

Minutes of the Meeting of Doddinghurst Parish Council General Purpose Committee held at 20.00 on the 22nd Feb 2018, Parish Room (adjacent the Village Hall), Doddinghurst Road, Doddinghurst.

Present: Cllrs: Alan Farrow (Chairman), Gerry Smith, Diane Rogers-Harrison, David Powell, Julia Le Page and Phil Arnell

1. **Apologies for absence.** None absent.
2. **Declaration of Interests relating to items on the agenda** - None declared.
3. 🗳️ **Resolved:** Approved, the minutes of the GP meeting on the 18th Oct 2018.
4. **Information:** Update on activities undertaken re:
 - a. Fallen shrubbery in Burial Ground – Storm damage shrubbery removed
 - b. Damaged verges in All Saints – letter sent to Cllr Lesly Wagland but issue unresolved
 - c. Scout path lighting repairs – Scout Group has said they accept the responsibility for repair.
 - d. New Clerk Recruitment – Post re-advertised with eight potential applications - interview paperwork passed to interview team for selection of candidates.
 - e. Unregistered footpaths - information to be posted in the Link
 - f. External Water Tap and rainwater downpipe. Downpipe repaired but external tap replacement in abeyance for the time being.
5. **Information:** Teen Shelter Commissioning report. The report was reviewed by the Committee
6. 🗳️ **Resolved:** In the light of the report, and with concern over the future repair work, the majority of Councillors voted to refer the matter the Full Council. Cllr David Powell asked that his view was recorded that the Contractors payment, less the retention detailed in the commissioning report, should be made. The Clerk was asked to advise Sutcliffe Play that the Council considered the product to be not of the expected quality and of the suspension of payment The Clerk was to seek written clarification of the remedial work they planned to carry out and, if appropriate, to try to secure an overall reduction in the cost of the project.
7. 🗳️ **Resolved:** Agreed that no action would be taken in relation to the fact that a dedicated “Maple Tree” in the Burial Ground that is in fact a London Plane Tree.
8. **Information:** Update on Kicking Goal. Despite approaching several firms only one had provided a quotation for the work as specified with 3g artificial grass. One company had quoted for Bonded Mulch.
9. 🗳️ **Resolved:** As a recommendation to full council it was agreed, by majority vote, to accept the quotation for artificial grass.
10. **Resolved:** Bus Shelter by old PO – Agreed to undertake maintenance and repair to timber cladding.
11. **Information:** General Data Protection Regulation – 25th May 2018. The guidance and draft policies for the introduction of the forthcoming GDPR were discussed. The current GDPR guidelines explicitly state that local authorities are required to have a DPO and the Government is debating if a Parish Clerk can be the DPO. If an exception is not granted Doddinghurst has the option of appointing the RFO as the DPO as opposed to employing an external auditor. A Councillor is not considered to be independent enough to be a DPO. At the present time an estimated 38,000 DPO’s are being trained although there are no formally defined qualifications, just a set of skills.
12. **Any Other Urgent Business.**
 - (a) Noted that the Burial Ground and Parish Room rent fees need to be reviewed before the 1st April 2018 and this would be raised at the Full Council meeting on the 1st March.
 - (b) Noted that footpath defects should be reported on the ECC highways website.

The meeting was attended by no members of the public

The meeting closed at 21.50

Signed:

Dated: 25th April 2018