

## DONYATT PARISH COUNCIL.

Minutes of the Parish Council held on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024 in the David Willis room @ 19.00hrs, postponed from 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

Present: Cllr D Light, Cllr K Light, Cllr Porritt, Cllr McKenzie, Cllr Attlesey. Z Bougourd (Clerk)

**24/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr Grabham.

**24/01 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS:** None

**24/03 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:** No members of the public were present.

**24/04 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

Approved.

**Matters arising:**

**24/05 a) Ilminster - Canal Way development, Persimmon Homes 350 dwellings.** Cllr D Light noted that he had attended a meeting held on Tuesday, 9th January, 2024, 14.00 hrs at Council Chamber, Council Offices, Brympton Way, Yeovil BA20 2HT and had made verbal representation against this development, see addendum. Cllr D Light also noted that of the seven County Cllrs present, two voted against and five in favour of the outline permission for this development. An in-depth discussion followed, and all Cllrs agreed that this development had no positive aspects for the community or immediate and surrounding districts. It was agreed to draft an email to Cllr S Osborne noting DPC's concerns. It was also agreed to continue dialogue with Cllr Osborne and monitor undertakings made by Persimmon.

**24/06 b) Sea - traffic calming/speed limit update.** See item 10.

**24/07 c) Donyatt residents survey.** The survey results had been posted on Village notice boards and on the DPC website.

**24/08 d) D-Day arrangements-** Cllr K Light is progressing arrangements. Suggestions for tug-of war.

**24/09 e) DPC Banking accounts/arrangements.** Cllr Porritt will contact Natwest again for an update. Clerk noted that no current account statement had been received since 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

**24/10 f) SIDS.** Cllr D Light will complete and return the traffic agreement to SC traffic management department. Cllr Attlesey recommended that an updated quote for an Elan city EVOLIS unit with free updates be obtained. Funds have been allocated from this year's budget for one unit. This will be evaluated before a further unit is purchased, if required, in the next financial year. Cllr Attlesey provided photographs of suggested locations. The location must allow for clear sight of vehicles and sufficient distance for accurate display.

**24/11 g) DVH defibrillator update.** Nothing to note. Cllr Attlesey noted that he had received training to use a mobile defibrillator and suggested that a public session would be beneficial.

**24/12 FINANCIAL:** The current financial report and schedule of cheques were approved. Clerk requested that going forward the schedule of cheques should be signed by the Chairman. Agreed.

**24/13 2024/5 Budget.** The 2024/5 budget and precept were approved. Proposed by Cllr D Light, Seconded by Cllr Porritt.

**24/14 Ilminster TC- Parish Ranger report.** This is a new post and service proposal. It was agreed to monitor this matter and discuss it again once more information was available.

**24/15 Drainage and flood prevention.** Cllr Attlesey advised that he will remove some of the overgrowth of vegetation on an existing brick wall located at Stibbear Lane prior to a site visit with a representative from SC Highways department and Cllr D Light which is scheduled for 15<sup>th</sup> February.

**24/16 Grant applications 2024.** Grant applications had been received from Donyatt Parish Church, Donyatt Village Hall & Donyatt Recreation Area Committee. After an in depth discussion noting the current and ongoing financial restrictions and increase in Parish responsibilities which are being imposed on DPC by Somerset Council it was agreed to grant the Parish Church £1000.00, DVH £2,500 and DRAC £1,250. Proposed by Cllr D Light, seconded by Cllr Porritt. Unanimously agreed. Clerk will draft responses to all grant applicants for Council approval prior to official notification.

**24/17 Road safety improvements through Sea.** Cllr McKenzie noted that, despite email reminders, she was still awaiting a reply from Ilminster TH. Cllr McKenzie considered that an in person visit to ITH might elicit a response and will action this before the next DPC meeting.

**24/18 DPC Website.** Clerk noted that the current website was “clunky” and not particularly user friendly. It was agreed that a new website would be developed platforming through GoDaddy. A new domain name would be used [donyattpc.co.uk](http://donyattpc.co.uk) has been purchased and users will be directed via Facebook and notice boards once active. It was also suggested that a link to the Donyatt Community page.

