

DONYATT PARISH COUNCIL

495

Minutes of the meeting held on 27th January 2020

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: West, (Chairman) Grabham, Eggins, Porritt, David Light and Kay Light.
Also, present: C.C. & D.C. Linda Vijeh, 5 members of the public and the Clerk Heather Bryant

20/1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF THE REASONS

All Cllrs present

20/2 CO-OPTION OF A COUNCILLOR TO FILL THE VACANCY ON THE COUNCIL

No candidates had come forward.

20/3 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND APPROVE ANY DISPENSATIONS

Cllr Grabham declared a personal interest in the Village Hall and PCC grants as he is a member of those Committees

Cllr Porritt declared a personal interest in the Village Hall grant as he is a member of that Committee

20/4 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11th NOVEMBER 2019

RESOLVED: the approval of these minutes as a true record.

20/5 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising

20/6 CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman had no announcements.

20/7 DISTRICT COUNCIL AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS

C.C. & D.C. Linda Vijeh sent in a written report before in which had been emailed to Councillors.

20/8 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Secretary of Donyatt Recreational Ground gave a report. The Committee are looking to replace the existing equipment on the Rec that is not fit for purpose and are going to set up a sinking fund for future purchases. They will also be fund raising.

Knights Electrical LTD representatives reported on their recent move to Donyatt Bowling Club site. They hope to carry out works to the bridge this year.

A resident of Sea reported on the speeding problems at Sea and the possibility of a 40mph speed limit.

20/9 PLANNING MATTERS

19/03210/S73A Application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of planning approval 12/4103/FUL to allow substitution of plans in order to allow amendments to the approved dwelling, garage, cottage, agricultural buildings and access arrangements. Hillcombe Farm, Chilworthy, Chard.

This application has been supported by the Clerk in consultation with Councillors.

20/000126/FUL The demolition of existing agricultural buildings and the erection of 6 No dwellings with the formation of a new vehicular access there to. Dollings Pool Dairy, Donyatt Hill

RESOLVED BY A MAJORITY VOTE (4 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention) not to support this application on grounds of the development is unsuitably oriented to permit rooftop solar arrays.

The Council considers that the developer could maximise the potential for rooftop solar arrays by turning the dwellings which would be in line with Donyatt Council's policy on Climate Emergency.

19/03007/HOU Alterations and erection of a single storey rear and side extensions and the installation of replacement windows to dwelling house. Horseys, Donyatt

RESOLVED: to support

20/10 ROAD SAFETY AT SEA

County Highways has indicated that a 40mph speed limit at Sea might be implemented but would require funding from the Parish Council in the region of £5,000 to cover the required signage.

After discussion, it was agreed that the Council does not have this amount of funding. However, it was thought that a site visit may be useful if there is a real safety issue. The Clerk will ask with County Highways if they would be willing to meet Cllrs on site.

20/11 WEB SITE

The Public Sector Bodies (Website & Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations 2018

The Clerk reported that to adapt our present website is not an option as it is not basically assessible for mobile devices. Our hosts Vision ICT has indicated that they may be able to do us an accessibility web site for £650 instead of £920 which was originally quoted.

RESOLVED: to approve the payment of £650 which could possibly be funded from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) of £1506 under the heading of Social & Community Facilities

20/12 GRANTS TO VILLAGE VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS 20/21

RESOLVED: to approve the following grants

Donyatt Village Hall request for **£2,500** for 50% cost of a Civil Engineer Consultant to carry out a site investigation to enable the Committee to improve the surface of the rest of the car-park. (4 in favour, 2 abstentions)

Parochial Church Council St Mary's Church request for **£600** for maintenance of the churchyard (5 in favour, 1 abstention)

Donyatt Recreational Ground request for **£1300** for maintenance and play equipment.
In addition to grant **£1000** for the sinking fund to replace play equipment

20/13 BUDGET FOR YEAR 20/21

After discussing the draft budget, it was **RESOLVED** to approve a precept of £8,500 for the above year under the power of Local Government Finance Act 1992 Section 41 which represents £56.25 Band D property a year.

20/14 FINANCIAL

FINANCIAL REPORTS AND CHEQUES FOR PAYMENT

902	H Bryant Dec/Jan	345.40
903	HMRC	43.20
904	HMRC	43.20
905	V Hall-rent	14.00
906	Information Commissioner	40.00
907	H Bryant – SLCC 1/3 rd	60.00
908	Came & Co - Insurance	218.00

RESOLVED: that this Council approves the schedule of cheques and the Financial Report subject to the requirements of our Risk Assessment Document.

20/15 DEFIBRILLATOR FOR THE VILLAGE

Roles and Responsibilities policy

The Chairman reported that the Landlady at the George Public House was happy with the Policy.

RESOLVED: to approve the draft as presented

Training

The Clerk reported that there were two people interested in training from the article in the newsletter. The article should be repeated again in the February newsletter. It was agreed to look to a training date in March which will be on a Saturday morning

20/16 PARISH RANGER SCHEME

The Clerk reported that she had not received an invoice as yet from South Somerset District Council in regard to the work undertaken by the Parish Ranger last October 2019.

