

A meeting of Dorstone Parish Council was held in the Old School Hall Dorstone on **Wednesday February 10th 2010 at 7-30 pm.**

Present: Councillor P Rye, (Chairman), Councillor S Gaze, Councillor D James, Councillor E Lane, & Mr C Hendy, Parish Clerk.

Apologies: Councillor P Smith, Councillor M Hession, Councillor C Thomas.

Also present: Councillor P Price, Herefordshire Councillor.

Declaration of interest: none

Councillors were available for the public to discuss any matter not on the agenda.

Minutes The minutes of meeting January 6th 2010, which had been circulated, were confirmed & signed

Planning; Planning application has been received for Brickleys, the retention of mobile home as permanent accommodation for seasonal workers and apprentices and construction of new dwelling. Application passed to Councillor Rye to check, inform/show neighbours of the application site. The design & access statement covered the existing environment, acreage around 190 acres, mixed farm together with an agriculture engineering and contract business, Client Requirements, existing dwelling timber frame & clad mobile home which planning consent expired July 2009, accommodation not adequate, needs replacing, no other suitable dwelling to house them on the holding. Agricultural appraisal in respect of permanent agricultural dwelling identified permanent home essential. Proposal, family need secure base, course of average year employ ten people in the farm business, local accommodation difficult. Proposed 2 storey 3 bedroom farm house located within existing residential cartilage, dwelling abuts the mobile home but will be entirely separate from this. Using similar materials on the proposed dwelling to the existing mobile home will further visually unify the properties. Agricultural Appraisal dated 2005 attached together with photographs of the site. No letters of support or objections received. Councillors discussed the application, concerned regarding the retention of the current dwelling and the separation from proposed dwelling, the exterior materials on roof & walls. Councillor Gaze proposed the council do not support the application, the reasons are: The design of the building, roof material & external wall material, the retention of the mobile home which would not be in keeping with the proposed dwelling, the mobile home if allowed to be retained would not be linked to the proposed dwelling, any development should incorporate materials specified in the recent parish plan, seconded by Councillor James & carried unanimously.

Pandy Inn, Clerk is awaiting reply to queries raised.

Dorstone Front Room Planning application received for change of use & advertising consent. Agreed that a meeting to be held on February 23rd to discuss these applications. Plans passed to Councillor Rye

Lengthsmen Scheme, invoice received £193.87 for work carried out including spreading salt on Dorstone Hill & Bell Junction. Councillor Gaze proposed a cheque for £193.87 was drawn, seconded by Councillor James & carried unanimously

Highways Amey have investigated the complaint re the position of the salt bin at Bell Corner, they have decided to move the bin to Dore View. A letter received from Mr & Mrs Fry requesting information when the bin was to be moved, Clerk contacted them, the Bin has been moved. Councillor Rye had received a letter from Mrs Usher regarding the removal of the bin. Request the bin was re-instated having witnessed a near accident recently, counter points to that raised in previous correspondence when removal of bin requested, included the bin is required on this busy junction, this area is not covered by scheduled gritting & residents have used the bin for salt to apply to the junction, eyesore adjacent to conservation area, there are other boxes within the conservation area, clarification on procedure for similar requests for installation/removal of safety features, possibility of a bin situated by The Fold. After discussion councillors agreed the complaint should be forwarded to Amey for them to deal with. The request for removal had been dealt with by Amey, request for additional bin also made.

The Clerk had received written request if the boards temporarily displayed at Bell Corner, advertising functions in the Village Hall, had been removed at the request of the council. The Clerk had replied the council had received no requests, nor had themselves requested, the signs be removed.

Bus Stop/shelter The clerk had raised with Herefordshire Council, normal procedure is to arrange a site meeting of all representative's of the Council's public Transport section. If suitable location agreed Herefordshire Council would consider funding the installation of a new bus shelter subject to the Parish Council contributing 25% of cost. (approx £1,000 small shelter subject to max £1500). Discussed with Councillor Rye, meeting arranged with Public Transport Officer for preliminary discussions. Councillor Rye reported the meeting had been held, it could be possible to relocate to the car park & bus shelter incorporated there or remain in the present location with the possibility of a bus shelter set back in the green. Councillors discussed the information, it may be possible to use both sites, one for school children, one for public. Agreed to discuss further when more councillors available, if a meeting arranged the school contract supplier should also be invited.

Local Development Framework The recent briefing meeting on "shaping our future 2026" had been attended by Councillor Rye & Councillor Gaze. Document regarding the changes was still in circulation. After discussion agreed that individual councillor responses would be made.

Local Transport Plan This is being run with the “shaping our future 2026” consultation. Comments on the proposed Hereford Relief Road and its associated package of sustainable transport measures are requested. After discussion agreed individual councillor responses would be made.

Parish Plan An invoice for £110 for room hire for meetings had been received, Councillor Gaze proposed a cheque for £110 was drawn, seconded by Councillor James & carried unanimously,

Street Light Oaklands Place Following the success of the lights at Dore View Councillors discussed requesting the lights at Oaklands Place to have night cells fitted, lights off at midnight & on at 06.00(am). Councillor Gaze agreed to contact Amey.

