

# DIDDLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr D Hedgley

Clerk: Mrs Jean de Rusett, The Grange, Leinthall Earls, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6  
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## MINUTES

Of the Parish Council Meeting  
held on Wednesday 28th October 2015, 7.30pm at Diddlebury Village Hall

### **115/15: Present and apologies for absence**

Cllr. M. Fowler, who Chaired the meeting, Cllr. S Povall, Cllr. T O'Boyle, Cllr. S. Thomas, Cllr. M Thomas, Cllr. R Povall, and Cllr. A Watson

### **Apologies**

Apologies were accepted from Cllr. D Hedgley

### **In attendance:**

Mr P Drakes, Mrs S Thompson , Mr J Dimmock (planning applicant) and the Clerk Mrs J de Rusett.

### **116/15: 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.

### **117/15: Public involvement session:**

No matters were raised.

### **118/15: Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 23rd September 2015.**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 23rd September 2015 had been circulated prior to the meeting. Following an agreed amendment to the 3rd paragraph on page 4, Cllr. S. Povall proposed that the Minutes be approved as a correct record, Cllr. A Watson seconded the proposal: the members by a majority voted to approve the Minutes and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

### **119/15: Matters arising from the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 23rd September 2015 not dealt with elsewhere on the Agenda**

All matters arising were dealt with under specific agenda headings.

### **120/15 - Planning Matters**

120/15/1: 15/04251/TPO: Application by Mr S Davies of Shepards Barn, Corfton, SY7 9LD for a crown reduction on a protected oak tree on land off B4368 at Lower Corfton.

Cllr. R Povall, in his capacity as Tree Warden, had examined the oak tree in question. He advised it suffers from quite an area of die-back and to take out the die-back area will help strengthen the tree. He therefore proposed that the application should be supported: Cllr. M Thomas seconded the proposal and the members unanimously voted in favour of the application.

120/15/2: 15/03940/FUL: Application by Mr & Mrs J Dimmock for the erection of a front porch extension and a new rear extension to Mill Cottage, Haytons Bent, near Ludlow, LY8 2BB.

The members considered the plans and application submitted and were assisted by Mr Dimmock who attended. The porch application relates to a replacement porch: the proposed rear extension is not overlooked or visible from anywhere, and there had been no objections from any neighbours. Cllr. S Povall proposed supporting the application; seconded by Cllr. M Thomas and unanimously supported by the members.

### **121/15 - Reports**

#### 121/15/1 - Chairman's Report

Cllr.Fowler read out the Report which the Chairman had sent her, itemizing his recent activities for the parish council. These included:  
Liaising with Chris Jackson of Highways re the footpath matter in Mill Lane - item 8.2 on the Agenda.  
Liaising with Mr Glyn Shaw, Highways Engineer, on the pinch-point request for the bridge by The Moors on the B4368 - item 8.3 on the Agenda.  
Telephone conversation with Mr Smythe, Milford House, Diddlebury. Mr Smythe acknowledged that "notice" had been changed to "query" but was frustrated that it kept cropping up as Shropshire Council had indicated to him they were happy with the roof. The Chairman responded the parish council has not been so notified formally by Shropshire Council and thus is still awaiting an outcome to "case ref 15/04596/ENF"

The Chairman reported on the meeting of all local parish council chairmen on 20th October called by Unitary Councillor Motley . Issues touched on included highways and environmental matters, Broadband service and poor mobile telephone coverage, flood prevention/action, closer working together between adjoining parish councils in an effort to avoid duplication of costs. The parish council chairmen also expressed their dissatisfaction with the very poor level of communications and support given by Shropshire Council to the parishes - planning being a particular bone of contention.

The Chairman's report also contained a round-up on funding issues raised by the RSN, including rural housing, rural schools, lack of Broadband in rural areas. Cllr. R Povall reported he had been unable to attend a recent Broadband meeting, but will be pursuing the issue through the LJC.

### 121/15/2 - Diddlebury Village Hall Report

Cllr. O'Boyle reported there was no news yet on the Millennium bid - a response was expected by the end of November. He reported there had been a very good turn-out for the Harvest Supper and thanked everyone who had been involved in organising and running the event. He urged members to support the forthcoming pantomime.

