

Draft Minutes of Piddle Valley Parish Council

Tuesday 28 February 2023

Piddletrenthide Memorial Hall

Present: Cllrs Ebdon (Chair), Latimer, Howard, Sherwood, Lock, Fox, Murray & Dorset Cllr. Haynes

Apologies: Cllrs de Figueirido, Cox, Abbott

Democratic Period:

The meeting opened with tributes to Lynn Mailer who sadly passed away on February 15 2023. Lynn served the Parish Council as a Councillor, Chair and Vice Chair and was a member of a number of working groups. In her roles on the council, she brought leadership and a passion for serving and improving the community in which she lived all of her life. She will be sadly missed and on behalf of the Parish Council Cllr Ebdon would like to offer our condolences to Al and Lynn's family and friends.

Dorset Cllr Haynes was present at the meeting and explained how the delegated powers work concerning planning. This is on the back of some planning correspondence with the Parish Council.

If the view of the Parish is different to the Planning Officer, then the Ward Member is informed but has little influence if there is no strong planning reasons. There is a 5 day period for any comments between the Ward Member and the Chair of the Planning committee and if this is not met then the decision is made.

Cllr Haynes advised that the majority of planning applications called into committee are small developments and not individual properties.

A parishioner attended the meeting and expressed thanks to Cllr Haynes for her support with their planning concerns and asked the Parish Council to address a couple of outstanding matters relating to an ongoing development of a property in the Valley.

Cllr Ebdon advised that until works commence relating to the specific points there is nothing to be done.

Cllr Ebdon advised that an invite has been received to attend the introduction of the new Vicar but is unable to attend.

Action: Clerk to circulate invite to all Cllrs

17/2023 Declarations of Interest

None

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
28/3/23

18/2023 Minutes of Piddle Valley Parish Council meeting held on 31 January 2023

It was proposed by Cllr Fox and seconded by Cllr Sherwood that these minutes with the following amendment should be accepted as a true record of the meeting. All agreed with one abstention:

Page 8, 14/2023, remove hinges and replace with brackets

19/2023 Action points from last minutes

- a) Democratic Period – Rectory Road gritting – Clerk to write to Highways regarding lack of gritting on school route. COMPLETE
- b) 158/2022 VETS information sheet – Cllr Sherwood to produce – NEXT AGENDA
- c) 159/2022 Quote for Piddlehinton Noticeboard replacement – Clerk to obtain 2 further quotes – Clerk has spoken with the Men's Shed who have requested the measurements of the existing one in order to produce a quote. Cllr Lock agreed to obtain a third quote. – Clerk advised that buying from on-line would be in the region of £1400 - £1500, this does not include installation. Cllr Lock will obtain third quote for the next meeting.
- d) 05/2023 a) Clerk to write to Head of Planning and the Chair of Planning committee regarding the response from Planning re.P/FUL/2022/05116 – COMPLETE
- e) 05/2023 b) Consultation on the NPPF proposed changes – Cllr Ebdon to report proposed response at February meeting and circulate email - COMPLETE
- f) 09/2023 b) Highway defects to be reported by Clerk – COMPLETE
- g) 11/2023 b) letter of support to be sent to Piddlehinton Gym – COMPLETE & response from Chair of the Gym has been circulated to all Cllrs.
- h) 15/2023 Response to be sent to Chris Loder MP with dates of Parish Council meetings – COMPLETE – Since the meeting Chris Loder has responded confirming his attendance at the May meeting and has asked to let him know in advance if there are any specific matters the council would like to discuss.

NEXT AGENDA

- i) 15/2023 b) Clerk to respond to SSE for their attendance at future meeting. – COMPLETE

20/2023 Planning Matters

a) Planning consultations

P/FUL/2023/00150 - Carters Barn Farm Access to Carters Barn Farm Piddlehinton - Formation of hard-standing for parking with soft landscaping

Cllr Ebdon presented the application. Cllr Lock queried what the additional parking spaces are for, Cllr Ebdon confirmed that these are for those already working there which will stop them from parking along the road.

It was proposed by Cllr Ebdon and seconded by Cllr Fox that the application should be refused for the following reason, all agreed with one abstention;

It would be undesirable, in landscape terms, to see further incremental creep of further uncharacteristic development into the agricultural landscape of the AONB contrary to West Dorset, Weymouth and Portland Local Plan policies ENV1, ENV10, ENV16.

b) Planning responses to emails sent

A response from the Chair of the North Planning committee has been received addressing the issue of the absence of a Ward Member and this being reviewed by an alternative member;

Thank you for your email which I have discussed with Cllr Jill Haynes. The protocol for referring planning applications to committee is set out in Dorset Council's constitution. There is no provision for alternative members to be consulted in the absence of the Ward Member. Indeed, this would make no sense. The Ward Member is consulted because they have specific local knowledge and have been a party to the local discussions. No other member would have this knowledge and no other member is accountable to the residents in that ward.