**24/19 Updates from Councillors:**

- a) Highways –Nothing to report.
- b) Footpaths – Cllr D Light is contacting volunteers who came forward during the residents survey and will provide further updates in due course.
- c) Village Hall– Cit was noted that planned works for this year include interior and exterior maintenance and decoration.
- d) Donyatt Recreation Area– Nothing to report.
- e)

The next meeting date Wednesday March 13<sup>th</sup> 2024.

Meeting closed @ 21.10hrs

**Actions:**

**Clerk:** Complete and submit precept application.

**Clerk:** Acknowledge Ilminster warden correspondence

**Cllr D Light:** Drainage/drains - meet with Highways rep before site visit on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

**Clerk:** Draft letters regarding grant application decisions for review.

**Cllr McKenzie:** meet with ITH clerk re Sea Traffic calming measures

**Clerk:** continue work on new website and purchase domain name. **Update:** donyattpc.co.uk purchased 23/01/24.

**Cllr Attlesey:** obtain update quote for Elancity EVOLIS unit and request purchase Order.

**Cllr Porritt:** contact Natwest asap for mandate update.

**Cllr Attlesey:** arrange provisional date for first aid/defibrillator training and advertise for interested residents.

**Clerk:** draft email to Cllr Osborne re Canal Way development.

**Cllr K Light:** contact local schools for D-Day contributions and post requests for wartime memories/experiences.

**Cllr D Light:**

- Complete and send SIDS application to SC traffic management dept
- Book Village Hall for residents meeting, Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February re SCC's transfer or responsibilities
- Provide copy of representation to planning meeting (ref 25/05)
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**Urgent matters:** All Cllrs to consider current Cllr vacancy, future vacancies and potential candidates for consideration at the next PC meeting.

**ADDENDUM 20240116**

VERBAL REPRESENTATION FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF DONYATT PARISH COUNCIL TO A PLANNING MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 9th JANUARY 2024 AT COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL OFFICES, BRYMPTON WAY YEOVIL.

**CANAL WAY - PERSIMMON HOMES DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION.**

Good afternoon, I'm David Light, Chairman of Donyatt Parish Council and Sustrans Ranger for the Ilminster to Chard section of the National Cycleway.

Donyatt, a village of around 400 people, borders the southern edge of Ilminster, the only thing that separates the two communities at present are fields off Canal Way that Persimmons are proposing to build 'up to 400 houses' on.

That's possibly up to any extra 1,000 people (two and a half times the population of Donyatt) living right up against our parish boundary with no planned buffer-zone in between.

Donyatt Parish Council feel this is fundamentally wrong.

The potential for overspill into our community will be huge, with all these extra people out walking, some with dogs, and their children looking for big open spaces to play and explore and to ride their bikes. There is also the potential for an increase in anti-social behaviour.

The extra pressure on the nature reserve at Herne Hill, just a short walk from the proposed development, would completely change it from the quiet, peaceful place to walk that it has always been.

And with no buffer zone in place, all of this extra activity will spill over into local farmers fields and into our parish.

Donyatt Parish Council is totally opposed to this development, as we can't see any way these issues can be overcome unless this major change is made to the proposals.

Ilminster to Chard Cycleway:

On a fine day, this section of the Cycleway will have scores, sometimes hundreds of people using it. Even in wet weather it is still well used.

And it's not just cyclists, families out walking with their children, often with prams, dog walkers, joggers, children learning to ride their cycles, horse-riders as it's also a Bridleway, it's also a lifeline for workers as a safe route between Ilminster and Chard avoiding the busy and dangerous A358.

Because the Cycleway is heavily used, the surface is deteriorating fast, In its' current condition it will not take the extra traffic from the housing development, increasing the likelihood of accidents and injury.

Therefore I urge you, that if this development is approved, upgrading the Cycleway is made a condition of planning approval.

Thank you.