

DIDDLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr D Hedgley

Clerk: Mrs Jean de Rusett, The Grange, Leinthall Earls, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6
9TS Tel: 01568 770640 "e" mail address: diddleburypc@gmail.com
Website address: <http://www.2shrop.net/Diddlebury>

MINUTES

**Of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 22nd July 2015, 7.30pm at Diddlebury Village Hall**

079/15: Present and apologies for absence

Cllr. D Hedgley (Chairman), Cllr. M Fowler, Cllr. R Povall, Cllr. M Thomas, Cllr. K Worthington and Cllr. T O'Boyle

Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Cllr. S. Thomas.

In attendance:

Seven members of the public, Unitary Cllr. C Motley and the Clerk Mrs J de Rusett.

080/15: Declarations of Interest relating to this meeting.

Members are requested to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in matters to be considered at this meeting in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

No Declarations were made.

081/15: Public involvement session:

No matters were raised.

082/15: Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 24th June 2015.

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24th June 2015 had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr. Worthington proposed that the Minutes be approved as a correct record, Cllr. O'Boyle seconded the proposal: the members by a majority voted to approve the Minutes and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

083/15: Matters arising from the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 24th June 2015 not dealt with elsewhere on the Agenda

053/15:

Mr Drakes reported at the June meeting that he had heard that Mill Lane was to be resurfaced. Those works were then carried out with little or no prior warning which had led to considerable disruption to local residents, church goers and to local businesses. The

Chairman and Cllr. Motley confirmed they had protested in the strongest terms to the Highways Department and to Ringways, the contractors. Assurances have been given that the works will be completed by 27th July and that in the meantime traffic will have access along Mill lane at all times.

073/15/2:

The Chairman confirmed that planning permission had been granted for the refurbishment works to Diddlebury Village Hall.

084/15 - Planning Matters

084/15/1:

15/00435/FUL & 15/00436/FUL. Amended application submitted by Mr R Parkes of Ward Farm, Westhope relating to the siting of portable free range organic chicken sheds.

The original application came before the Parish Council on 25th March 2015 and the Parish Council supported that application. The Parish Council was then notified on 8th July 2015 that an amended application had been submitted. Shropshire Council do not send out plans or documents related to amended applications: it had been virtually impossible to read the amended plans on-line. Fortunately Mr Parkes attended the meeting and was able to assist the members: he explained that the planning officer had not liked one of portable sheds being sited near Westhope Village Hall and had asked for an amended application with a revised location. The members considered the revised location: the Chairman proposed the application be supported, Cllr. M Thomas seconded and the members unanimously voted to support the application.

084/15/2 :

15/02418/FUL- application by Mrs K Davies of Shepherd's Barn, Corfton, SY7 9LD for the installation of PV solar panels on roof of an existing dwelling.

The members were puzzled by this application as planning permission is not normally needed for such installations: Mr and Mrs Davies explained the property is a converted barn and thus the application was necessary. The members considered the application and confirmed that the panels could not be seen from other properties and would create no glare. Cllr.

Worthington proposed the members support the application; Cllr. M Thomas seconded and the members unanimously voted to support it.

084/15/3:

15/04596/ENF - The enforcement notice relating to Milford House, Diddlebury was discussed. Despite a reminder having been sent to the case worker dealing with this enforcement notice, no report had been received. Cllr. Motley agreed to chase up a response.

084/15/4:

Empty houses at Bouldon. As agreed at the June meeting a letter was sent to Mr & Mrs F Povall (on 6th July 2015) seeking their proposals concerning the necessary bat surveys which need to be conducted before the end of August if work is going to commence before next year. No written response had been received but Mr Povall had visited the Chairman. His position is he may be minded to demolish the houses and replace them with a bungalow.

This course of action was discussed and it was the view of the members that they could support such an application if it was forthcoming. However, the houses cannot be demolished until a bat survey is carried out. It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk will write to Mr & Mrs Povall again, advising them that the houses cannot be demolished without a bat survey and that the Parish Council will have to seek advice on its legal options if no action is taken on the bat survey before the end of August.

085/15 - Reports

085/15/1 - Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported on his parish council activities in July. He and the Clerk had placed Election Notices on all the notice boards. His tribute to the late Cllr. Patrick Linton had been sent to the Corvedale Magazine and he had taken a copy to Mrs Linton. He had had the meeting already referred to with Mr F Povall. He had taken up the issue of the unannounced re-surfacing of Mill Lane with the Highways Department, had also discussed the zig-zag white lines outside the school, and had encouraged the contractors to fill in some of the worst holes in the village hall car park. He had reviewed the Police notices and reported on two current scams plus the increasing number of burglaries from sheds and outbuildings. He reported on information from the Rural Services Network (RSN) on the parlous state of public and community buses services in rural areas and the concerns raised by the government's proposed "right to buy" initiative, which will make it even harder for young people to live in villages.

