

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday
23rd March, 1994 at the Town Hall**

Present:- Councillors Clinch (Chairman), Mrs Garvey, Mrs Lee, Miss Hill, Oddy, Reed, Mrs Stevens, Mrs Swash and Todd.
District Councillor P Davis in attendance.

190/93 Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Clarke, Canning, Bowen and O'Brien. County Councillor Matthews also apologised.

191/93 Dog Fouling.

Mr Hosband, the District Council Senior Dog Warden addressed the Council on the co-ordination of the introduction of dog litter bins in the Parishes. He stated that 25 bins were introduced in Banbury 2 years ago as an experiment and they had proved to be successful. The District Council decided to extend the facility to the Parishes from 1st April, 1994 and Deddington had decided to have 2 bins. Publicity would be available for Environmental Week at the end of May and it was hoped that the Deddington bins would be erected before that date. He described the position with regard to bye-laws and stated that the maximum fine had now been increased to £500. New stickers were available which detailed the above increase and he would forward a quantity to the Clerk for affixing to street furniture. The Chairman thanked Mr Hosband and hoped that the new scheme would assist the Parish in reducing the amount of fouling.

192/93 Cr R H Barlow.

The Chairman referred to the recent untimely death of Cr Barlow and praised him for the work he had undertaken as Chairman of the Windmill Sub-Committee. The Council stood in silence in his memory.

193/93 Minutes of the meeting of Council held on 16th February 1994.

The above minutes, which had been previously circulated, were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

194/93 There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

195/93 Other urgent business.

The Chairman agreed to allow the following 2 matters to be raised.

1. Cr Mrs Swash - Parking in the village and
2. Cr Todd - Positioning of signs on the northern approach to the village.



196/93 Coat of Arms Sub-Committee.

Cr Oddy passed a sample of the London Tankard showing the Coat of Arms around the members who gave it their approval. He stated that the Sub-Committee had finalised the programme for the 16th April and everyone hoped for a fine day.

197/93 Environmental and Recreation Sub-Committee.

Cr Mrs Lee stated that the Sub-Committee recommended and the Council approved the entry of the Parish into the 1994 Best Kept Village Competition.

She stated that it had been agreed that the 2 dog litter bins should be located at the Castle Grounds and Windmill sites. It was also recommended that the stone garden on the entrance to the village from Oxford should be removed and possibly resited on the other side of the road. The Clerk was asked to report on the financial position regarding the District Council Environmental Grant for 1993/94. The Clerk was asked to investigate with the County Council why there was no stop line on the road in Chapel Square.

The Clerk read correspondence from the County Council regarding Traffic Calming measures as follows:-

(a) Earls Lane - "I regret that I cannot guarantee to keep my design costs to £1,000".....but the Parish Council may appoint a Consulting Engineer. Resolved that the Clerk endeavour to obtain such a quotation.

(b) High/New Street and Chapel Square. "I regret that I do not feel that a further meeting on site to discuss either the provision of a crossing point in New Street, or amended arrangements to Chapel Square would necessarily be terribly productive". It was suggested that Consulting Engineers could be appointed to prepare plans for the approval of the County Engineer in respect of New St. and that " unless the Parish Council had in mind the funding of traffic signals there is little I can suggest that will represent an improvement" as regards Chapel Square.

The Clerk reported that the account for the Hempton Road footpath/cycletrack had been received, but that he had requested sight of the detailed final account before recommending payment. The Clerk was asked to request the County Council to cut the hedge on the south side of the pinch-point at Hempton and to inform Miss Pacey that horses should not use the new Hempton Rd footpath.

Discussion had taken place regarding the types of lighting in the village and the Sub-Committee were to investigate options.

No support had been forthcoming for the British Legion proposal that the War Memorial be moved from the Churchyard to the Market Place, and it was therefore resolved not to pursue the matter further.

The circular walk was now agreed in principle, but it was agreed that before taking further action the signed undertakings should be received from the landowners.

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198/93 Holly Tree Sub-Committee.

The hall decoration was now complete and the only internal work outstanding was the laying of new tiles in the hallway. It had been agreed with the Trustees that the land and buildings should be transferred to this Council and that the Council should become the Custodian Trustee. These matters were approved nem con. Arrangements would be put in hand for the legal documentation to be completed as soon as possible.

199/93 Low Cost Housing Sub-Committee.

The Clerk reported that there were still only 9 completed applications to hand. The Housing Association had prepared a suggested plan for the preferred site and were to discuss this with the Planning Authority in the next week.

200/93 Planning and Property Sub-Committee.

It was reported that the site visit in respect of the Chicken Farm application was to take place at 3.00 pm on 31st March, 1994. It was agreed that the Clerk should forward a copy of this Council's objections to each member of the District Council's Development Committee.

Applications.