20/17 DONYATT HALT OWNERSHIP AND ONGOING MAINTENANCE

Cllrs David & Kay Light reported that they had not heard from Somerset Council Council's Land Agent on the ownership of the Halt and who is responsible for ongoing maintenance.

The issue here is primarily ownership, with maintenance as a secondary issue. Sustrans have indicated that they would be willing to meet with SCC to discuss both ownership and maintenance with SCC. County Councillor Vijeh has contacted Charlie Field at SCC but he has not come back to her so far. She has agreed to chase him again for an answer.

20/18 SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES

The Clerk reported that Tatworth and Forton Parish Council has purchased their own S.I.D and the Council may be interested in renting the S.I.D to other parishes. Chard Town Council do not own their own S.I.D

It was agreed to alter the order of the Agenda

20/19 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES/CLIMATE CHANGE

Cllr Eggins reported that 19 trees had been planted in the Recreational Ground and the Landlords of George Public House are happy to have an electric charging point.

20/20 HIGHWAY AND FOOTPATH MATTERS

Small Improvement Scheme –

Cllr Porritt questioned if the scheme been completed as there are:-

- a half lamp standard that has been lying in a corner of the Village Hall car park for months;
- the "SLOW" signs in the road (A358) have been erased and not replaced at the northern end of the village.
- The yellow 'judder bars' at the northern end have been removed altogether, while those at the southern end no longer judder.

The Clerk reported that she had emailed the Officer overseeing this scheme but had no reply. C.C. Vijeh stated that the Officer is no longer there. She will chase up.

20/21 VE DAY 75 WEEKEND 8TH – 10TH MAY

After discussion it was thought it would be highly unlikely for County Highways to agree to close the A358 as it is a major road and Church Street as it is the only access for residents in Church Street and Park Lane.

An event on the Recreational Ground or the Halt could be considered.

It was agreed to defer until the next meeting

20/22 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk had nothing to report

The Chairman adjourned the meeting as it was 9.50pm to be re-convened on 29th January 2020

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: West, (Chairman) Grabham, Porritt, David Light and Kay Light.

Cllr Eggins sent his apologies

20/23 A358 SOUTHFIELDS TO TAUNTON SCHEME

Report was given from Cllrs Dave & Kay Light

It was agreed that the response from Beercrocombe P.C. as being the most aligned with our own views and preferences for the way forward.

Donyatt P.C supports the following:

Beercrocombe's proposal for 4 crossing/access points between H.E.'s proposed access point 'E' at West Hatch Lane and the Southfields roundabout we see as an **absolute minimum**. Donyatt P.C is prepared to accept one of these 4 as H.E.'s proposed access/crossing point 'G' at Rapps, which will provide access to Ilton Industrial Estate and avoid heavy traffic having to go through the town of Ilminster.

If H.E.'s 'Pink Route' is to become the chosen option then Donyatt P.C would wish to see the access point at West Hatch remaining as an additional access point bringing the total number to 5 between junction 'C' (A378/A358 junction) at Mattocks Tree Green and the Southfields roundabout i.e. the whole of 'Section 2' of the A358 on H.E.'s latest plan.

Donyatt P.C. has no strong view one way or the other at this point in time regarding H.E.'s proposals for 'Section 1' of the A358, from Junction 'C' (A378/A358) to the M5 and await proposals from the Ruishton/Henlade community before making further comment.

However, Donyatt P.C has some concerns about the lack of clarity regarding the Nexus 25 development and changes to M5 access points.

Donyatt P.C would add to Beercrocombe's proposals by recommending 'substantial' improvements to the Southfields roundabout, to include an A303 to A303 'straight-through' provision, either over or under the existing roundabout. Plus, a recommendation to re-instate the old A358 from Horton Cross to a point just beyond Jordan's Bridge which would also allow A358 - A358 traffic heading to Taunton or M5 to avoid the Southfields roundabout altogether. These changes would substantially reduce the strain on this very busy roundabout.

If, in the event that H.E. do not provide this number of crossing/access points, then Donyatt P.C. strongly recommend that H.E. concentrate on solving the main existing problem which is congestion at each end of the A358, at Southfields roundabout and at Henlade just before the M5, rather than spending funds on 'dualling' the 6 or 7 miles of the A358 between these two points.

If H.E. are unable to include any of the above improvements and simply 'Dual' the A358 then Donyatt P.C would be unable to support their proposals.

One overriding concern that Donyatt P.C does have is the absence of a clear explanation as to how the economics of H.E's proposals will work i.e. their numbers to justify the 'dualling' of the A358 (who benefits and to what degree?) balanced against the inevitable negative impact on local communities and businesses.

20/24 MATTERS FOR REPORT ONLY – DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

There was nothing to report

The date of the next scheduled meeting will be held 9th March 2020

The Chairman closed the meeting