085/15/2 - Unitary Councillor's Report

Cllr. Motley reported on her recent attendance at a joint RSN/Housing Alliance conference when the proposed "right to buy" initiative was debated at length: it has a large number of defects which will give rise to serious, and presumably unintended, consequences. The consensus of the conference was that it will worsen the affordable housing supply rather than improve it. Pressure to abandon this scheme will be brought to bear on the government as the Housing Bill is now at the Committee stage.

A further issue debated at length at the conference was the devolution issue: as there is no template on how devolution is to work, no one is clear what it means or how it is intended to work: it was the conference's view that devolution is a recipe for chaos, with unitary, district and county councils all fighting each other.

Cllr. Motley also addressed the issue of the resurfacing works in Mill Lane. Neither she, nor the Parish Council nor Corvedale residents had been notified about this work in advance. It had caused chaos to a funeral, to a wedding at Delbury Hall and to all local residents and businesses. She had protested in the strongest terms to those responsible.

085/15/3 - Local Joint Council Report

Cllr. Fowler had attended the recent LJC meeting. The Fire Service gave a presentation and urged all residents to ensure their fire detectors are working: they still offer a free scheme to check detectors - details are on their website. The Police had reported on vandalism to the bus shelter in Craven Arms and that the landlord of a Craven Arms pub is working with the police on drug related problems. They urged the public to notify them if a house is to be left empty for any length of time, and gave a presentation about various alarm devices to deter burglars, Smart Water marking and other anti-theft devices available. Clee St. Margaret Parish are installing three defibrillators around the parish: the basic equipment costs £400 plus installation costs: the ambulance service will train all volunteers. Funding for rural micro-businesses and rural tourism is coming on stream via EU funds and the LEADER scheme. It is hoped the guidelines will be clarified by August.

Cllr. Motley advised that the LEADER scheme will concentrate on capital grants to promote economic growth, so is not available for community projects. She advised that a consortium approach needs to be made in respect of the EU funds.

The present position with super-fast Broadband was discussed. Diddlebury and Culmington have super-fast cabinets but Stanton Lacy has been missed out. Cllr. Povall advised that in Corfton Cllr. S Povall had been connected, but four other properties were not connected as they were not BT customers. Cllr. Motley suggested the Corvedale need to get a pressure group organised. The Chairman asked if anyone was willing to take over the Broadband issue, which had been Cllr. Linton's preserve. Cllr. R Povall agreed to assume the role.

085/15/3 - Diddlebury Village Hall report

Cllr. O'Boyle confirmed that now planning permission has been received the final bid for funding had been completed and is ready for submission: it is hoped there will be a response by November.

The Chairman thanked all the Diddlebury Village Hall Committee members who had worked so hard to get this bid launched. Cllr. O'Boyle advised a huge debt of gratitude is owed in Mr Mike Woodhouse who has spent around a thousand hours of his own time preparing the bid.

086/15 - Review of vacancy for a councillor

The Clerk advised that the closing date for a request from 10 parishioners for an election had expired at midnight on the 20th July: no such request had been submitted. It is now open to the Parish Council to seek a councillor by way of co-option. It was agreed that a Notice will be drafted by the Clerk, approved by the Chairman and will be displayed on all parish notice boards, on the website and in the Corvedale Magazine, with a closing date for applications of 18th September 2015.

087/15 - Training Courses

The Clerk advised of three forthcoming training courses: Chairmanship Skills Part 2 (which Cllr. Fowler will attend), Sustainable Communities Act on 16th September and Public Speaking on 18th September 2015.

088/15 - Correspondence

The members considered the following items of correspondence:

* indicates documents have already been circulated by "e" mail to members

1. 24.06.15 - Planning application 14/05061/FUL - Wynetts Bank, Bouldon, Craven Arms, Shropshire SY7 9DP. Application for rebuilding outbuilding to provide dining room, erection of a conservatory, alterations to windows and installation of conservation rooflight.
Planning permission granted 24.06.15*
2. 01.07.15 - Revisions to Register of Electors for Diddlebury Parish
3. 03.07.15 - Letter Glyn Shaw, Senior Traffic Engineer, Shropshire Council Highways Dept. re changes to Community Led Concerns regarding road safety and seeking submission of any investigations/designs concerns re road safety from parish councils by the end of July 2015
4. 09.07.15 "e" mail from Richard Ealey, Network Manager South, Contract & Utility Management, Highways & Transport Team, Shropshire Council advising that Severn Trent & their partner Amey will be commencing work on the B4368 between Milford