### 121/ 15/3 - Diddlebury Stream Management Group (Flood Action Group)

Cllr. O'Boyle confirmed he had attended the meeting called on 13th October by the National Flood Forum: it had been reasonably well attended. Following the meeting it was agreed the representatives from Culmington and Diddlebury will have a further meeting, on 12th November, to identify flood risk areas in both parishes and to allocate responsibility for overseeing those areas to members of the group. Geoff Neden requests that all parishioners who have flooding issues or concerns contact him as soon as possible: this message is being conveyed through the website and the Corvedale Magazine.

### 121/15/4 - Parish Plan Steering Group

Cllr. S. Thomas reported that the group had met recently and up-dated their spreadsheet. Once the Minutes of the meeting are signed off, they will put it on the website.

### 121/15/5 - Local Joint Council

Cllr. Fowler advised there have been no meetings of the LJC to report on - the next is on 11th November.

## **122/15 - Review of Highways Issues**

### 122/15/1 - request received via Culmington Parish Council for additional passing places on the B4368 to Westhope village road.

A request had come from Culmington Parish Council on 13th October indicating a resident had asked about the possibility of creating additional passing place on the road up to Westhope. Cllr. Hedgley instructed that the issue be put on tonight's Agenda. The Clerk had sent a copy of the agenda to Mr Tom Hall in Westhope and asked him to (a) put it on the Westhope notice board, and (b) to ask around amongst Westhope residents for views on the issue and for anyone who had a view to attend tonight's meeting. There had been no response. She had also contacted the Clerk of Culmington Parish Council asking where the resident concerned wanted further passing places to be located. The response had been to suggest a meeting between local residents and representatives from Diddlebury and Culmington Parish Councils, to discuss the issue.

Cllr. O'Boyle agreed that the Westhope road was narrow and tricky as many large agricultural vehicles used it and traffic to the college, so additional passing places seem sensible: however, we need some input from Westhope residents who use the road regularly.

Cllr. S Povall mentioned that the creation of any additional passing places will involve using private land. First, however, we need to ascertain local opinion.

Cllr. R Povall agreed to talk to Mr Tom Hall in Westhope and Mr Ian Steel at Culmington: in the meantime the issue be deferred to the next meeting.

### 122/15/2 - surfacing of footpath in Mill Lane, Diddlebury

Cllr. Hedgley had raised the issue of the part of the footpath which remains un-surfaced with Mr Chris Jackson of the Highways Department. Mr Jackson responded that he is asking the Improvements Team at Highways to investigate and give him a progress report.

Cllr. R Povall stated that it was a planning condition that each builder of the new houses in Mill Lane had to build a surfaced footpath, but one house had been built before this condition was applied. It was also noted that the builder had built a boundary wall on top of the water mains.

### 122/15/3 - speed reduction measures on the bridge on B4368 adjacent to The Moors, Diddlebury

As requested at the previous Parish Council meeting, the Chairman had contacted Mr Glyn Shaw, the Highways Engineer, and asked if a "pinch-point" could be installed either side of the bridge on the B4368, to reduce the speed of the flow traffic.

Mr Shaw had responded with an unequivocal no, stating that "a pinch-point would create an additional hazard worse than anything we have already, given the number of HGV's using the route".

In summary therefore the only measure which can be taken in response to the problems encountered by a resident in The Moors, is a VAS (vehicle awareness sign indicating the speed at which vehicles are travelling). The Parish Council had asked Highways to supply such a sign: a response is awaited. Cllr. S Povall felt sure that the Parish Council would be asked to pay for such a sign: they cost in the region of £3,000.

### **123/15 - Correspondence**

The members considered the following items of correspondence:

1. Notification of "Civic Role" training session at the Shirehall, Shrewsbury on 19th November 2015, 7.00 - 9.00pm.
2. Planning application 15/026872/FUL - Bouldon House, Bouldon, SY7 9DP for increasing existing one bay garden room to two bays using existing barn  
Planning permission granted on 28.09.15
3. 16.10.15 - notification by Lisa Bedford of Health & Wellbeing Strategy consultation. Website details given for those who wish to read or get involved with the survey - <http://new.shropshire.gov.uk/get-involved/health-and-wellbeing-strategy>.
4. Notification of training course "Fundamentals for new Councillors" on Wednesday 25th November 2015 at Kinlet Village Hall, Kinlet, Bewdley, DY12 3BS 7.00 - 9.00pm
5. 21.10.15 "e" mail notification of a Shropshire Council Highways Asset Management Consultation. Cabinet has given approval for a wider consultation with stakeholder and interest groups and the public over the next six weeks for

