

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday
19th February, 1997 at the Town Hall commencing at 7.30 pm.

Present:- Councillors Todd (Chairman), Mrs Brewer, Clarke, Clinch, Colley, Cosgrove, Mrs Fisher, Flux, Miss Hill, Mrs Lee and Mrs Swash.

119/96 Apologies for Absence.

Apologies were received from Councillors Drake, Oddy and Mrs Stevens.

120/96 Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th January, 1997.

Approval of the above Minutes with the addition of 111/96(c) set out below was moved by Cr Flux, seconded by Cr Clinch agreed unanimously and they were signed by the Chairman.
✓ '111/96(c) The Chief Fire Officer for Oxfordshire was shortly to retire following 30 years service and Mr A Humphries has suggested that the Council may wish to donate a Coat of Arms silver spoon and tankard as a gift from the people of the Parish. A similar gift would be made from the Deddington Fire Brigade. Resolved that a silver spoon and tankard be donated to the Chief Fire Officer upon his retirement.'

121/96 Low Cost Housing Scheme.

The Clerk reported upon the up-dated situation as follows:-

(a) an adjustment to the scheme layout had been made so that plots at the rear of the scheme would now overlook the open space and provide a stop-end to the development.

(b) additionally windows have been added at ground and first floor levels to plots 15, 18 and 23 to further improve surveillance/security of the play area.

(c) Planning permission has now been given for the scheme in its revised form, subject to a legal agreement, and to date a total of 31 applications had been received in respect of the 23 dwellings included in the permission.

A letter had been received from the District Council asking whether this Council would assume responsibility for the future maintenance of the open space within the development subject to satisfactory construction and the receipt of a commuted sum. They also enquired as to the requirement of the developer to provide a degree of sporting facilities off the site, approximating to a tennis court size facility and requested details of the Council's wishes for sporting facilities or equipment.

✓ Resolved unanimously that this Council will accept future maintenance responsibility for the open space subject to a satisfactorily constructed and maintained area being handed over and a commuted sum being paid.

✓ In regard to the facilities the Council unanimously agreed that no off-site facilities were required but a large log and pipe suitable for young children's play together with a seat be provided on site.



2.

The Planning Committee was asked to suggest a name for the new road.

122/96 Recreation and Grants Committee.

Cr Mrs Lee reported as follows:-

- (a) A letter had been received from the Hon. Treasurer of the Deddington Colts Football Club stating that they were unable to provide a costed business plan for this meeting but would do so for a future meeting.
- ✓ (b) It was proposed by Cr Clinch, seconded by Cr Miss Hill and unanimously agreed that the Deddington Football Club be asked to remove the concrete base to the old pavilion at the Castle Grounds and to tidy the site. It was also agreed that the Recreation Committee be asked to consider future uses of the playing field area of the Castle Grounds.
- (c) A letter of thanks had been received from the Chairman of the School Governors in respect of the grant for musical instruments which he stated had now been purchased.
- ✓ (d) A circular had been received re the funding of Millenium Greens in which members showed interest and the Clerk was asked to obtain further clarification for the next meeting.
- (e) A letter had been received from Lane Fox, agents acting for the owners of the Allotments, requesting an increase in rental from £150 to £250 per annum. The increase was said to be attributable to the large increase in the rents of agricultural land. The Clerk had suggested an increase of 20% to the agents - £180 which had been turned down. Discussion followed regarding the possible release of part of the 3 acre site and the Committee were asked to report to the next meeting on this suggestion.
- ✓ (f) A request had been received for a contribution from the Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association and it was proposed by Cr Clarke and agreed unanimously that a contribution of £25 be made.
- (g) The Clerk reported that he had paid the agreed underwriting sum of £100 to the Deddington Playscheme for which a letter of thanks had been received. The deficit, prior to this grant, on the 1996 scheme was £271.25 and after the grant their reserve carried forward towards the 1997 Playscheme had been reduced to £248.29. It was agreed that the Council would accept an application for grant in respect of the 1997 Playscheme.

123/96 Environmental Committee.

In the absence of Cr Mrs Stevens the Clerk reported

- (a) that no checks appeared to have been carried out regarding the water pressure in Hempton and High Street Deddington despite a letter and telephone conversations. Agreed that the Clerk should write again to Thames Water and obtain the information.
- (b) A national Village of the Year competition sponsored by the Daily Telegraph in association with Calor Gas Ltd, the latter company being the current sponsors of the B K V competition in Oxfordshire, is to commence this year with a first prize of

£3,000 plus £500 for winners in various categories. There is no additional charge for entry in the VOY competition, the main thrust of which will be the enhancement of the lifestyles of people who live and work in rural communities. It was agreed that Deddington should enter both competitions.