Lodge and the Telephone Exchange just south of Pedlars Rest, proposed start date 14th September. Also advising that following those works, the entire surface of the previous trench dug by Amey is defective and will have to be dug up and relaid. Works anticipated to take 4 weeks and one set of traffic lights will be used during the works.*

5. 13.07.15 "e" mail from Mr D. Mason to Mr Ealey (above) protesting at the works and Mr Ealey's response of same date.*
6. Notification from NHS FutureFit of a series of workshops concerning Rural Urgent Care Centre Localities. One is in Ludlow on 6th August commencing 5.45pm and finishing 8.30pm. Attendees must have some knowledge of the FutureFit programme. Contact <https://eventbrite.co.uk/event/17583616069> or call 0121 612 3898 for further information and to book a place - places are limited.*
7. 17.07.15 Notification from Planning Department of Shropshire Council re 15/02047/FUL - application for the erection of extension and alterations to Diddlebury Village Hall.
Planning permission Granted on 17.07.15.*
8. 14.07.15 - notification from Tom Brettell, Senior Community Enablement Officer, Shropshire Council, of various opportunities for the delivery of youth activities in Shropshire.*
9. 17.07.15 - "e" mail and report on meeting held by Culmington FAG. Contents and suggestions to be discussed by DPC.*

In addition Cllr. Worthington had received a letter from Highways England advising of roadworks on the A5 from 20th July to November from 8pm to 6am each day.

089/15 - Finance

Cllr. Worthington noted an error in the Finance Report: the revised report is set out below.

Balance of Precept Funds brought forward from June	£6,346.87
Add: VAT Refund received 07.07.15	<u>£ 183.51</u>
(split between Precept balance & War Memorial Fund)	£6,530.38

Less: cheques to be authorised for payment on 22.07.15

• Clerk's net salary for July 2015	£113.47	
• HMRC – PAYE on Clerk's salary for July 2015	£ 28.20	
• SALC: Training course fee 24.6.15 (Cllr. Fowler - Chairmanship Skills course)	£ 20.00	
• Clerk's expenses for July 2015 (see below)	<u>£ 27.43</u>	
	£189.10	<u>£ 189.10</u>
1. Balance of Precept Funds c/fwd to August 2015		£6,341.28
2. Highways & Environment Grant funds b/fwd from June	£1,667.07	
Less: Invoice dated 19.7.15 from Tony Capleton	<u>£ 30.00</u>	
Balance c/fwd	£1,637.07	£1,637.07

3.	Funds ring-fenced for Projects c/fwd from June 2015	£ 147.18
4.	Other ring-fenced sums held in Diddlebury PC's Account	
	• Corvedale Youth Club	£ 650.39
	• Diddlebury Stream Management Group	£ 150.00
	• Balance of Donations for War Memorial	
	Appeal fund	£ 15.50
	ADD: VAT refund re refurbishments works	<u>£140.00</u>
		£155.50
	Total of DPC funds c/fwd	<u>£ 155.50</u>
		<u>£9,081.42</u>

Clerk's expenses for July 2015

• July 2015 Contribution towards Broadband & tel. expenses	£ 5.00
• Stretton Print: 1 x HP364 red ink cartridge	£ 7.10
• 1 certificate of posting & postage for Cllr. Worthington	£ 0.63
• Travelling expenses – claimed at 30p per mile	
16.07.15 - travelling around Parish to put up Agendas - 5 miles	
22.07.15 - from Leinthall Earls to DVH for meeting	
– 44 miles @ 30p = 49 miles @ 30p	<u>£14.70</u>
Total of expenses claimed for July 2015	<u>£27.43</u>

Cash Book/Bank balance reconciliation for HSBC Bank Statement 272 dated 14th July 2015 presented for verification and duly authorised by Cllr. O'Boyle.

090/15 - Any Other Business (for dissemination of information only)

"e" mails had been received from Mr Geoff Neden including a briefing note on a meeting between the Shropshire Natural Flood Management Project and Culmington Parish Council, which Mr Neden had attended. These documents and Mr Neden's proposals were considered and supported by the members. It was felt that the Diddlebury Flood Action/Stream Management Group has too narrow a remit, concentrating as it does on the stream in Mill Lane. There are flooding issues in Bouldon, Peaton and in several places along the Ludlow road: it was the view of the meeting that the Group's activities should be extended to the whole of the parish.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.45pm

Date and venue of next meeting:

7.30pm on Wednesday 19th August 2015 at Diddlebury Village Hall.

MINUTES SIGNED BY: D Hedgley

DATED : 19 August 2015