

DIDDLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr D Hedgley

Clerk: Mrs Jean de Rusett, 1 Pipe Aston Barns, Pipe Aston, Ludlow SY8 2HG

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MINUTES

**Of the meeting of Diddlebury Parish Council
held on Wednesday 23rd February 2022 at 7.30pm at Diddlebury Village Hall.**

015/22 – Present

Cllr. D Hedgley - Chairman, Cllr. T O'Boyle, Cllr. A. Rattu, Cllr. G Neden, Cllr. S Povall, Cllr. A Watson and Cllr. R. Morgan

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. T Pardoe and Cllr. R Povall

In attendance - the Clerk, Unitary Cllr. Motley and five members of the public in person and one via Zoom.

016/22 – Declarations of Interest.

Members were requested to declare any Disclosable Personal or 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.

017/22 – Public involvement session.

Ms Sara Thompson advised she had delivered wheelie bin stickers to all households in Diddlebury village and had a number left over. It was agreed councillors would each take a supply for the outlying areas. The Chairman thanked Sara for her efforts with the wheelie bin stickers.

018/22– Approval of the Minutes of the 26th January 2022

The Minutes of the meeting on 26th January 2022 had been circulated to councillors prior to this meeting and publicised on the website. No amendments were requested at the meeting. Cllr. G Neden **Proposed** that the Minutes of the meeting on 26th January 2022 be adopted as a correct record of the meeting's business.

Proposal **Seconded** by Cllr. Rattu

Vote on Proposal: Five members voted in favour, two abstained: proposal adopted by a majority vote.

The Chairman signed the Minutes.

019/22: Matters arising from the Minutes of the 26th January 2022 not dealt with elsewhere on the Agenda.

008/22: As Cllr. R Povall is not present it is not known if the potholes reported in Westhope have been investigated.

020/22 – Reports

020/22/1 – Chairman's Report:

The Chairman commenced his report by thanking Sara Thompson for her efforts in obtaining a defibrillator for Diddlebury parish, free of charge from a charity. Sara advised that the installation and connection of the defibrillator is subject to a tight time limit: she's waiting to hear from DVH Committee about the siting of it at Diddlebury village hall and getting an electric supply connected within the time limit, failing which the offer will be withdrawn. The Chairman reported that CIL payments are now the responsibility of Eddie West, it seems Ffion Horton who had promised action is no longer involved. It is hoped there may be clarification of CIL payments in April.

The issue of the stables at The Lodge, Delbury Hall is being investigated by SC's Planning Department.

He had spent time dealing with the latest planning application at The Moors View, especially ascertaining whether it is sited in Bache Mill or Diddlebury. He attended a site visit at Hales Barns and has dealt with various queries about the Dutch Barn application. He fed back details from a Zoom meeting for council Chairmen in which the issue of enforcement of breaches in planning applications had been dealt with at length. Of 875 Enforcement Requests, formal action was taken in only 13 cases: there are 169 enforcement matters outstanding in south Shropshire.

020/22/2 – Cllr. Motley's report

Cllr. Motley advised a major Cabinet meeting was scheduled for tomorrow (24.02.22) when the agenda included the north-west relief road, changes to the Shrewsbury riverside re-development and debate about budget setting.

Mr Gove's levelling up policy has been interrogated and it appears if SC wants to apply for any new funding, it has to join up with another local authority, Telford & Wrekin being the obvious choice, and that the conjoined authorities be overseen by a single mayor. SC and T&W were conjoined until 1990, but neither have any appetite for being re-amalgamated. They work together well on matters such as public health issues (despite the handicap of having the third lowest level of funding in the midlands) and flooding and see no purpose in amalgamation, which just adds another layer of bureaucracy.

SC's Transport Plan has been submitted to the Department of Transport; no response has been received as yet but the overall budget has been cut by £3 billion, so optimism is not high.

