

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday
19th March, 1997 at the Town Hall, Deddington commencing at
7.30 pm.

Present :- Councillors Todd (Chairman), Mrs Brewer, Clarke, Clinch, Colley, Cosgrove, Drake, Mrs Fisher, Flux, Miss Hill, Mrs Lee, Oddy, Mrs Stevens and Mrs Swash. District Councillor O'Sullivan and County Councillor Matthews in attendance.

135/96 There were no apologies for absence.

136/96 Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th February, 1997.

With the addition of the attendance of County Councillor Matthews and District Councillor O'Sullivan the minutes were moved as a true record by Cr Clarke, seconded by Cr Clinch and approved unanimously. They were subsequently signed by the Chairman.

137/96 Matters arising from the Minutes.

The Clerk stated that reference Min.121/96 he had requested that the Housing Association provide two seats for the Castle Grounds as their contribution to off-site works. The Association had subsequently confirmed their acceptance of this proposal.

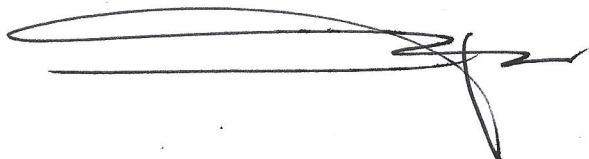
138/96 Any Other Business.

Cr Oddy raised the matter of Disabled Access to Council Meetings and it was agreed that this be considered at a future meeting.

139/96 Deddington Beeches Bowls Club.

The Chairman, as a member of the Club, vacated the Chair for this item, the Vice Chairman declared his interest and Cr Clinch assumed the Chair. With the permission of the Chairman Mr Boyt addressed the Council regarding the outstanding account for 'fairy ring' eradication. He thanked the Council for being allowed to speak and stated that the Club were maintaining the Green to a high standard and had expended £3,228 last season. The fungi was present prior to the takeover of the Green and was due to poor maintenance by the contractor. A report dated 14/1/95 commissioned by the Windmill Committee had included a statement that the fungi needed to be treated quickly, but the Club had not seen this report until September of that year. In June 1995 the Club contacted the Chairman of the Council regarding their worries and commissioned an independent report from the Sports Turf Research Institute in July. This report stated that the turf was thick with thatch and the main cause for concern was the need to quickly remove the fungal growth.

The Club took over the green on the clear understanding that the Parish Council would take responsibility for dealing with any major fault that could develop in the first year or so and



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a legal opinion has confirmed that since the work dealing with fungal disease related to a pre-existing latent defect it is unreasonable to construe it as maintenance for the purposes of Clause 9 of the agreement with the Windmill Committee. The Club therefore feel that they are justified in not authorising payment of the account for 50% of the cost of 9 litres of fairy ring destroyer - £466.92.

In response to a question Mr Boyt stated that a further spray may be required but he was not aware of any request from the Club for further chemicals.

Cr Flux responded on behalf of the Windmill Committee stating that the Green had cost the Parish Council £81,665 plus £11,050 for the pavilion and though an initial annual rental of £500 had been agreed, a rent of £400 had been initially charged and a deferment of one year on the repayment for the mower had been allowed - indicative of the support given to the Club. The problem of the fairy rings had been taken up with the contractor, who was adamant that the problem was endemic - many avenues had been explored and it had been decided that it would be uneconomic to take court proceedings against the contractor. The Committee stood by the agreement with 3 officers of the Club at a meeting on 6th February, 1996 with me and the Clerk to meet some of the costs of the fairy ring destroyer which was approved at the next meeting of the Committee attended by the Club Chairman. Subsequently this Council agreed to meet 50% of the cost of the fairy ring destroyer and the Committee feel that they have been very supportive of the Club since they took possession of the green.

Cr Clinch recommended that a small Sub-Committee be formed to resolve the matter which was seconded by Cr Clarke and agreed with 3 abstentions (members of the Bowls Club). Crs Mrs Stevens and Oddy were appointed to the Sub-Committee with Cr Clinch as Chairman.

140/96 Low Cost Housing Scheme.