CHN 85/94 Home Farm, Clifton - Proposed erection of covered yard. No objection.

CHN 95/94 Wesleyan Reform Church Hall, Church Street - Change of use to residential. - No objection in principle to change of use as its future as a hall is not viable. It is essential that parking space be formed within the site as it is impractical to on-street park as there is already a problem and clear access must be maintained to the adjacent Alms Houses. There may be a difficulty to create a turning space within the site but it is still preferable to provide a car space. The drawings do not show the existing elevations. The extension of the roof to the west to create a gable end could affect neighbouring properties. The south facing window which will now serve a bathroom and bedroom 3 is on the site boundary and may lead to loss of privacy and other considerations to adjoining neighbours. There is a lack of detail on the effect of the glazing to the windows where floors and walls make contact. Difficulties are foreseen over the renovation and construction as the building forms the boundary walls of several adjoining properties.

CHN101/94 Tuckers Country Store, Market Place - Conversion of part first floor and second floor to flat. No objection in principle to change of use. We note that there may be an additional car requirement. This is stated in view of the impending development off Hudson Street, which will displace approximately 30 cars to the already overcrowded streets in the centre of the village.

CHN108/94 Church Cottage, Church Street - Replace windows. The information supplied does not indicate in which elevation



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the windows are situate. Assuming they are at the rear (south) and provided they meet the approval of the Conservation Officer the Council has no objection. This cottage is in the conservation area.

CHN134/94 Plot 14 The Beeches - Erect dwelling and double garage plus ancillary works. Recommend to the District Council refusal on the basis that the area of the dwelling is in excess of 150 sq. metres, the maximum set down by the inspector at the appeal. This recommendation was proposed by Cr Miss Hill, seconded by Cr Mrs Swash and carried by 7 votes to 1 with 1 abstention.

A CHN 14/94 Grass verge north of the Fire Station, Banbury Road - Double sided advertisement hoarding. It was proposed by Cr Todd and seconded by Cr Oddy that no objection be made provided the hoarding is removed within 3 months of the last house being sold. The proposal was agreed by 6 votes to 3.

201/93 Windmill Sub-Committee.

A report by Cr O'Brien which had been circulated was deferred to the next meeting.

202/93 Correspondence with the District Auditor.

The Clerk reported upon 2 matters:-

(a) Education Grants.

The Auditor wrote as follows "On the question of educational grants I note the Council's intention to arrange for the payment of grants from the chairman's allowance. The use of the chairman's allowance is subject to wide discretion, but as with any discretionary power the discretion must be exercised reasonably if the use of the power is to be lawful.

I think you would be unwise to proceed solely on the basis of the NALC advice. It would be preferable to seek specific legal advice on the question of the reasonable exercise of the Council discretion and whether, for instance, the use of the chairman's allowance might be seen as an attempt to circumvent the limitations on the Council's statutory powers. It may be that one relevant factor would be whether the amount proposed to be spent was appropriate for a chairman's allowance.

.....if it were to be established subsequently that the expenditure was unlawful, it is possible that those involved in taking the decision could be held individually liable for the expenditure incurred".

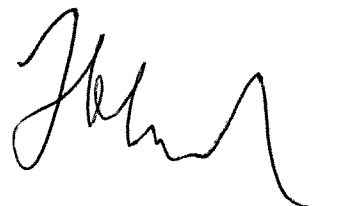
Resolved that this matter be referred to the new Council.

(b) Charges by the Council's bankers for returning paid cheques.

To avoid charges the District Auditor is prepared to accept cheque stubs signed by 2 members at the same time as the cheque is signed as assurance of payment if:

-all payments are minuted; and

-the auditor maintains the right to see any cheque she or he requires.



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Resolved that subject to the bank's approval the above suggestion be implemented.

203/93 The future of the former American Base at Upper Heyford.

A report had been circulated to all members and it was resolved to defer the matter to a future meeting.

204/93 Investment of the Council's Funds.

The Clerk reported that at close of business on 22nd March the balances were as follows:-

£
450,000.00 at 7.1% variable for 2 years expiring on 27.4.95
subject to the rate being not less than 4.5% above
the base rate on the Bradford and Bingley Building
Society Timesaver Account.
182,000.00 at 4.5625% fixed to 28th March, 1994.
109.60 at 0.5% subject to 14 days notice
40,412.06 at 2.625% overnight
672,521.66

205/93 To approve accounts for payment.

Accounts were approved for payment in accordance with the appended schedule.

Additional approvals were given to the following 3 payments

British Telecommunications plc - Office Phone	£181.24
J Spencer - Holly Tree Club - Floor Sanding etc	£264.82
Lane Fox - ½ years rent of allotments	£70.00

206/93 Parish Council Elections.

