

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held at the Town Hall, Deddington, on Wednesday 21st March 2007 at 7.45pm

Present: Cllrs Squires (Chair), Alton, Anderson, Collins, Flux, Ince, Privett, Rollason, Rudge, Spencer, Todd, Watts, Westbury and Wood. CC Jelf and DC O’Sullivan.

In Attendance: Lorraine Watling (Clerk)

31/07	<p>Apologies Apologies were received from Cllr Westbury.</p>
32/07	<p>Minutes of the last meeting The following amendments were made to the minutes of 21st February 2007: 23/07 – Cllr Spencer declared an interest in planning application 06/0249/F and <u>not</u> 06/02446/F & 06/02447/LB 25/07 – Replace the reference to Deddington in line 13 with Adderbury.</p>
33/07	<p>Declaration of Interests Cllr Todd declared an interest in 37/07 (5) – Town Hall electricity usage. Cllr Collins declared an interest in 40/07 – Planning application 07/00370/F.</p>
34/07	<p>Matters Arising not referred to later on the Agenda The Chairman reported that a weekend steward has been employed. Her name is Susan Fuller and she is already doing a good job.</p>
35/07	<p>10 Minute Open Forum The 10 minute open forum was not utilised by the general public.</p>
36/07	<p>Village Plan The draft village plan was reviewed resulting in the following recommendations: 1. In the summary the reasons for the plan need clarifying. 2. It needs clarifying that these are recommendations and not PC policy. 3. A copy of the questionnaire needs adding as an appendix for reference. 4. The plan needs amending to recommend that the existing clubs for young people need to be maintained. 5. Cllr Watts reported the current schools crossing supervisor is retiring. The PC will write and thank her for her work. OCC will no longer fund a road crossing supervisor - this is putting pressure on the school to find the funding for her replacement. If OCC will not fund the replacement the installation of a Zebra crossing should be considered. 6. Cllr Collins suggested that a Parish wide fete be held – maybe using the school fete as the basis to avoid creating competing events. This has been done in the past for the Jubilee, Millennium etc.</p>
37/07	<p>Finance and General Purposes Working Group</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parish Plan: The WG welcomed the support in the Parish Plan for the existing policy of maintaining reserves and using income to fund Council’s activities. 2. Cash Flow to the end of the year: this was presented to the meeting. 3. Forecast to the end of the year: This is generally in line with the forecast prepared for the precept decision.

	<p>4. The Alliance & Leicester Account: This has now been closed.</p> <p>5. Town Hall: A letter has been received from Johnson and Gaunt solicitors to the Charity Estates, to say that the PC does not have an automatic right to a new lease at the end of the current lease. This appears to be more appropriate for a continuing business enterprise, and is not necessary on this case. Town Hall electricity readings are now being taken on a regular basis. The Art Club uses a lot of electricity when it has a full meeting and has said that it would accept an increase in charge to reflect this. This will be agreed with them. The readings for the Farmers Markets are not conclusive therefore a further 3 months readings will be taken.</p> <p>6. Comparison of Fees The Clerk produced a schedule but comparison is difficult as there are numerous different arrangements and owners of facilities. Few other Parish Councils run allotment sites. A simple P&L will be prepared to ensure that the PC is covering its' expenses. Cemetery arrangements vary widely. Deddington's charge for an adult appears slightly expensive, but there is no charge for children under 12, whereas some other Parishes charge for children.</p>
38/07	<p>Environment & Recreation Cllr Watts reported as follows:</p> <p>(a) Youth Projects/Teen Scene Area: Quotations have now been received from all companies that surveyed site. Alternative tarmac providers for the ground works are being investigated. A provisional grant bid through Landfill Tax Credit Scheme is being investigated by Cllr Squires. The WG would like the older children's play area at the Windmill Centre to be reopened by Easter. Cllr Flux suggested that the supervised opening of the All Weather Courts of an evening might be considered as this would present youngsters with an additional facility. Cllr Ince supported this idea. The WG will have an informal chat with youngsters out late on Saturday nights in an attempt to curb the current vandalism.</p> <p>(b) Grass Cutting: The Clerk obtained quotes for grass cutting which were analysed. Recommendations were made to the WG which have been accepted. Thomas Fox Landscaping and Design Gro will be awarded the 2007 & 2008 contracts. The Clerk will attempt to determine a 3 year comparison of the number of cuts.</p> <p>(c) Parish Clean-up: The dates for the Parish clean-up have been expanded to a week. It will now run from Monday 4th June until Saturday 9th June – this will enable more people to take part. The school will be invited to run a poster competition to advertise the 'litter-pick' and also to produce a 'Keep Your Village Tidy' poster. The PC agreed that two £10 book tokens could be purchased as prizes. CDC will be asked to deliver the plastic bags etc to the Town Hall the week before. The E&R WG will manage the distribution of these. CDC will be asked to collect the resulting rubbish on 11th June.</p> <p>(d) Other Business: Cllr Westbury is looking at the feasibility of installing a fitness track around the edge of the Windmill Centre. The Farmers Market kindly offered to donate the hanging baskets this year. The PC gratefully accepted this offer and Cllr Todd agreed to convey</p>