Turning to the Community Governance Review, Cllr. Motley advised councils need to sort out any anomalies in their boundaries and any suggested amendments to the boundaries or amalgamation with adjoining parishes and to put their conclusions on the agenda of the Annual Parish Meeting, so that parishioners' views can be sought, before conclusions are submitted to Shropshire Council.

The Chairman advised Cllr. R Povall is organising the review and has made contact with Culmington PC to discuss it.

020/22/3 – Flood Action Group report.

Cllr. Neden reported that since the FAG's last Progress Report they have:

Rearranged the MAM to later this month or sometime in March.

Corresponded with Philip Dunne MP regarding the lack of institutional oversight of SuDS structures.

Commented on two new Planning Applications

The level gauge above Bouldon on the Pye Brook is now operational. We have still to arrange lower and upper alarm levels and whom the alarm messages should be sent to and how.

The recent storms caused the Diddle Brook to rise to just below the upper alarm level. Some minor flooding resulted in Mill Lane – mainly due to blocked gullies but to his knowledge no properties were flooded. We have experienced problems accessing the data from this gauge recently but these now seem to be resolved.

020/22/4 - Diddlebury Village Hall Report

Cllr. Rattu reported that DVH committee have obtained a TV licence, so can now show rugby matches etc. and also a credit/debit card machine which can be used instead of cash.

020/22/5 – Westhope Village Hall

Cllr. Watson advised the number of events held and attendances have now returned to pre-Covid numbers. On behalf of the WVH Committee she thanked DPC for the £2,000 grant. She is now working with other village halls to plan a Platinum Jubilee celebration which will involve the whole parish: there is a meeting next week to take this project forward.

021/22 – Planning applications

22/00279/FUL – application for the proposed conversion of Dutch Barn from storage to three dwellings for rent, at Hales Barns, Corfton.

The applicant, Mr Jack Wrigley, joined the meeting via Zoom. The Chairman outlined the previous planning history of this Dutch Barn and explained why Hales Barns are now said to be part of Corfton rather than Diddlebury, as was the case in all previous planning applications relating to this site. The original track giving access to Hales Barns was via Pinstones Lane, which is in Diddlebury. The new main access to Hales Barns is in Corfton, plus a Corfton post code has been allocated to Hales Barns, so the planners, retrospectively, now consider this site to be in Corfton. Mr Ian Davies pointed out that Corfton has a no open market housing policy supported by DPC. The Chairman advised all previous applications were dealt with on the basis Hales Barns site is in Diddlebury. This is an application to repurpose an historic barn by converting it to rented accommodation, failing which it may become derelict. No public objections had been placed on the planning portal. Cllr. Watson asked the applicant why, given the Dutch Barn had been granted permission to be converted into storage for the use of the occupants of Hales Barns, it was not now being put to that use. It transpired there is an additional charge of £140 per month for the storage option and no tenants had availed themselves of it, hence the application to repurpose the barn.

After further discussion and analysis of the application, Cllr. S Povall **proposed** that the parish council should support the application and raise no objections or caveats to it.

Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. Rattu

Vote: Five councillors voted to support the application, one voted against and one abstained.

Proposal carried by a majority vote.

22/00279/FUL – outline application (all matters reserved) for the erection of two detached dwellings and one pair of semi-detached dwellings on proposed residential development land to the east of The Moors, View, Diddlebury.

The Chairman explained there had also been a problem with the exact location of this application. All previous applications involving this site had stated it was in Diddlebury, which has an open countryside planning policy: however, the Planning Inspector when considering a previous application (20/02519/OUT) had raised a suggestion that the site may be in Bache Mill. Extensive research had been carried out to pin-point the correct location, which established, and was accepted by the planning officers, that the site lay within Diddlebury, not Bache Mill.

The Chairman **proposed** that as the overwhelming evidence, endorsed by Shropshire Council, indicates that the applicants' site lies in Diddlebury, designated in SAMDev as open countryside, it does not meet SC planning policy for open market housing on such sites and DPC cannot therefore support this planning application.

Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. Watson

Vote: councillors voted unanimously in support of the proposal.

022/22 - Consideration of highways and environmental matters

022/22/1: The Chairman advised Mr Bent had provided a quotation for painting the railings in Westhope of £150 plus materials and he had authorised the work to proceed as the figure seemed reasonable.

022/22/2: Cllr. O'Boyle felt the moveable speed indicator device, which had been on the B4368 and in various parts of the parish, has been effective in reducing the speed of traffic in restricted areas. However, the 30mph limit ceases just after Church Farm in Mill Lane, thereafter there is no pavement, coupled with restricted visibility between there and Honeydene Farm. As it is not a 30mph area the SID cannot be used on that stretch of the road. This endangers pedestrians, especially those with small children going to school, church or the village hall. The Clerk advised DPC has contacted Mr Keyland at Highways numerous times over the past three years asking for the 30mph speed limit to be extended but this request had elicited not the slightest response. It was agreed that the Clerk will investigate the possibility of putting up warning signs at these locations, whilst continuing to press Highways and to involve the Police road safety team too.

023/22 – To consider the following communications and correspondence received and to deal with any issues arising therefrom as appropriate.

1. Emails between Clerk to Jane Salisbury at StreetScene, Shropshire Council re affixing of dog litter signs to existing litter bins: DPC are informed this is being carried out. DPC requested new bins for some sites around the parish and are advised that each bin would cost the parish council £600 purchase price, including fixings and installation and emptying for first year. Clerk asked how much emptying would cost thereafter but has not heard yet.
2. Planning application decision.
21/04879/FUL – erection of a domestic greenhouse following demolition of existing one, at Elsie Manor, Seifton SY8 2DL.
Planning permission granted 10.02.22
3. Email - Clerk to Cllr. Motley asking her to intervene with SC's Systems Administration Team enquiring why the planning tracker information is no longer automatically uploaded on to DPC's website. Confirmation from Cllr. Motley on 11.2.22 that she has contacted them.
4. Bundle of emails between Clerk, Mr M Woodhouse and Jenny Vine re work needed on a stile near Milford Top Cottage. Ms Vine and the footpaths team will deal with this.
5. Letter, DPC to Mr John Perks of Bouldon, thanking him for his voluntary work on repairing DPC notice boards.
6. Letter and information sheet from GLEAM – Green Lanes Environmental Action Movement – requesting the parish council's support with their on-line consultation with

Defra, to prohibit the use of recreational vehicles on green lanes in AONBs. Consultation can be found on: <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/future-landscapes-strategy/government-response-to-the-landscapes-review/>. GLEAM can be contacted at 01432 771713, info@gleam-uk.org. Consultation closes on 9th April 2022.

7. Road works notification: B4365 Culmington – closed between 20th and 23rd June 2022 for drainage works.
8. Email, Cllr. O’Boyle, on behalf of DPC, to Mr John Whitelegg of South Shropshire Climate Action’s concerning proposals for a climate action transport plan.
9. Email British Royal Legion re Planting a Tree for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee.
10. Email Munslow Parish Council with an update from Cllr. Nigel Dobson re action to be taken re the B4368’s speeding and noise issues.
11. Details from West Mercia Police re attachment of wheelie bin stickers.
12. Notification that Diddlebury is identified as a community landscape to counteract insect decline. Meeting to be held at Theatre Severn, Thursday 5th May 2022 when Dave Goulson explains the solutions to our insect crisis. Contact Debbie Vivers at bumblebeesonthemynd@gmail.com for details.
13. Email from Clare Brentnall, deputy to Lord Lieutenant Anne Turner, seeking nominations for those who made an extra special contribution during the pandemic, to attend a garden party. Two people from each parish can be nominated. Contact clare.n.brentnall@gmail.com for information.
14. Notification from Sara Thompson that Diddlebury has been awarded a defibrillator by the Henry Angell-James Memorial Trust. DPC’s thanks to all concerned in achieving this result.
15. Notification from the British Legion, outlining the various flags, buntings and lamp post signs they have available for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee.
16. Bundle of emails between DPC and the Planning Department re works being carried out on the stables at The Lodge, Delbury Park, Diddlebury.