The Clerk reported that notice of the election will be advertised on 24th March, the last day for receipt of nominations will be 7th April and the election will take place, subject to there being sufficient candidates, on 5th May.

207/93 Dates for Future Meetings.

(a) Report to the Parish Council on the full results of the Parish Appraisal 13th April, 1994

(b) Annual Meeting of the Parish Council 18th May, 1994 ✓

(c) Annual Parish Meeting and Report to Parishioners on the Village Appraisal. ~~25th~~ 11th May, 1994.

208/93 Correspondence.

(a) Service of thanksgiving to mark the centenary of Parish Councils at Christ Church Cathedral on Sunday, May 8th, 1994. Crs Mrs B Lee and Mrs C Garvey agreed to represent the Council.

(b) Great Domesday Book. This was being published at a cost of £265 and it was resolved to consider this matter at the next meeting.

(c) Community Information Points. A private company had been appointed by the County Council to provide these points throughout the County. The cost would be £3,000 for an internal

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unit including installation and maintenance. It was agreed to take no action.

(d) Horton Scanner Appeal. Agreed to defer this matter to the next meeting.

(e) Victim Support Scheme North Oxfordshire. Agreed nem con to make a contribution of £100.

(f) Transfer of District Council Housing Stock. The Clerk stated that he had received a considerable amount of information on this matter which was available for perusal.

(g) National Spring Clean. This will run from 15th to 24th April, 1994 and the "Litter Blitz" will be the main component. Agreed that the Council will again take part.

(h) A letter was read from Mr Bill Hunt requesting that a silver spoon, commemorative tankard, and souvenir programme be donated to the Museum using the unspent Museum allocation. Agreed nem con that the suggested purchases be made.

(i) Letter from the Deddington Tennis Club signed by 20 members wishing to place on record their appreciation of the work being carried out at the Windmill Centre and in particular to the provision of the hut for the use of tennis players.

(j) Council for the Preservation of Rural England. It was agreed nem con to renew the annual subscription in the sum of £15.

(k) A letter of thanks from the Chipping Norton Theatre in respect of the Council's donation was received.

(l) Letter from Mr A Welford stating that he was now prepared to recommence discussions regarding the circular walk. Agreed that this be referred to the Environmental Sub-Committee.

209/93 Any other business.

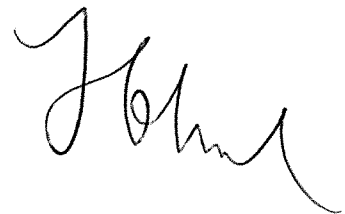
(a) Cr Swash stated that parking in the centre of the village was becoming overcrowded and it was resolved that the Environmental Sub-Committee prepare a report in the matter.

(b) Cr Todd said that he was disappointed that the County Council had erected Speed Camera signs adjacent to the Stone Garden at the entrance to the village from the north. The Clerk was asked to enquire if it could be repositioned.

210/93 Dates of Next Meetings.

Special Council Meeting to receive detail of the Village Appraisal - Wednesday, 13th April, 1994

Council Meeting - Wednesday, 27th April, 1994



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Accounts for Payment - March 1994

		£
Deddington Church Council Fund	3rd Payment of Grant	/13,318.90
Barrett Construction Ltd	Certificate No 7	/40,976.95
Anker & Partners	Oversight of Holly Tree Repairs	/164.50
J P McDougall & Co	Paint etc.	/204.44
Cherwell District C'l	Village Appraisal	/ 14.06
Viking Direct Ltd	Envelopes	/ 13.64
Banbury & Dist. CVS	Photocopying	/ 18.00
Petals	Wreath	/ 25.00
P A Products	Coat of Arms	/400.68
Deddington Builders	Rubbish Removal	/ 70.50
D H Blakey	Salary & Expenses - March	/211.17
D P C Imprest A/c	Reimbursement	/1,145.06
		<u>56,562.90</u>

Make-up of Imprest Account Reimbursement

D Freeman	Wages w/e 19/2,26/2,5/3,12/3 and 19/3	845.30
Deddington Players	Grant re Kidlington Band	75.00
Insignia	Sign and post	72.00
Carpet Gallery	Carpet Grips	30.00
Chipping Norton Th're	Grant	50.00
T Clinch	Screws and Plugs	5.20
S E Clawson & J Hall	Silver Spoon Refunds	5.00
Centrepoint	Photocopying	62.56
		<u>1,145.06</u>

Arrangements for Direct Debits in respect of Business Rates to Cherwell District Council as follows:-

Town Hall - 9 payments 1st May, 1994 to 1st January, 1995 of £13 & £11.90 on 1st April, 1994. - Total £128.90.

Cemetery - 7 payments 1st May, 1994 to 1st November, 1994 of £5 & £7.30 on 1st April, 1994. - Total £42.30.

