

Minutes of meeting of the Dumbleton Conservation Society held on 6th March 2022

Previous meeting minutes accepted

Apologies: Darren Price and Adam Clarke

Those present: Bob Kennedy, Louise Kennedy, Matt Lockley, Claire Hambro (via Zoom), Terry Prudden, Peter Stanley, Nick House, David Braham, Anne Goodenough, Nick Towe, Steve Pratt, Betty Pratt, Annette Judge, Dick Judge, Chris Rodgers (Village Club).

Matters arising

Websites updated and newsletter had been distributed.

Nick Towe talked about the judicial review process and that the documents relating to housing needs in Dumbleton are out of date.

Sewage - David reported he'd had a telephone conversation with Severn Trent Water who advised that the tanks are emptied every six months so the bacteria can grow and allow the treatment plant to work efficiently. John Bennett (STW?) is phoning to let David know if Tewkesbury Borough Council has contacted them to be a consultee on the Golden Hay field application.

The issue of traffic safety/increased amount of traffic was raised and it was noted that Glos Highways are a statutory consultee on this application although they haven't responded yet.

At planning committee stage, it can be stated that Tewkesbury Borough Council has not received a response from Glos Highways. Anne reported that the A46 has the highest fatality rate in Worcestershire. We can use this argument in terms of access to the village and the increased traffic that the development will generate. Anne has all the details of the reports on the A46 and will share this with the group. Information on the near misses that have occurred on entry to the village also needs to be ascertained as it will add further to the argument about road safety when entering the village. It was also suggested that the number of parked cars on the village roads has increased over the last few years, mainly due to people parking outside the school and on the corner exiting the village near the church.

David expressed concern that the final decision on the application would be a delegated one made by the planning officer and not the TBC planning committee. This was based on the Further Information section of this application on the TBC portal which states that the Expected Decision Level is a Delegated Decision meaning that the officer in charge of planning would have the final decision. As yet there is no confirmation that this will happen with the Golden Hay development.

Nick explained to the society that a judicial review will look at the due process that TBC undertook for this application and the court will decide if they didn't take account of certain processes/policies/factors that could have affected their decision. If after considering this, the decision would have been a different one then the application would be rejected. The society would need to hire a barrister to provide professional advice and speak on our behalf if we applied for a judicial review. The timing of the rejection review is not certain but will

only be needed if the application is permitted by TBC planning committee, or allowed on appeal.

If the development goes to appeal then the Inspector may either request written submissions or an informal enquiry. We need to obtain costs from Ridge including the cost of a barrister to contest an appeal and Nick was asked if he could source this information.

Nick House suggested legal insurance cover could be an option and he will look into this. It was also suggested that legal aid could be a possibility as well as applying for Campaign for Protection of Rural England (CPRE) or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) grants.

Discussion of the constitution of the society

The group discussed the aims of the society. The following amendments were proposed and agreed by those present:

The first bullet point should read 'to promote the protection of the heritage and **enhancement** of the landscape and ecology of Dumbleton Village **and the conservation area.**'

On the fourth point it was amended to read 'to promote the **enhancement** and maintenance of the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the setting of the village within the AONB.'

It was agreed that membership details should include name, address, email and telephone number. Annette will produce a draft membership form for review.

For the roles of the officers, it was decided that initially the secretary and membership secretary be the same person on the committee. Nick T explained the remaining provisions of the constitution. Anne requested clarification of how unspent monies would be treated if the society was dissolved. The constitution was amended to reflect that any proceeds left over would be distributed to local charities. The constitution was then approved by the group.

Other activities of the society/items were discussed, in particular the newsletter and using this to bring other planning issues to the notice of the village. In addition the website could include photos of the history of the village as well.

Darren joined the meeting at 8:30

Election of officers

Nick Towe was proposed, seconded and elected by the group for the position of Chair of the society, subject to approval from his employer.

Darren Price was proposed, seconded and elected by the group for the position of Secretary of the society.

Claire Stanley was proposed, seconded and elected by the group for the position of Treasurer Secretary of the society conditional on her agreement to take on the role.

Anne Goodenough, David Braham, Matt Lockley, Annette Judge and Adam Clarke (conditional upon his acceptance) were all proposed, seconded and elected by the group as additional committee members.

Asset of Community Value

Nick explained that the society would seek to register the Golden Hay field, the tennis court and any associated land as an important asset of value to the village. The society would then be given the option to buy the field at the equivalent market value if the application wasn't contested by the landowner. An additional outcome is that this application would delay the planning approval process. Annette to ask the Village Club committee if we can use the club address in the application to register the field. Nick will submit the application to TBC.

Website/newsletter updates

It was decided that there would be a password protected section of the society website for member wishing to access minutes and agendas on the website. David agreed to look into setting this up. All publicly available documents (constitution, newsletters etc) will still be available for non-members to access.

David confirmed that the costs incurred so far for the Dumbleton Conservation Society website and newsletter costs was £199. Those at the meeting thanked him for the website/publicity activities he has done already. Voluntary contributions of £20 per household were made to reimburse him and David expressed his thanks for this. David will investigate options for a website email address for residents to send queries to.

AOB

Matt asked if there was any update from TBC on the application. Nick advised that the planning officer will now be reviewing the submissions and will probably ask for a 2 week extension before he makes a recommendation to Permit or reject the application. The application is likely to be discussed in the April TBC Planning Committee meeting.

The date of the next meeting was agreed as 20th March 2022 starting at 7:30pm at the Village Club.