I hope that makes it clearer.

A response from the Planning Officer on behalf of the Head of Planning has been received in response to the Parish Council contacting them expressing concern that the process followed by Dorset Council for a planning application had not been democratic. The response received was a copy of the response to the formal complaint Cllr Ebdon submitted in January.

c) Planning Decisions

Alton Pancras
P/HOU/2022/02442: Driveway at 2 Barcombe Farm Cottages. Refusal was appealed and the appeal allowed

Piddlethentide
P/HOU/2022/06526 2 The Old Malthouse Smiths Lane – Approved
P/HOU/2022/07403 extension to the existing pool house at Lackington Mill – Approved

Piddlehinton
Jersey Farmhouse, Hazel Barn, Lackington Mill all still outstanding
Nettle Cottage withdrawn 24th February
Units 36, 40 & 45, and Unit 48 decisions still pending. Dorset Cllr Haynes indicated that Unit 48 may go to Committee

d) Recommended Response to NPPF Consultation – Cllr Ebdon

Cllr Ebdon made a recommendation that we support the response from NALC circulated to all Cllrs. From a Piddle Valley Parish Council perspective, the key points are around maintaining local input at a Parish Council level into the planning process

- Giving more weight to land allocation in Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans when taking decisions
- NALC supports the whole concept of neighbourhood plans and thinks that they provide an excellent bridge between local councils, planning authorities and developers.
- NALC will support a planning system which incorporates a significant role for local (parish and town) councils. It will not support any diminution of local councils'

statutory right to comment on planning issues at all stages of their evolution, whether they be development planning matters or spatial planning policies.

- Providing a suitable framework to meet the UK's climate and environmental commitments, including thorough design codes, local environment improvement plans and other mechanisms to check that net zero targets are being met with appropriate action

It was agreed that the Clerk responds by e mail to the consultation with these points.

Action: Clerk to send email

21/2023 DAPTC meeting & training update

Councillors' Networking Event scheduled for 9 March at Kingston Maurward. Unfortunately, nobody is available to attend this event.

22/2023 Defibrillator Working Group update

Cllr Sherwood informed the meeting that two of the units have now had their software updated.

23/2023 Financial Matters

a) Bills for payment

Clerk's expenses – February	£24.80
Piddletrenthide Memorial Hall	£27.50
Cllr Cox – reimbursement of materials required for repairs at playing field	£12.79
Community Heartbeat – Batteries	£1206.00

It was proposed by Cllr Fox and seconded by Cllr Sherwood that these payments are approved. All agreed.

24/2023 Highway Matters

a) Defect responses received

- The rotting posts adjacent to Willow Lawn, Piddletrenthide – repaired
- Potholes recently repaired in Piddletrenthide but debris left across carriageway –
- Highways have visited but no debris found
- Edge of carriageway has fallen away at Snowdrop Corner – Highways response; we have had a look at this location and it is generally verge overrun rather than carriageway edge deterioration. It is currently not at investigation level and I would expect the verge to recover during the Spring. We will continue to monitor through routine inspections, which are on a monthly basis on this road.
- Edge deterioration at Doles Ash which has been reported before is still outstanding and is dangerous as there is a drop off the carriageway. A cone was placed there but nothing has happened. Please visit the site and arrange for repair – Highways response; this site is signed and coned and made safe, it was planned for Christmas

time but due to flooding and ice and high amounts of work, this was pushed back. Works to stabilise the bank should be carried out in the next few weeks.

b) Piddle Path update

Since the January meeting Cllr Ebdon has spoken with Dave Ackersley from Dorset Council Countryside team who has confirmed that the proposed work on the bridleway presented at the meeting will not be going ahead in the foreseeable future as it has not been funded from this year's (2022-23) budget.

It was agreed the Clerk contact him to request further information on the decision.

Action: Clerk to contact Countryside Officer

c) Dorset Council 20mph policy update

Cllr Ebdon attended a Working Together Webinar held with Dorset Council on 7 February 2023 where there was an item regarding the 20mph policy. Cllr Ebdon advised the meeting of the following criteria which should be met in order to impose the limit:

- A. they are in towns or villages where there is a depth of residential development and high levels of pedestrian and cycle movement or there is a potential for high levels of pedestrian and cycle movement if a 20mph scheme was introduced
- B. Where existing mean speeds provide a realistic opportunity for compliance
- C. There is significant community support

How would the Piddle Valley fit these criteria?