Responses:

Item 6: Cllr. O’Boyle wanted DPC to support a prohibition on vehicles from using green lanes as they churn up the surfaces and make life difficult for walkers. He agreed to respond on behalf of DPC to this initiative.

024/22 – Finance Report for February 2022

1. Precept balance b/fwd from January 2022

£4,060.74

Less: Cheques authorised to be drawn on Precept Funds in February 2022

- | | |
|--|---------|
| 1. HSBC – bank charges from 14.1.22 to 13.2.22 | £ 5.00 |
| 2. Clerk’s net salary for February 2022 | £236.74 |
| 3. PAYE on Clerk’s February 2022 salary | £ 11.60 |
| 4. <u>Administrative expenses incurred by the Clerk in</u> | |

February 2022 on behalf of DPC

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|---|--------|-------------------------|
| • February 2022 contribution to telephone & Broadband provision @ £20 per month | £20.00 | |
| • Postage stamps 12 x 2nd class | £ 7.92 | |
| • Travelling expenses claimed at 45p 23.02.22 – to DVH for P.C meeting 34 miles @ 45p | £15.30 | |
| Total of administrative expenses | £43.22 | <u>£ 43.22</u> |
| Total claim on Precept funds in February 2022 | | <u>£296.56</u> |
| Balance of Precept Funds c/fwd to March 2022 | | <u>£ 296.56</u> |
| | | <u>£3,764.18</u> |

2 Ring-fenced, reserves & third-party funds held by Diddlebury Parish Council

- **Community Infrastructure Levy /Neighbourhood Fund**
Balance b/fwd from January 2022 **£6,564.61**
- **Environmental works & asset management fund**
Balance b/fwd from January 2021 **£1,424.27**
- **Flood Action Group funds-** balance b/fwd from January 2022 **£ 178.09**
- **Ear-marked reserves for DVH car park resurfacing** **£4,723.39**

Cllr. O’Boyle **proposed** that the cheques listed above be approved for payment.

Cllr. Watson **seconded** the proposal.

Vote: councillors voted unanimously in favour of the proposal.

3. Balance held by DPC following authorisation of the payments listed above on 23.02.22

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|---|------------------|
| 1. Precept | £3,764.18 |
| 2. Community Infrastructure Levy/Neighbourhood Fund | £6,564.61 |
| 3 Environmental works & asset maintenance fund | £1,424.27 |
| 4. FAG third party funds | £ 178.09 |
| 5. Reserves Fund - ear marked DVH car park repairs | <u>£4,723.39</u> |

Total: **£16,654.54**

4. Bank statement and cash book reconciliation

Cllr. O’Boyle verified the Clerk’s reconciliation between HSBC bank statement 354 and DPC’s Cash Book.

025/22 – Review of progress of the Community Governance Review

In the absence of Cllr. R Povall this matter was deferred to the March meeting.

026/22 – Further consideration and/or adoption of a grievance procedure for DPC employees.

Taking into account comments raised at the January meeting, the Clerk had re-drafted and circulated a revised Grievance Procedure. After consideration of the document, the Chairman

requested a further amendment. Adoption was therefore deferred to the March meeting when a further revised document can be considered.

027/22 – Any Other Business (for dissemination only).

No matters were raised.

There being no further business to conduct, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25pm and thanked everyone for their attendance.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 23rd March 2022 commencing at 7.30pm at Westhope Village Hall

Minutes signed by: David Hedgley

Dated: 23rd March 2022