Street Light Letter received from Hall Management committee indicating they were very pleased to accept payment of £30 for the year ending March 2010 for electricity used.

Police Report PC Griffiths in attendance, monthly police report discussed. Inspector will be attending forthcoming PACT meeting to discuss re-organising policing in the area. Volunteer Scheme introduced where people could be employed assisting local policing teams.

District Councillor Report Directorates have to report how they will manage their budget for the forthcoming year that has to meet a 3% efficiency savings, Adult Social Care & Children Directorate are currently running over budget, additional £1.5 million has been added to highways budget. 100% increase in potholes identified due to recent weather conditions, New Planning arrangements are filtering into normal process. Delegation from Herefordshire has met with the Minister for Schools to lobby for fairer funding. Thank councillors who attended the framework meeting. Head of Resources is attending next PACT meeting to explain how Council Tax & budgets are set.

Village Hall Energy Challenge This will invite a minimum of 15 parishioners to submit a carbon footprint between March 15th and June 15th the parish with the highest total number of footprints would be eligible for a prize of £5000 to be used improving energy efficiency of the village hall, or cycling facilities. A co-ordinator must be appointed & entries received by March 5th. Entries to the Energy Challenge to be made by the Parish Council. After discussion the clerk instructed to send to Hall Committee.

Council Tax Following the Parish Council precept the estimated council tax for Band D equivalent properties is £9.77, with 174.09 equivalent Band D properties.

Parish Freighter A booking slot was available for March 20th 11.00 am to 13.00pm. Councillors agreed for the freighter to attend on the 20th.

Welcome to Dorstone Book The clerk had updated the contact/organisations in the book & this had been circulated to Councillors. Minor updates made, updated book will be available for next meeting. Agreed that a member of the council, Councillor or Clerk, would visit each new parishioner with a copy of the book, updated copy kept in the church & Dorstone Front Room.

No further business the chairman thanked those who had attended & closed the meeting.

Signed..... Councillor P Rye

March 10th 2010

A meeting of Dorstone Parish Council was held in the Old School Hall Dorstone on **Wednesday February 24th 2010 at 7-30 pm.**

Present: Councillor P Rye, (Chairman), Councillor S Gaze, Councillor M Hession , Councillor C Thomas. & Mr C Hendy, Parish Clerk.

Apologies: Councillor D James, Councillor E Lane Councillor P Smith.

Declaration of interest: none

Councillors were available for the public to discuss any matter not on the agenda.

Minutes Councillors agreed to adjourn the minutes of meeting February 10th 2010 until the next scheduled meeting.

Planning: A planning application has been received for Dorstone Front Room, Change of use of community owned building from shop to community use facility & addition of a sign to outside of building. (Planning Permission).

A planning application has been received for Dorstone Front Room, Change of use of community owned building from shop to community use facility (retrospective), addition of a sign to outside of building. (Advertising consent). Both applications had been passed to Councillor Rye to check, show/inform neighbours. There was no Design & Access statement, photographs & plan of proposed sign 1 metre by 1.5 metre accompanied the application. No letters of support or objection received. Councillors discussed the applications, Councillor Gaze proposed the council support both applications with a note indicating they are the applicants, seconded by Councillor Hession & carried unanimously.

A planning application for hardstanding to provide parking for four vehicles on the verge adjacent to Arthurs Stone Lane had been received. The plans passed to Councillor Thomas to check & inform/show neighbours. The design & access statement indicated that in consultation in 2005/6 there was local support for improving access to Merbach Hill Common from the south, vehicles park on the verge which gets very boggy in winter months & cars get stuck. Local community therefore agreed to apply for installing hard standing on the verge adjacent to Arthur's Stone Lane for four cars. Material used would be a grass reinforcement material. Signage was not discussed. No letters of support or objection received. The clerk reported he was not aware of the council being consulted on the access. After discussion Councillor Thomas proposed the council support the application, seconded by Councillor Hession & carried unanimously.

Pandy Inn A copy of the amended plan had been received, the alteration relates to the external staircase which the conservation Officer had requested be clad in timber in order to reduce the impact of the timber structure, this would also reduce the possibility of overlooking the neighbouring property. The Planning Officer was aware

of the community support for slate roofs & the use of natural stone, the application was determined in the context of a planning permission approved in October 2007 for a much larger predominantly rendered building albeit with some natural stone

Parish Freighter An invoice for £40 had been received, Councillor Hession proposed a cheque for £40 was drawn, seconded by Councillor Gaze & carried unanimously.

Review impact of the severe winter weather on communities & response by the services is to be undertaken by Herefordshire Council Scrutiny Committee. Parish Councils are invited to submit their views on: What went well, What did not go well, What improvements could be made, Action taken by Parish Councils. As councils may not meet formally within the timescale, the committee is seeking general rather than formal response consideration given to inviting the chairman to reply. Council would discuss next meeting & councillors would consult parishioners.

No further business the chairman thanked those who had attended & closed the meeting.