	its thanks to the Farmers Market Group.
39/07	<p>Report from the Highways Group Cllr Privett reported the following:</p> <p>1) General Correspondence Received:</p> <p>a) Goose Green: A Parishioner has complained about parking damage and asked that the installation of posts be considered. They also mentioned the damage to the verge outside Church by delivery lorries. The HWG will monitor the situation and write to the Co-op for their comments and suggestions for ways of alleviating this.</p> <p>b) Dangerous Pavement: Cracked paving outside the Red Lion reported to OCC who inspected it and concluded that it is not dangerous at present but will be added to the 'Jobbing List'.</p> <p>c) Parking St Anne's: A further response has been received intimating that the damage to the verge was being caused by other service vehicles. Cllr Collins will discuss this issue with the residents who first initiated the complaint for their views and observations.</p> <p>d) Lime Cottage, New Street: OCC have received a request to install grassell paving blocks in the verge and asked for the PC's opinion. A similar request from a previous resident of the same property was declined and met with opposition from neighbouring properties. The Clerk will contact OCC and confirm that the PC's objections still stand.</p> <p>2) Windmill Centre:</p> <p>a) Repairs Access Road and Parking Area – Details of Alternative contractor have been forward to Richard Broadbent. He is on holiday at present so the HWG will liaise with the contractor and obtain a quote on the Windmill Centres behalf.</p> <p>b) Traffic Calming – as per Parking Area repairs.</p> <p>c) The companies that submitted the previous quotes will be asked to confirm that their quotations are still valid.</p> <p>3) Manor Barn, Clifton: The residents of this property have experienced considerable foul water flooding onto their Orchard and Paddock. The source of this is the Clifton Sewerage Works and the cause appears to be poor drainage due to blocked culverts. Cllr Collins surveyed the scene and took photographs and mapped out the affected area and problem points. County Councillor Jelf said that he would take this matter up with Thames Water on behalf of the resident and the PC.</p> <p>4) Bus Stop: Brochures and prices have been requested from 3 further suppliers for consideration. Recommendations will be made and costings presented to the PC. OCC is currently working on the bus stop standing.</p> <p>5) Speeding: HWG received data from OCC for the A4260 northbound monitoring site at the southern end of the village and the second Hempton site, 70 metres west of the Duns Tew road. Recordings are presently being finalised for the Hempton Road, Deddington. Once received HWG will liaise with OCC and report to Council.</p>

	<p>6) Road Safety and Crossings: Cllr Privett to discuss further with OCC re implications of VAS installation</p>
40/07	<p>Planning Working Group:</p> <p>New applications:</p> <p>07/00249/F- Castle Dene, Castle Street, Deddington- Revised Plan: Conversion of existing barn to games room. PC did not object to original application. Revised application changes window types to velux- no objection.</p> <p>07/00326/LB- Top Thatch, Hempton: Replacement windows to match existing with new sills. Repairs to stonework. No objection to remedial works.</p> <p>07/00370/F- 4 Walnut Close Clifton: Single storey rear extension. No objection.</p> <p>07/00438/F- Home Farm Cottage, Main St., Clifton: Two storey rear extension - amendment to permission 05/01696/F. Original permission had larger footprint and included garaging. Revised application includes only on site parking and re-aligns the rear extension. The parking area is not level and appears not to allow turning on site to allow vehicles to enter and leave in forward direction. No objection but comment re parking issue.</p> <p>07/00444/F- Emohhruo, St Thomas St., Deddington: Two and single storey rear extension. Replaces existing kitchen and an old conservatory with two storey extension providing bedroom and bathroom on first floor and kitchen/dining area on ground floor with a single storey family room. Uses traditional materials within conservation area. No objection but draw attention to extra bedroom and absence of off street parking.</p> <p>Permissions Granted:</p> <p>06/002461/F & 06/02462/LB - The Homestead, The Lane, Hempton. 07/00014/F - 45 Mill Close, Deddington. 07/00127/LB - Horsefair Cottage, Horse Fair, Deddington.</p> <p>Other Matters</p> <p>OCC- Various tree works in Parish: Felling, crowning, cutting back and other measures are planned for trees adjacent to highways by OCC, following a comprehensive survey. Ten trees - nine chestnuts and a sorbus are to be felled. Eight of the chestnuts are on the Hempton Road and the other on the Market Place green. The replanting on the Hempton Road will not go ahead this year as the area is being monitored for disease but the tree in the Market Place will be replaced ASAP due to its amenity location. It is good that OCC has carried out this comprehensive survey and intend to replace as many trees as appropriate. Walter Meagher has seen the report and agrees with the remedial work, especially in relation to the many diseased chestnuts which are of great concern.</p> <p>Clifton House, Main St., Clifton- 05/00266/F: The site of this new house stands several feet above the highway. A high stone retaining wall has been built at the edge of the highway but has collapsed twice in recent weeks. Concerns about these collapses onto the footway and road have been</p>

