

Minutes of the Meeting of Deddington Parish Council held on 14th
December 1988

Present:

Cllrs Cole (Chairman), Allen, Fenemore, Fuller, Garvey, Gibbs, Kedge, Marmion, O'Neil, Stevens, Mrs. Stevens, Mrs. Swash and Webber.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. Hayward.

1. The Chairman announced the result of the by-election, and after congratulating Mrs. Stevens, the successful candidate, he went on to welcome her to the Council.
2. Minutes of the previous Meeting were accepted and signed by the Chairman.
3. Matters arising

It was agreed that some additional decorative lights should be purchased for the Christmas tree erected outside the Town Hall.

Street Cleaning

Concern was stressed about the accumulation of litter outside the Unicorn Hotel. The existence of this nuisance had been brought to the attention of the Licensee whom had been most co-operative.

Scouts & Guides

Further consideration of the concern expressed by the Scout & Guide leaders revealed that there was no real cause for untoward apprehension as the layout surrounding the Windmill Centre had to be agreed before Planning Authorisation could be obtained. It was therefore necessary to obtain their (Scouts & Guides) views (and those of other interested parties) before the shape of the development could be determined which was the reason for the Chairman's not replying to Mrs. Bouverie.

In response to a complaint about the storage of material on the site, the Chairman indicated that the fence had to be restored and the old playing field maintained in a viable condition until the replacement field was fit for use.

School Governor

The Chairman said he was awaiting a reply from the L.E.A. on this issue.

Cleaning North Bank of Castle Grounds

The Chairman said he had received a letter from Mr. Scott stating that he would be prepared to undertake the clearing of the North Bank for the sum of £60.00. It was agreed that the offer should be accepted.

Windmill Centre Land Exchange

The Chairman read out the District Valuer and District Auditor's reactions to the newspaper cutting about the valuation of the commercial development site included in the Windmill Centre land exchange.

Community Service

An enquiry had been received from the Probationary Service as to whether the Council could utilize the services of some local transgressors who had been sentenced to a period of Community Service as part of their rehabilitation. Following some general discussion of the subject, during which a number of options were mooted, Cllr Webber proposed and it was resolved that the tidying up of the Churchyard would be a favoured project for nomination.

Development of Acorn Stores etc.

The Chairman reported that he had received a copy of a letter to the Chief Planning Officer from Mr. W. Bidgood of No. 1 Church Street expressing his concern about future access because of the increasing proportion of rubbish being dumped on the carriageway. After some general discussion of the subject during which it was emphasised that the Council had no jurisdiction over Planning/Development matters, the Chairman agreed to make an approach to the Planning Authority with a view to finding a compromise which would avoid a situation for potential future friction arising.

Bowling Green

Permission was granted for a representative of the Bowling Club to address the Council. The essence of his submission was an affirmation that the Bowling Club required a lease on the site earmarked for Bowling Green for with some formal acknowledgement that the Club possessed a lieu on a suitable site, no financial assistance for the site's development could be obtained from affiliates and other supporters of the sport. The Chairman responded by explaining that the land was owned by the Parish Council which had yet to decide whether to lease the area concerned to the Windmill Management Committee. Following some further discussion of the issue during which the various complexities were explored, the Chairman agreed to send a resume of the present position to the Secretary of the Bowling Club.

4. Acknowledgements

The Chairman reported that he had received letters of thanks from:

- 1) Deddington P.C.C. for the donation of £25.00 in return for the use of the Church as a place for a public meeting.
- 2) Mr. Alan Gardner for the presentation made to him on his relinquishing the post of Clerk to the Council.

Play Area

The Chairman reported that a letter had been received from Mrs. Herring enquiring about the prospects of acquiring a suitable children's play area in Deddington and citing the dilapidated condition of the equipment in the Castle grounds in support of her

Play Area /cont..

contention about the urgency of such a need. After some discussion of the issue it was agreed that (1) Mrs. Herring be invited to submit proposals for the envisaged play area at the Windmill Centre and (2) the replacement of the equipment at the Castle grounds be progressed.