(c) The County Council in collaboration with the Oxford Times will be awarding Special Conservation Awards and plaques, and certificates will be awarded to outstanding projects which have benefitted the environment. National Power are donating £2,500 in prize money to schools and voluntary organisations.

Entries may be made by Councils or anyone in the community who has carried out an environmental project. Agreed that the Committee consider whether there are any suitable projects for entry and that the local school be informed.

(d) Thanks were extended to Cr Clarke for the additional comfort made available to all Members and the Clerk.

124/96 Highways Committee.

Cr Mrs Brewer reported as follows:-

(a) Members had visited Long Compton and viewed the illuminated repeater 30 mph sign, a mobile version of which had been suggested for Clifton, and were pleased with its operation. It was agreed that further investigations be conducted.

(b) Objections had been made by the Windmill Stores to the possible roundabout at the junction of the new estate road with the Hempton Road. A sketch plan of the scheme was awaited from the County Council and the store proprietors should be assured that they will be consulted when the plans are received.

✓ (c) Revised plans of the Earls Lane Traffic Management Scheme were shown which required only 1 additional light. A revised estimated costing of £8,000 for the construction cost, including contingencies, had been received from the Cherwell Construction Services. It was proposed by Cr Mrs Brewer, seconded by Cr Clarke that subject to there being no adverse comment from Mr. Fuller to the revised plan the agents be asked to proceed to tender. The proposal was agreed with 1 vote against.

(d) The stop line at the High Street Traffic Lights would cost a prohibitive sum to move and could not therefore be undertaken.

(e) It was agreed to investigate the possibility of painting repeated 30 mph signs on the highway in an attempt to reduce traffic speeds.

(f) At the meeting between Parishes and the County Council at Kirtlington the problem of the lack of cooperation between the County Direct Services Organisation and their Environment Department was raised. This matter was highlighted by the High Street/New Street footpath improvement scheme where orders had been placed for sweeping which had not been carried out. Resolved that the Clerk take up this problem with the Director of Environmental Services and the Chairman of the County Council.

(g) A deep hole outside 10/12 The Paddocks and the spring in

Hopcrafts Lane had been reported for repair. The uneven footpath in Church Street, which had resulted in an accident had again been reported.

(h) The lowering of kerbs at junctions on the Hempton Road had now been effected.

(i) A letter of thanks had been received from Mrs Draper of Castle View, Goose Green in respect of the change of lighting unit adjoining the property.

(j) The problem of lorries parking either side of St John's Way, Hempton was to be reported to the Police.

(k) The painting of 'No Parking' on the accesses to 2 properties in Clifton at the OCC expense had now been agreed.

125/96 Planning and Property Committee.

Cr Miss Hill reported the recommendations of the Committee as follows:-

✓ Applications.

96/2001/OUT - Land West of Windmill Street - Erection of 23 Dwellings - This application has the full support of this Council.

96/2055F - Former Congregational Church, Hempton - Conversion to dwelling - No observations.

97/102LB&103F - Holcombe Hotel, High Street - Renewal of New Cocktail Bar and 8 Bedroom Annexe Application - No observations.

97/122F - Russell House, New Street - Change of use of part of premises to Antique Showroom - No objection but observe that there could be problems of access and egress.

97/178/180F, LB, ADV - Red Lion Cottage, Market Place - Internal and External Repairs, replacement of pipes and gutters and non-illuminated shop sign - No objection but wish to see detail of sign.

97/264F - Church Cottage, Church Street - First Floor Extension at rear - No observations subject to there being no overlooking problems.

97/283F - 69, St John's Way, Hempton - Erection of garden shed - Object for the following reasons:- (a) the shed would be in front of the building line (b) size, especially height would appear to be inappropriate. Should the application be granted stringent conditions should be applied as to its use as it is believed that a considerable amount of business stock is delivered and stored on these premises.

The above recommendations were each approved.

✓ Certificate of Lawfulness of Existing Use.

Such a certificate has been requested in respect of Laurel House in that the 3 rooms on the first floor, 1 room on the second floor and the garage have been used as an antique shop and storeroom for the past 10 years. It was unanimously agreed that these uses had been in existence well in excess of 10 years.

