

Minutes of the Meeting of Doddinghurst Parish Council held at 20.00 on Thursday 4th Oct 2012, Parish Room, (adj. Village Hall), Church Lane, Doddinghurst.

Present: Clrs. Mrs D Dicker (Chairman), Mrs J Le Page, Mrs D Rogers-Harrison, Mr A Oliver, Mr A Smith, Mr C Enderby, Mr P Arnell, Mr A Farrow, Mr. D Potter and Mr G Smith; County and Borough Councillor Ann Naylor; Borough Councillor R McCheyne.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Clrs. Mr. G W Bateson and Borough Councillor Mr K Parker.

2.  **Resolved.** Minutes of the meeting held on the 6th Sept 2012 approved and signed.

4. **Noted: Clerk's report back on progress** following the meeting of the 6th Sept 2012:

- i. Second section of teen village removed as agreed at the September meeting. One section remains from the three that were originally provided and the asset list has been amended accordingly.
- ii. Basket Ball boards replaced.
- iii. Playchips delivered to allotment area.
- iv. Damp at the rear of the Parish Room kitchenette, caused by roof damage, is creating a problem with mildew which may require the replacement of the cupboards as a matter of urgency.
- v. A Register of Members Interests, as required by the Localism Act 2011, has been established on the Doddinghurst web site and all 10 of those received have been posted. The Monitoring Officer has been advised of progress.
- vi. One ashes interment held in September.
- vii. Office filing system overhauled.
- viii. Rectory Hedge remains uncut by BBC. May have to engage an alternative contractor (or advise the Diocese to cut their hedge). (NB. Now cut - 02/10/12))
- ix. Peartree Field hedge will require layering in 2013 - about 3 days work for experienced hedge layer.
- x. An allotment inspection held and a number identified for improvement.
- xi. Autumn delivery of road salt declined.
- xii. Neighbourhood Plan survey, associated letter and survey schedule outline produced.
- xiii. Website updated for Minutes, Neighbourhood Plan, Burial and Allotment information.

5. **Noted:** Schedule of Correspondence received up to the 26th Sept 2012. Proposal for WW1 memorial to be discussed at the GP committee. Proposal for a Scalectrix club to be raised with the Scouting Group, perhaps with a trial in mind by hiring equipment. The Chairman will advise those concerned of the proposals.

6. Financial Reports and Minutes and Feedback from Committees.

- a.  **Resolved:** Approved the Financial Reports for Sept 2012.
- b.  **Resolved:** Approved the Schedule of Payments for Sept 2012.
- c. **Information:** Noted Planning meeting of the 25th September 2012.
- d. **Information:** Noted General Purposes meeting of the 19th September 2012.
- e. **Information:** Feedback from Members relating to Committees attended since last meeting.
 Clr G Smith advised the council of the proposed roles of "community connectors" in bodies being formed to "strengthen communities". This is an idea with international roots but doesn't seem to fit well in an environment where there are existing strong community groups such as Parish Councils.

7. **Information:** Neighbourhood Plan Village survey, call for "volunteers". Noted that the next step in the Neighbourhood Plan is a comprehensive survey of residences in the village to:

- (a) understand the existing housing stock
- (b) understand the profile of people living in the village - age groups and occupancy levels.
- (c) obtain residents opinions on the needs and priorities for improvement to Village infrastructure.

All Parish Councillors were asked to assist and the Neighbourhood Watch members would also be asked if they are willing to assist.

8.  **Resolved:** Approved, the appointment of new Internal and External auditors.

9. **Information:** Nature Trail repairs - quotation awaited.

10. **Information:** Meeting with Neighbourhood Police Team - no contact from Police on the matter. Councillors expressed their extreme disappointment at the lack of visibility of the local police and their failure to communicate with the community in their neighbourhood. It was noted that the local PCSO had been on holiday for most of the summer.

11. **Information:** 228 - Sunday Bus Service. A meeting with BCT is to be held but unless the passenger numbers have improved the outlook is not good.

261 - Bus service. Cllr Enderby confirmed (by taking the Bus) that the 261 ran past the New Surgery. Cllr Enderby also advised that he was pursuing the provision of raised kerbs, which now had to be prioritised, to those stops on the return journey from Brentwood since these journeys would probably involve carrying shopping. There had been complaints about the pace of the bus at times and this was mainly due to tight schedules to High Street, probably making it impracticable to extend route to the Station.

12. **Information:** Noted Finance and Resources meeting date as the 10th October 2012 at 20.00.

13. **Information:** Christmas Buffet arrangements and venue confirmation. Debbie Tonkiss to advise requirements. The venue has been confirmed as St Margaret's Hall.

14. **Other urgent information:** (No council actions/letters/undertakings permissible on this item). Cllr Farrow raised the issue of an orange track bike being used on the recreation fields and that FP 35 needed a walkway since a spring seems to have risen on the pathway.

The meeting closed at 22.00

Minutes signed:

Date: 1st Nov 2012

Comments in public session:

Peter Salmon spoke about the sad passing of Bill Reid and the stalwart work he had done for the village Neighbourhood Watch. It was confirmed that the Neighbourhood Watch would continue as before.

County and Borough Councillor Ann Naylor noted that progress was being made in filling potholes but that the Doddinghurst Road remained to be treated.. Borough Cllr McCheyne undertook to cut back overhanging bushes along Mountnessing/ Pettits Lane and along the Doddinghurst Road opposite Brook Lane.

A resident stated that he was very dissatisfied at the lack of action in getting matters such as potholes filled and shrubbery cut back - things that were discussed week after week with no result.

The meeting was attended by 3 members of the public.