The Clerk reported upon a letter from the Housing Association giving an update as follows:-

(a) outline planning permission had been given by Cherwell District Council;

(b) the Housing Corporation have confirmed grant approval for the scheme;

(c) agreement to provide two benches for the Castle Grounds as an off-site recreational contribution;

(d) as Mercantile & General still own the site they wish to see the proposed Sec.106 agreement between the Association and the District Council, which, due to lack of staff at District, the Association's solicitors are drafting.

(e) there is presently an agricultural tenancy on the site held until September this year which can only be ended by compensation being paid to the tenant, a cost which the Association cannot meet.

(f) Between now and September, the detailed design, agreement of the terms of the Sec. 106 and exchange of contracts on the



land will be progressed.

Members expressed disappointment at the delay and asked the Clerk to establish the amount of the compensation required to obtain earlier entry on the land.

141/96 Village Design Statements.

Members viewed the video made by the Countryside Commission on this matter and resolved to raise this subject at the Annual Parish Meeting in May.

142/96 Promotion of Tourism in the Parish.

Members made the following points:-

Cr Cosgrove - nowhere to park, a major facility was required for visitors to the village;

Cr Mrs Brewer - the ugly boards on the greens should be removed as it is easy for visitors to see the facilities available in the Market Place;

Cr Oddy - the car park review showed that there was always space to park;

Cr Miss Hill - commented upon the dangers at the Castle Grounds emanating from broken bottles on the pavilion base; (the Clerk agreed to contact the Football Club to ensure early removal of the concrete base)

Cr Flux - Tourism should be raised at the Annual Parish Meeting;

Cr Mrs Swash - parking is getting worse, Council should start to think about residents' parking;

Cr Mrs Fisher - views on Tourism depend upon where parishioners live;

Cr Mrs Brewer - long term parking is a necessity;

Cr Flux - Council should edge slowly forward.

Information as to the resources which the District Council were able to provide, with costs was reported and 3 letters from parishioners two supportive and one against. It was generally agreed that car parking was the main problem. It was resolved that (a) the Clerk should approach the School Governors to ascertain whether the school playground could be used as a car park at weekends and during school holidays.

and (b) the matter of Tourism be raised at the Annual Parish Meeting.

143/96 Recreation and Grants Committee.

Cr Mrs Lee reported as follows:-

(a) a request from the Council for the Protection of Rural England to renew the annual subscription of £17.50. Agreed nem con.

(b) Upon receipt of further information it was established that a grant for a Millenium Green was not available to this Parish.

(c) A summary of the quotations received for 1997/98 Grounds Maintenance was circulated to Members (copy filed with these Minutes) and the recommendations of the Committee, underlined on the summary, was seconded by Cr Flux and agreed unanimously.

Windmill - DesignGro of Eydon £5,193.00

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|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Castle Grounds - DesignGro of Eydon | £1,959.00 |
| Verges etc- J Boss of Deddington | £4,493.00 |

✓ Frontagers were requested to trim areas around obstacles eg telegraph poles and lamp columns and to notify the Clerk of any uncut areas.

(d) Further consideration was given to the request from Lane Fox to increase the annual rental of the Allotments for the next 3 years from £150 to £250. It was resolved unanimously to

✓ agree the increased rental for the next 3 years and also to enquire the sale price of the land.

144/96 Environmental Committee.

Cr Mrs Stevens reported-

(a) The Brownies had agreed once again to take part in the National Spring Clean Week from 18th to 27th April, 1997 and Tabards and Sacks have been ordered.

✓ (b) It was agreed to place an order for a replacement "Stretton" seat for the Clifton Road as included in the budget.

✓ (c) The Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act, 1996 came into operation on 1st December, 1996 and the District Council are hoping to designate the first areas on or around 1st April, 1997 and have asked Parishes to put forward areas which they wish to include. It was recommended and seconded by Cr Flux that carriageways with a speed limit of 30 miles per hour or less and adjoining footpaths and verges within the Parish of Deddington (including Clifton and Hempton) plus the following other areas:-

2 Greens in the Market Place,

Goose Green

Green adjoining Johnson's Yard, Castle Street,

Greens at the sides of the entrance to

Windmill Street from Hempton Road,

Mill Close Public Open Space,

Tithe Lane, Clifton Public Open Space,

The Windmill Sports Field, Play Areas and adjacent

amenity areas with the exception of the southerly dog walk,

The Castle Grounds, Castle Street

be areas to designate where the Act should apply. The provision of additional dog bins at Clifton and Hempton to be investigated. Agreed nem con.