Approvals.

96/1598ADV/1599LB - Deddington Arms, Horsefair - Non illuminated sign to front elevation

96/1951/F1952LB - Wirral House, Bull Ring - 2 Storey extension etc.

97/60TCA - The Stone House, Market Place - Aboricultural works.

In respect of the Wirral House approval the Clerk was asked to establish why no notification had been received of the reasons for approval following this Council's objections.

126/96 Holly Tree Club.

Cr Clinch reported that the Holly Tree Club had been reconstituted and that the first meeting would take place on Monday 7th April, 1997. A new Committee had been formed, all of whom are Founder Members, and membership now numbers 10.

A letter had been received from the Women's Institute referring to the fact that over a year ago the Council had promised the sum of £100 towards the material for curtains for the Club Room and that new curtains had not been provided. The Clerk stated that curtains had been kindly donated to the Club and he had assumed that this had satisfied the W I initial request.

127/96 Windmill Committee.

Cr Flux reported that the A G M of the Committee would be held on Wednesday 23rd April, 1997 at the Centre and that there would be an Open Day on 26th May, 1997 in which it was hoped all Village Organisations would participate. A quotation had been received for fixing a wooden skirt to the All Weather Pitch to prevent gravel being blown or kicked onto the playing surface causing a danger to players. Agreed that the quotation of £460 plus VAT be accepted, financed from increased usage.

The Clerk had made the request to meet the Bowls Club Committee but a letter had been received stating that "we wish to make a short presentation to the full Council at one of its regular meetings for which a briefing paper would be supplied well in advance". Resolved that the Bowls Club be informed that the Council are still desirous of the Clerk meeting with members of the Bowls Club Committee at an early date and that it will be convenient for a Parishioner member of the Club to address the Council at its next meeting on 19th March, 1997.

128/96 Coat of Arms Committee.

In the absence of Cr Oddy the Clerk reported that Tasty Blackboard Ltd had purchased the remaining stock of Tankards and that this placed the events finances into credit. Members who still held tankards on a sale or return basis were asked to return those unsold to Cr Oddy as soon as possible. It was resolved to thank Cr Oddy for his efforts in this matter.

129/96 Finance Committee.

The Clerk reported that the Committee had not met recently but were awaiting details from a Financial Consultant who was analysing the 'small print' of the Chancellor's November statement which in several matters had a bearing on possible Council investments.

130/96 Tourism.

Consideration of the promotion of Tourism was agreed to take place at the March meeting, but the Chairman drew members attention to this fact in order that they were in a position to report at that time. It was agreed that Cr Miss Hill be the leading spokesperson on the subject.

131/96 Accounts for Payment.

Accounts totalling £2,065.17 in accordance with a schedule circulated at the Meeting, (a copy of which is filed in the Minute Book,) were proposed for payment by Cr Miss Hill, seconded by Cr Clarke and approved unanimously.

132/96 Investment of the Council's Funds.

The Clerk reported that at close of business on 18th February, 1997 the balances were as follows:-

£	
450,000.00	Bradford & Bingley B S Bonus 120 A/c at 6.3%
100,000.00	Treasury Deposit fixed to 27.2.97 at 5.5%
19,046.54	at 14 days notice at 3.875%
2,877.89	overnight at 2.125%
<u>571,924.43</u>	

133/96 Correspondence.

(a) Letter of thanks from North & West Oxfordshire Carers in respect of the Council's contribution.

(b) Letter from the District Council thanking this Council for its response regarding the Draft Parish Charter and stating that from replies it had been decided that wherever possible 28 days would be allowed for consultation. The next Charter would be a joint production with the County Council. The Annual Parish Liaison Meeting will take place on 20th November, 1997 and any other meetings will be given maximum advance notification.

(c) Information that the OAYP Bus Project would be visiting Deddington in March and that two leaders, Mr Putt and Mrs Minnear had agreed to participate.

(d) Literature from Mobile Sport and Public Advertising Ltd giving detail of the provision of a free Mini-Bus. Resolved that the Clerk complete the application form requesting further details.

(e) Notification of the Annual Magic Roundabout Ride on behalf of the Anthony Nolan Trust on June 29th 1997.

134/96 Date of Next Meeting.

The next Meeting of the Council will be held at the Town Hall on Wednesday, 19th March, 1997 commencing at 7.30 pm.