accordingly at next meetings

- CL&E – 21<sup>st</sup> August 2023
- Planning – 21<sup>st</sup> August 2023
- F&GP – 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023

### **113/23 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM WARD COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Louise Harris had sent report via Cheryl Kirby –

- Was pleased to see that Paul's Place are planning to have some rooms available for community use at Shireway when they reopen.
- Following the Waste Dispute service nearly back to normal again. Reminder to residents that if you re-ordered new recycling boxes before the dispute – you will need to re-order again.
- Bridge closures in Yate are proving challenging – but investigation is necessary (A4321) SGC have been informed that they should receive a report before Christmas outlining remedial works required.
- Swan Bridge is only meant to be closed for 2 weeks.
- Louise will chase SGC regarding outstanding work following the resurfacing of Shireway and Rodford Way.

Cllr Marilyn Palmer reported that due to the diversion because of A4321 closure Highways England have put temporary traffic lights back up at the Tormarton Junction (for the duration of the diversion). They are also looking at rephasing the traffic lights down at Henfield.

Clerk read report that Cllr Ben Stokes had sent – and will forward email to Councillors as there is link to GP Survey that as many people as possible are being encouraged to complete.

### **114/23 PLANNING MATTERS**

Planning applications considered are detailed in Appendix 1 to these minutes.

Decisions to note Clerk reported that planning had been granted for the Solar Farm at Codrington.

### **115/23 WEIGHT RESTRICTION – DODINGTON LANE**

Cllr Paul Hulbert had received correspondence from local resident stating that due to the diversions in place – HGVs seem to be ignoring the weight restriction on Dodington Lane. He noted that a diversion sign stating 'Not suitable' for HGVs had been place at one end of

lane – but not coming from Chipping Sodbury – so would suggest to SGC that they put one along Culverhill Rd somewhere...also let Police know and see what they can suggest – if they can monitor at all.

*Alex Hammond arrived and was welcomed*

## **116/23 TERN INN CAR PARK RE-DEVELOPMENT**

Cllr Chris Zapata / Clerk and Alex updated members on earlier meeting with local residents regarding the revised plans for Car Park.

The consensus had been that both East and North East Hedge should be removed and 8ft Feather Edge Fencing erected by developer. Dodington Parish Council to approach SGC regarding license for the hedge / verge

Cheryl and Clerk will arrange a meeting with Kate Tate / Marcus Gill to see what SGC thoughts are regarding granting a license.

Cllr Chris Zapata / Clerk will look into cost of planting – and Cheryl will speak with Phil Jones about grants, etc.

Alex is hoping to get the revised plans submitted to SGC by end of August (along with EVCP information and a couple of other minor details).

Alex explained that PoGo Ltd are happy to carry out all installation foc – they have produced some draft plans and it would mean losing 1 x parking space to get 4 x spaces for EVC. (this would mean 14 community spaces instead of 15). A decision is required so that can start liaising with National Grid – and see if can connect directly to them – or require a small sub station on site.

This matter will be included on Planning Committee Agenda – next week for decision.

Alex is unable to make meeting next week – but will be available on mobile if any questions arise.

*Alex was thanked for his time and left meeting at approx. 8:20pm*

## **117/23 MEETING WITH TENNANTS OF TERN INN**

Cllr Chris Zapata and Cheryl Kirby reported briefly on meeting that they had had the previous week with tenants of Tern Inn. They are struggling currently with the car park shut and development going on – it has had a greater effect on business than they thought.

They had approached the council because it was Dodington that had put the ACV on the pub and had worked with the 'Save the Tern' group in 2017 – 18 time.

It was agreed that Dodington needed to be seen to support – and Clerk was talking to Streetcare and going to try and arrange a tidy up of outside.

## **118/23 WORKS TO COUNCIL CHAMBERS / OFFICES**

Clerk informed members that Public Work Loan of £90,000 for the works to the chambers / offices had been approved by the Secretary of State.