	<p>expressed by residents. Remedial works are underway but CDC will be asked to inspect the site.</p> <p>Regional Housing Strategy Review 2007: Consultation document received 7th March 2007.</p> <p>Minerals and Waste Sites Development Plan Documents: Consultation documents received from Oxford and Northants County Councils on 7th and 14th March respectively. None of the sites mentioned appear to impact directly on the Parish.</p> <p>Local Development Framework- Cherwell District Council: Consultation meetings planned for 15th May & 3rd July at Cherwell District Council Chamber from 7.00pm.</p> <p>Parking problems at St. Anne's Clifton: Letter received suggesting that verge damage caused by recycling wagon and Royal Mail van in their efforts not to block road.</p>
41/07	<p>Special Projects Report</p> <p>(a) Cemetery: The Steward will set up a composting area in the far left hand corner of the cemetery as the recycling bin cannot cope with the volume of flowers.</p> <p>(b) Vandalism: The recent levels of vandalism have improved slightly although there is still glass being found in Gaverston Gardens. PC Morris has spoken to the Co-Op and a resident has approached the Chief Police Officer directly about this issue. The Clerk will write to senior staff within the Co-op about this issue when details of the 'sticker scheme are received'.</p> <p>(c) Community Support Officers: Steeple Aston and Adderbury Parish Councils have asked whether Deddington would support a shared Community Support Officer. The Clerk will set up a meeting between the Parishes to discuss this matter further.</p> <p>(d) Liaison with the Police: PC Gerry Doyle is the new rural PC for Deddington.</p> <p>(e) Rubbish Bins: CDC is now emptying their bins once a week.</p> <p>(f) Dog Bins: All of the new dog bins are now in place.</p> <p>(g) Hanging Basket Brackets: New brackets are being installed as the old ones had corroded. They will be placed a little higher to deter vandalism and keep the flowers out of the Dog Waste Bin. The Clerk will write to DCE to notify them of this action. The new watering system is being installed.</p> <p>(h) Maintenance work: There are a lot of jobs that need doing around the Parish. Although some Cllrs have expressed willingness to help the Steward and the Clerk there are some jobs that require professional help e.g. tree clearance of the fallen trees down the path that runs between the cemetery and the Windmill Centre. The PC agreed that two contractors could be employed for 1 day (initially) at a total cost of £280 to help with this work.</p> <p>(i) Notice Boards: Cllr Ince would like to review all of the Village</p>

	<p>Notice Boards upon his return from holiday and arrange for the required repairs. The supplier will be contacted to determine the best schedule for undertaking such repairs.</p>																								
42/07	<p>Play Areas: The bark in the play area for older children at the Windmill site will be replaced so that it can be opened up in time for Easter.</p>																								
43/07	<p>Invoices for Payment A schedule of invoices totalling £4,279.85 was tabled, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. These were approved for payment.</p>																								
44/07	<p>Investment of Council Funds At the close of business on 21st March 2007 the balances were as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>ACCOUNT NUMBER</th> <th>BALANCE</th> <th>INTEREST</th> <th>NOTICE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Barclays Current Acct</td> <td>10,284.53</td> <td>.1%</td> <td>Instant</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Barclays Imprest Acct</td> <td>796.63</td> <td>.1%</td> <td>Instant</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W. Bromwich Building Soc.</td> <td>335,709.76</td> <td>5.10%</td> <td>Overnight</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Birmingham Midshires</td> <td>200,000.00</td> <td>5.13%</td> <td>Fixed Bond</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>546,790.92</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ACCOUNT NUMBER	BALANCE	INTEREST	NOTICE	Barclays Current Acct	10,284.53	.1%	Instant	Barclays Imprest Acct	796.63	.1%	Instant	W. Bromwich Building Soc.	335,709.76	5.10%	Overnight	Birmingham Midshires	200,000.00	5.13%	Fixed Bond	TOTAL	546,790.92		
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45/07	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Path to the War Memorial – Suggestion for improving this has been received from a parishioner but the Clerk will contact Rev White about this. 2) Award – Cllr Flux will be receiving an award from the High Sheriff of Oxfordshire for his work within the community. The PC congratulated him upon this recognition. 3) Crumbling wall in Market Square – Cllr Privett has spoken to the resident concerned who will arrange for its repair. 4) Pigeon Strips – Cllr Privett has looked into bird repellent strips but nothing will be done until October/November as the birds are currently nesting. Cllr Ince asked that a formal vote be taken about this issue before any action is taken. 5) Annual Parish Meeting – Cllr Squires will produce an A4 flyer about the Annual Parish Meeting to advertise the event. 6) Bench – The PC has been offered a bench for the Market Square from a resident. This kind offer will be accepted. 7) Cllr Collins asked that when the posts of Chairman and Vice Chairman come up for re-election in May, potential candidates make a presentation followed by a Q&A session before the vote is taken. 8) Cllr Todd asked that the Minutes be received earlier in future. The Clerk will investigate how much it would cost to employ a Minute Secretary through Centre point. 																								
46/07	<p><u>Next Meeting</u> The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 18th April 2007 at 7.45pm in The Town Hall.</p>																								