Shropshire Council's proposed Highways Asset Management and Communication Strategies. The proposal and documents can be accessed at :  
<http://new.shropshire.gov.uk/get-involved/highways-asset-management>

6. 21.10.15 "e" mail - Chairman to Cllr, R Povall re Shropshire Broadband Partnership.
7. Planning application 15/00990/FUL - land adjacent to Honeydene, Diddlebury, for the erection of an affordable dwelling with detached double garage with room over: Planning permission granted 22.10.15
8. 26.10.15 - notification from Shropshire Outdoor Partnerships Service (maintains and develops recreational access, conserves and enhances the natural environment and encourages people to improve their wellbeing by being active outdoors) - seeking responses to their annual survey which can be accessed at:  
<http://new.shropshire.gov.uk/get-involved/outdoor-recreation-annual-pulic-survey>
9. 28.10.15 - notification from West Mercia Police to keep a look-out for a suspicious transit van with a black bonnet: please, if seen, note the registration number and "e" mail it [adrian.woolley@westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:adrian.woolley@westmercia.pnn.police.uk)
10. Undated notification from NHS FutureFit.

The members considered the above correspondence: Cllr. R Povall advised the van mentioned in Item 9 had been seen in Culmington and the registration number noted. The Police advised so far the van had been spotted with three different number plates.

## **124/15 - Finance**

### 124/15/1 - Finance Report for meeting on 28th October 2015

Balance of Precept Funds brought forward from September 2015	<b>£5,965.86</b>
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#### **Less: cheques to be authorised for payment on 28.10.15**

• Clerk's net salary for October 2015	£113.47	
• HMRC – PAYE on Clerk's salary for October 2015	£ 28.20	
• Clerk's expenses for October 2015 (itemized below)	<u>£ 43.30</u>	
Total deductions from Precept Funds for October 2015	<u>£184.97</u>	£ 184.97

<b>Balance of Precept Funds carried forward to November 2015</b>	<b><u>£5,780.89</u></b>
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#### Total funds held by Diddlebury Parish Council

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|---|------------------|
| 1. Balance of Precept Funds c/fwd to November 2015              | <b>£5,780.89</b> |
| 2. Highways & Environment Grant funds b/fwd from September 2015 | <b>£1,637.07</b> |
| 3. Funds ring-fenced for Projects c/fwd from September 2015     | <b>£ 147.18</b>  |
| 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	<u>£ 155.50</u>
<b>Total of DPC funds c/fwd to November 2015</b>	<b><u>£,8521.03</u></b>

### Clerk's expenses for October 2015

• October 2015 contribution towards Broadband/ telephone & office overheads	£ 5.00
• Lever arch files, Minute taking book	£ 3.00
• 1 x HP364 XP black ink cartridge	£14.99
• Postage to Cllr. Worthing + 12 x 2nd class stamps	£ 7.11
• Travelling expenses – claimed at 30p per mile 28.10.15 - from Leinthall Earls to DVH for meeting – 44 miles @ 30p	<u>£13.20</u>
Total of expenses claimed for October 2015	<u>£43.30</u>

Cllr. S Povall proposed that the Finance Report be approved and the cheques be authorised; seconded by Cllr. Watson and carried unanimously by the members. The following issues were then debated.

#### 124/15/2 - issues arising from the Finance Report

Cllr. R Povall questioned why the parish council had such a large fund for the Highways & Environmental Grant and why so little of the fund was being spent on works around the parish. It was agreed that every member will look around the parish and bring to the next meeting items which they felt the Highways Officer could usefully be doing around the parish: a schedule of works could then be drawn up. One member noted that the bridge in Mill Lane needs painting.

Cllr. R Povall also suggested that the ring fenced sum of £147.18 left over from the various grants for projects around the parish should be transferred into the general Precept Funds. Cllr. O'Boyle seconded the proposal and the members voted unanimously for the transfer.

It was also agreed by members that Poppy Wreaths should be purchased by the Parish Council and placed by the War Memorials in both Diddlebury and Westhope for Remembrance Day, reimbursed from the War Memorial fund.

#### 124/15/3 - Reconciliation of Cash Book/ HSBC Bank Statement No. 275

The reconciliation prepared by the Clerk was checked and verified by Cllr. R Povall.

**125/15 - Any Other Business (for dissemination of information only)**

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

Date and venue of next meeting:

7.30pm on Wednesday 25th November 2015 at Diddlebury Village Hall.

**MINUTES SIGNED BY**                      **David Hedgley**

**DATED**    **25th November 2015**