145/96 Highways Committee.

Cr Mrs Brewer reported as follows:-

(a) The County Council had, for Road Safety reasons, turned down a request for a roundabout on the Hempton Road at its junction with the access road to the new estate.

(b) Further investigations had been made regarding the light-up 30mph signs. Warwickshire County Council had supplied papers on the system which were however 10 years old. The matter is being followed up with the makers.

(c) The County Director of Environmental Services and Mr Carritt had agreed to walk the High Street/New Street pavements

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with members of the Committee at 6.00pm on 15th April, 1997 in order that they may be fully briefed on this Council's misgivings about the scheme.

(d) Southern Electric had replied regarding the undergrounding of cables in conservation areas to the effect that subject to stringent conditions the company are prepared to make a contribution of 50% of the costs. The remaining cost of £40,000 per kilometre would need to be found locally.

(e) Footpath repairs outside Tuckers and in Church Street had been requested.

✓ 146/96 Planning and Property Committee.

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

Applications.

97/302F&303LB - The Retreat, Castle Square - New dormer and velux windows- No observations.

97/309CAC - Coach House, Horsefair - Conversion of ground floor to garaging - No observations.

97/336F - Boulderdyke Farm, Clifton - Anglers Car Park - Wish to seek deferment in order that the origination of the pond may be clarified. Letter from resident of Walnut Close supporting the application.

97/429F - North End Barn, College Court, Hempton - Single storey rear extension - No observations.

97/449F&448LB - Paper Mill Cottages - New double stone garage and alterations - No observations.

97/463REM - College Farm, Hempton - Three 2 storey dwellings - Query business use and division of properties B & C.

Each of the above recommendations was endorsed.

Approvals.

96/1821F - 5, St Thomas Street - 2 storey rear extension.

96/20177f - College Fam, Hempton - Agricultural Building.

96/2055F - Congregational Chapel, Hempton - Conversion to single dwelling.

97/1781b & 180ADV - Red Lion Cottage, Market Place - Conversion to Beauty Salon.

Oxfordshire Structure Plan.

A preliminary meeting about the examination in public will be held on Monday, 28th April, 1997 at County Hall, Oxford. The Public Examination will start on Tuesday, 8th July, 1997.

✓ A letter had been received complaining about the erection on their property by BT of a 10 metre pole. This has been confirmed as permitted development, but its location could have been in a less intrusive position. Resolved that the Clerk write to BT requesting the pole's resiting at the other side of their property.

147/96 Windmill Committee.

Cr Flux stated that there had not been a meeting of his



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Committee but again publicised the Open Day on 26th May and the AGM on 23rd April, 1997.

148/96 Accounts for Payment.

Accounts totalling £1,760.01 in accordance with a schedule circulated at the meeting, (a copy of which is filed in the Minute Book) were approved for payment.

149/96 Investment of the Council's Funds.

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

£
450,000.00 Bradford & Bingley BS Bonus 120 A/c at 6.3%
100,000.00 Treasury Deposit fixed to 27th March, 1997 at 5.4375%
19,046.54 at 14 days notice at 3.875%
3,309.57 overnight at 2.125%
572,356.11

150/96 Correspondence.

(a) A letter from the District Council regarding arrangements for grant towards Millennium activities was circulated to each Member for further discussion at a later meeting.

(b) Letter of thanks from the Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association for the subscription.

✓ (c) Letter from Mrs G Brown of 7, The Beeches seeking permission to site a stall to sell flowers each weekend and at Bank Holidays in the Market Place. Resolved that a space be reserved alongside the Town Hall. Resolved that permission be given for a trial period of 3 months at a fee of £10.00 per day.

(d) Notification of meetings of the Thames Valley Police Consultative Groups. The nearest meeting to Deddington will be held on 1st July in the Long Room at The Mill, Banbury.

(e) Details from the County Council of the Pre-School Voucher System.

(f) Letter from Mr Maurice Johnson, the retiring Chief Fire Officer thanking the Council for its generous gifts recently presented to him.

151/96 Date of Next Meeting.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday, 16th April, 1997 at the Town Hall commencing at 7.30 pm.