Criteria A

- Guidance from the DfT is that the definition of a village should be based on simple criteria relating to frontage development and distance: 20 or more houses and a minimum length of 600 metres
- Based on the minimum number of houses and length of speed limit, an average density of at least 3 houses per 100 metres over the extent of the speed limit is recommended.

- Should not be on roads where the movement of motor vehicles is the primary function. B3143 probably a hierarchy 5 'Local Distributor' connecting villages to the distributor road network
- Possible for Alton Pancras, parts of Piddletrenthide and Piddlehinton, but unlikely to be applicable on Rectory Road or the full length of the B3143 from Church Hill Piddlehinton to Church Lane Piddletrenthide

- Each case will be treated on its merits but as a general rule of thumb it is unlikely that a 20-mph limit would be agreed on roads within hierarchy levels 2, 3 or 4

Criteria B

- DfT guidance states that 20 mph schemes should be self-enforcing if the mean speed is already at or below 24 mph, introducing a 20mph speed limit through signing alone is likely to lead to general compliance with the new speed limit Means speeds above 24 mph are likely to require additional traffic management or enforcement measures
- Mean speeds in last traffic survey 2019 all >24mph with Rectory Road slowest

- o Rectory Road 24.2mph
- o Church Hill Piddlehinton 35.6mph
- o Piddletrenthide Brick House 31.7mph
- o Piddletrenthide Church Lane 30.9mph
- o Alton Pancras 30.6mph
- Would not meet criteria B
- Criteria C - significant community support
- the local Ward Member and town/parish councils should consider residents views to best ensure that there is broad consensus
- o Community meetings documenting a majority for the 20 mph
- o Community Surveys
- o Petitions
- Points for consideration
- Full costs of investigation, design and implementation and future maintenance should be met by the town/parish council
- Future maintenance being paid for as a single payment commuted sum
- There is a risk of abortive expenditure. The Speed Limit Order process includes unavoidable advertising costs associated with the statutory required period of public consultation. Should objections to the proposed 20 mph scheme be received and upheld by Dorset Council's relevant area Planning Board the scheme may not proceed to installation
- It was agreed that information should be included in News & Views to gauge interest in the Valley.

Action: Cllr Ebdon to write News & Views article

25/2023 S106 applications update

Cllr Ebdon confirmed the applications for Plush Paddock and Millennium Green have been submitted.

26/2023 Piddlehinton Gym re-roofing project update

Cllr Ebdon gave an update on the project;

- Following a major donation from Downing Renewables & Infrastructure Trust (who run Bourne Park Solar) and Prototype Electronics agreeing to become the final sponsor, they have achieved their £100,000 target to re-roof the Gym.
- This means that with the council commissioning the works to enable VAT to be reclaimed, the Gym team can now go ahead with commissioning the works
- Next steps are to work out the mechanics of how we will get the donations to the council (bank account details etc) and finalise a formal purchase order with Jade Aden

They have indicated a schedule to complete the works in July.

27/2023 Requested items

a) Lighting at Piddlehinton Camp

Cllr Lock raised the lighting as an issue again as it is getting worse. It was agreed the Clerk will contact Environmental Health to ask their advice.

Action: Clerk to contact Environmental Health

b) Building behind Ashley Wood

Cllr Lock informed the meeting that nothing has been done by enforcement regarding the building that has appeared.

Action: Clerk to submit enforcement form

c) Grounds maintenance agreement with Piddle Valley First School

Cllr Howard circulated the draft agreement to all Cllrs prior to the meeting, there were no further comments to make on it.

28/2023 News & Views

Cllr Howard circulated information to all Cllrs prior to the meeting and it was agreed that the parish council documents on the community website do need to be retained but do not need to be uploaded onto the parish council website.

Action: Cllrs Ebdon & Howard to download relevant documents

29/2023 Playing field & Playground

An email has been received from the PTA requesting permission to hold a Fun Run on the playing field on 25 March 2023. It was agreed the event can go ahead.

Action: Clerk to respond to PTA

30/2023 Items for next agenda

- Defibrillator contact list – Cllr Sherwood
- April meeting date – Clerk away – minute taker required or move meeting date

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21:32 with notice that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday 28 March 2023, 7.30pm at Piddletrentthide Memorial Hall

28/3/23