Refuse Collection

Notification of the arrangements for the collection of refuse over the Christmas and New Year had been received from the D.C.

Health and Safety

A relevant notification about the properties and hazards of natural gas under the Health and Safety at Work Act had been received from British Gas.

Dog Fouling

Notification had been received from the D.C. that byelaws relating to the fouling of footpaths and verges by dogs had been made and confirmed by the Secretary of State; a Dog Warden (Mr. B. Hosband) had been appointed to enforce these new byelaws. Mr. Hosband would be contacting Parishes about the citing of appropriate notices; no action was required until he made his approach to Deddington.

Electricity Supply Emergencies

A request had been received from Southern Electricity for the appointment of Parish Representatives who would be kept informed of developments during a major supply emergency so that they could so advise parishioners who might otherwise be unable to obtain much information. Cllrs. Marmion, O'Neill, Fuller and Webber volunteered to be nominated as the Deddington Representatives.

Bottle Bank Scheme

Notification had been received from the D.C. concerning the possible extension of the Bottle Bank Scheme inviting views, and, from those wishing to participate, suitable locations for the siting of the Bottle Banks. It was agreed that Deddington should be included in the projected extension to the scheme on a trial basis only and on a majority vote (6:5) that the Bottle Bank should be in Earls Lane.

Bus Tokens

The Chairman reported that several letters had been received on this matter. Enquiries had revealed that some 250 persons (OAP's and other entitled persons) would be eligible to participate in such a scheme. Numerous options on the operation of such a scheme was explored; the incorporation of Mini-Bus similar to that operated by Age Concern was not favoured. A suggestion that a portion of the income accruing from the Windmill Centre land exchange should be used to finance a projected scheme was noted. Following some further discussion of the venture it was agreed that further research would be necessary to enable the Council to come to an informed conclusion.

Report from Solicitor on the setting up of a fund with the proceeds from Phase II of the Windmill Community Centre

The Chairman read out the Report which included a number of detailed points concerning the complexities and obstacles to be overcome in a satisfactory inauguration of such a fund. There was a general consensus that experiences of those involved with the establishment of Charitable Trusts could prove a minefield for the layman with unexpected repercussions for the administrators. It was accordingly agreed that copies of the Solicitor's Report would be distributed for the next meeting and the author (Mr. Rose) invited to attend to advise and guide the Council on how best to proceed with the matter.

Damaged Street Lamp

It was reported that lantern cover/diffuser of the lamp sited opposite Cottage Farm, Hempton had been damaged and the light bulb exposed to the elements. The Secretary agreed to report the incident to the M.E.B. for their attention.

Hansford Durley Account

The Chairman reported that Mr. Rose (solicitor) agreed that this outstanding account should be paid. Considerable opposition was expressed to this course of action in view of the inordinate delay (3 years) in concluding the associated litigation. It was subsequently agreed payment should continue to be delayed and that the Chairman should notify the solicitors of the Council's displeasure at the lack of progress accompanied with a request for a report on the latest situation to be presented to the Council at the next meeting.

Windmill Community Centre - Defects

Considerable disquiet was stressed about the delay being experienced in securing rectification of defects (showers, heaters, etc.) reported at the Windmill Centre and the Council was urged to make appropriate representations. It emerged that such action would be misplaced as Windmill Community Centre were solely responsible for progressing any concerns about contract services (through Mr. Bond) with the main contractor.

Planning Application

No objections were made to the Planning Applications made in respect of: (a) replacement of garage roof at The Bungalow, Hamilton Road, (b) extensions to Tithe Cottage, Clifton.

Hamilton

Accounts passed for Payment

Mr. A. Gardner - Expenses	£ 2.65
Southern Gas - Gas consumed	£ 9.90
Cherwell District Council - loan repayment	£1,673.59

January Meeting

To be held on Wednesday 25th January 1989.

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

