



# Dodington Parish Council

**MINUTES** of **Extra Full Council Meeting** of the Parish Council held in Dodington Parish Council Chambers on **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024** at 7.30pm.

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** Hannah Saunders Clerk to the Council – Clerking the Meeting & Ward Councillor Ben Stokes

## **210/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs Bob Graham, Laura Pearson Tong, Louise Harris and Chris Zapata. Apologies had also been received from Ward Councillors Cheryl Kirby and Marilyn Palmer.

## **211/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION**

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

## **212/24 PARISHIONERS QUESTIONS**

None (it was agreed that Cllr Ben Stokes speak during item 214/24)

## **213/24 MINUTES**

It was noted that Full Council Minutes from 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024 would be formally approved at next Full Council Meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

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

- CL&E – 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024
- Planning – 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024
- F&GP – 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024

## **214/24 CONSULTATIONS**

Purpose of meeting was to take on board any queries that residents / parishioners had raised at recent Open Morning – when Local Plan Boards and info was on display to the public.

Nobody attended the open morning on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – so no issues had been

raised. Members had at least presented the opportunity for local people to participate in consultation.

Cllr Ben Stokes had been to 4 or 5 events across Boyd Valley – and uptake was mixed. In those areas where there was potential for housing development people seemed to engage and attend, however, if there was deemed to be little / no development then people didn't seem to be interested.

The parish of Dodington isn't being earmarked for housing development – but as areas suitable for solar / wind generation (within its rural ward) - which members will comment on (in particular the safeguarding of sites solely for Wind energy and how community support is evidenced). They would also point out PROW / Byway that would need to be diverted along Burbarrow Lane (should the area be safeguarded for wind).

The parish infrastructure will be affected though by development that is still to be built out (under current plan in Sodbury and Yate) and in proposed plan in neighbouring towns and villages (Westerleigh, Coalpit Heath, Iron Acton, Pucklechurch) and members have picked up on this too and will comment accordingly. There is already a backlog of travel improvements – and there is serious concern that situation will just get worse and put considerable strain on B4465 out to M4 and Dodington / Sodbury Lane.

Members were also happy to see safeguarding of Gypsy & Traveller sites – they have a longstanding relationship with Showman Site in area and feel that it should be safeguarded.

They would like to see consideration given to changing of wording when it comes to Internal Space and Accessibility Standards so that developers have to build to a certain standard – and given the ageing population it would be sensible if a greater % of market housing were built to meet standard (wheelchair adaptable housing).

Members viewed the 3 lens and the preferred emerging strategy. They discussed need for amount of housing put forward in plan – and brown field sites for development.

The importance of a local plan was explained. The LA have to have one – and if they don't then the area is in danger of all sorts of speculative development.

It was RESOLVED to delegate drafting of submission to Clerk – who would share with members before deadline of 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024. It was agreed that there was no need for a further meeting – finer details could be dealt with by email.

Members were reminded that they could respond to the consultation in a personal capacity if they felt the need to do so.

Cllr Ben Stokes outlined the timetable for process following closure of the consultation.

## **ITEMS TO REPORT**

Cllr Jean Thomas informed members that she had reported the lorry on Rodford Way – it disappeared for a few days but seems to have returned.

Clerk thanked members for giving up their time on Saturday – and although no residents turned up – time wasn't wasted as managed to crack on with some packing / sorting of back office.

Some interesting documents were found – and Clerk said there were some items on her

desk going free to a good home.

Clerk confirmed that officers were on target for removals to arrive at end of week and that contractors are visiting later in week to go over final details.

Clerk reminded members that there will be a presentation by Swift Sports Ltd on 5<sup>th</sup> February prior to CL&E Committee Meeting and that someone from Tern Inn will be attending Full Council on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024. NOTE – meetings will held in Foxall Powell Room.

If members haven't already returned their updated ROI forms to clerk – please could they ensure they do so.

Cllr Marilyn Palmer is meeting some residents along Dodington Lane regarding speeding through the village – so Clerk will look at incorporating that area into survey that looking to carry out regarding speed along B4465.

Clerk has received confirmation from lighting engineers at SGC Streetcare that the lights along Kennedy Way / Mallard Close are lit to the correct levels. Whilst they can appreciate the problem – there is no money in the budget for extra lighting.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed at 9.00pm – with Chair thanking everyone for attending.

Next meeting of Full Council – 19<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2024

Signed .....Chair

Date 19<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024