This meant that brief on contract finder could detail that funding was agreed – which Clerk

was happier with.

Following last Full Council meeting – Cllr Chris Zapata (and Laura Pearson Tong) had reviewed what had been uploaded to Contract Finder with Project Officer. Clerk confirmed that it wasn't a live tender yet – as still needed to finalise a couple of documents and agree dates with members.

Cllr Chris Zapata stated that there was a lot more information required that he had realised. The brief of works and tender opportunity were circulated for members to have a look at and post meeting – Clerk will forward them on email along with plans for reordering. Subject to members being happy with documents – plan is for tender to 'go live' on 1<sup>st</sup> September for 6 weeks.

Clerk then briefly outlined what was included within the reordering work / what wasn't. Clerk confirmed that the plans for reordering had been reviewed by Climate Consultant when survey had been carried out of building. Consultant felt that Parish Council were approaching things correctly – and equipment that was to be installed would be compatible with air sourced heat pumps / solar and this could be added at a later date when fund became available.

### **119/23 CLIMATE EMERGENCY**

Following meeting of the Climate Emergency working group the previous week – some amendments / updates to Terms of Reference and the Declaration had been suggested.

It was proposed by Cllr David Fitt and seconded by Cllr Jean Thomas and RESOLVED that amendments to Terms of Reference be approved. (Appendix 2)

It was proposed by Cllr Paul Hulbert and seconded by Cllr Adrian Hutton and RESOLVED that minor amendment to the Climate Emergency Declaration be made (Appendix 3)

### **120/23 SUMMER PLAYScheme**

Clerk confirmed that the 3 weeks of playscheme had passed off successfully. The first 2 weeks saw higher numbers of children– with more spaces being available in week 3 meaning that everyone on waiting list got offered a place.

Feedback had been positive from parents / carers and children. The support from Police and Fire Services deserve special mention – as they really engaged with the children.

Clerk thanked councillors that helped over the course of the 3 weeks for their time – and Cllr Jean Thomas stated that it was really good to get to know Adam and the team and see scheme in operation.

Adam has nearly completed report – and got some fantastic photo's and will come along to CL&E in Autumn to present.

Tuck Shop was well managed – and reconciliation shows money made (members can review this when they carry out quarterly checks).

As well as paid staff – a Duke of Edinburgh student from Brimsham volunteered to help in Week 1 and 3 and was a great asset.

**121/23    FINANCE MATTERS**

Payments received / made in July were reviewed by means of bank statements (Deputy still working on updating system). All in order.

Bank reconciliation for June was received by members and duly approved and signed by Chair – Cllr Chris Zapata.

**122/23    ITEMS TO REPORT**

- Cllr Richard Evans reported that issue of parked cars on Besom Lane entrance to Wapley Bushes had impeded tractors getting through – to the point where they drove through part of a hedge to get by. Keen to see proposals at next meeting...he also mentioned witnessing one of the Dodington Trucks doing a u-turn on Rodford Way. Clerk to have words with grounds staff.
- Cllr David Fitt confirmed that he and Jean Thomas had a successful visit to the Willow Tree Centre at St Nicks. He also reported that due to the road diversions there is more traffic – coming up past Rodborough – and this is making crossing road to bus stop tricky for some residents.
- Cllr Paul Hulbert reported that due to inclement weather one of the Wapley work days had been cancelled and he has noticed a burnt out van on Dodington Rd (Cllr Marilyn Palmer stated that Police are aware of this).
- Cllr Chris Zapata had received a request from Estates Officer for members to consider keeping the temporary summer support on for a further 2 weeks (until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023) in order to get work completed in Lilliput / Wapley and at Parish Hall. This will be an item on CL&E agenda next week.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed at 9.15pm – with Chair thanking everyone for attending.

Next meeting of Full Council – 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Signed .....Chair

Date 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023