

## DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held at the Holly Tree Club on Wednesday 19 September 2002 commencing at 7.30pm

**Present:** Councillors Flux (Chairman), Mrs Harvey (Vice-Chairman) Mrs Cox, Todd, Mrs Swash, Helen Spencer, Alton, Ellis, Haslam, Squires, Wood, Westley, Graham Pitts (Clerk), Sue Gibbs (Minute Secretary).

289/02 **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Cox and Cllr O'Sullivan

290/02 **Chairmans Allowances**

- Tertiary Education Grants were awarded to 7 students from the parish: Jennifer Anderson, Emma Chapman, Sophie Colly, Elaine Hailey, David Waterman, Sally Wilson, and Claire Plant.

291/02 **Planning**

Mr Ian Grace, Senior Planning Officer, CDC gave a presentation on planning matters. The Chairman thanked Mr Grace on behalf of the PC, for taking the time to address and meeting and providing such an enlightening presentation.

292/02 **Minutes of Last Meeting**

**Paragraph 208/02:** Cllr Harvey requested that paragraph 280/02 of the minutes of the meeting held on 21 August 2002 be amended to read:

"Letters of concern had been received from Mr & Mrs Holt and Mr Catania regarding the proposed erection of 1 dwelling on land adjacent to Sedgell and adjoining Fourwinds, Clifton"

**Paragraph 283/02** Cllr Haslam is not a member of the Environment Working Group; Cllr Wood is not a member of the Finance Working Group, but is a member of the Highways and Planning Groups.

Paragraph 285/02: The Interest rate for the West Bromwich Building Society should be 4.05%.

Subject to these changes, the Minutes were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. There were no matters arising.

293/02 **10 Minute Open Forum**

There were no members of the public wishing to speak.

294/02 **Finance and General Purposes Working Group**

Cllr Todd reported as follows:

- a) Lester Land Valuation. The Clerk confirmed he had spoken to Lester Land who had been confident that the valuation had been undertaken in accordance with the prescribed formula and that the suggested sum was correct. He had contacted Ankers who would be able to conduct a second valuation, but the fee for this would

be £500. **It was agreed that no additional funds should be spent on obtaining a further funds. It was agreed that the valuation be accepted and the buildings insured accordingly and that the information regarding the Windmill Centre be passed on to the Windmill Management Committee.**

- b) **Auditing Arrangements.** An appointment was being made with the candidate.
- c) **Notice boards.** The Clerk reported that the Health Centre and the highways and planning authorities had confirmed that they were happy with the new location. A reply was still awaited from the School and the landowner at Hempton.
- d) **Chairman's Allowances** Subject to no other requestes from students being received, **Cllr Todd proposed a grant of £700. This was seconded by Cllr Alton and approved unanimously.**
- e) **Correspondence** The West Bromwich Building Society had reduced the interest rate paid on the PC Account by 0.3% to 3.75% with effect from 2 September 2002. Barclays Bank was changing its mandate arrangements and as a result the PC might need to change its Financial Regulations. The Clerk confirmed that no action was required until the next change of mandate.
- f) **CPRE. Cllr Todd proposed that the PC's annual subscription of £25 be renewed. This was seconded by Cllr Haslam and agreed.**
- g) **OFPA.** Cllr Todd proposed that the PC's subscription to the Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association of £35 be renewed. **This was agreed.**
- h) Cllr Todd reported that there had been no progress on any of the other matters in hand.
- i) **Application for Grant & Loan by Deddington Market Management Group.**  
Cllr Todd declared an interest and left the meeting. Cllr Rollason reported that the DMMG had requested a grant of £750, together with a loan of £750 repayable over a 2 year minimum period. The F&GP Working Group recognized that whilst the market made a valuable contribution to the village, it was also aware that several stall holders were commercial concerns, who should not be indirectly subsidized by the PC, as this would unfairly disadvantage shops within the village. The F&GP Working Group therefore proposed that the Parish Council offer the DDMG a 5 year interest free loan of £1500, repayment of which would be in 60 monthly instalments of £25, with the first repayment due six months after the date of the award. It was confirmed that, should the market fold, under the DMMG's constitution, trustees would be appointed to manage the winding up of the organisation and that they would be charged to meet any outstanding debts. The money was required to build a shed, and to buy some more trolleys, stalls etc. It was agreed that the Parish Council wished to support the Market, whilst recognising that it had both a negative and positive impact on the village. **The proposal was seconded by Cllr Ellis. There were 9 votes in favour and the proposal was agreed.** Cllr Wood abstained from the vote because of family involvement in the DMMG. Cllr Todd then rejoined the meeting.

295/02

### **Planning and Property Working Group**

Cllr Harvey reported as follows:

- a) **02/01 888/TCA** - Mrs I Rivers, Ilbury House, New St, Deddington. Lightly reduce, reshape and lift canopy of Silver Birch. No objection
- b) **02/01889/F and 02/01890/LB.** Mr and Mrs O'Brien, 1 Hopcraft Lane, Deddington.

Single storey extension and internal alterations. **No objection subject to entrance gates remaining in situ.**

- c) **02/01801/OUT** - Mr Martin Ellis, The Red Lion Inn, Market Place, Deddington. The erection of 3 two storey domestic dwellings (OUTLINE). Cllr Ellis left the meeting. It was noted that although an application had previously been made for a change of use for the Red Lion, this application provided for it to continue as a licensed premises. There was some uncertainty therefore as to the applicant's intentions with regard to its future. Concern was expressed that vehicular access to the proposed dwellings adjacent to the entrance to the Red Lion could be extremely dangerous, and that there would no longer be sufficient storage space for Red Lion. It was felt that this application would lead to an over-development of the site. **It was therefore agreed that the application should be recommended for refused on the grounds that the site was not suitable for development in the manner proposed.**
- d) A list of approvals was read out. /

## 296/02 Environment and Recreation Working Group

Cllr Swash reported as follows:

- a) **Main Meeting. A rotating order for Working Group reports was agreed.**
- b) **Wimborne Close.** A Litter bin had now been installed but CDC had still not carried out the other improvements. The Clerk confirmed that he had contacted Carolyn Gratty immediately after the last meeting, but would contact her again.
- c) **Market Place - Chestnut Trees.** The CDC tree inspector had reported that the tree nearest Dexters was suffering from "Bleeding Canker"; the tree was therefore dying and nothing could be done about this. Richard Lester had been instructed to undertake a soil test on the tree opposite the Police Station to help with a diagnosis. **This was agreed, providing the cost was reasonable.**
- d) **Castle Grounds.** The goal posts had now been replaced, although unfortunately the protruding posts had damaged Design-Gro's mower. There was still concern at the encroachment of nettles into this area and the extent to which it was Design-Gro's responsibility to clear these. The Chairman reported that he had held a meeting with the owner of Design-Gro and he felt that the contract was being fulfilled. Cllr Rollason was concerned that according to the terms of the original tender document DesignGro was not fulfilling its obligations; it was suggested however that when the contract had been drawn up and signed, the terms had been changed in order to keep costs lower. Following a recommendation from the F&GP Working Group a mechanism had been set up to ensure that DesignGro is fulfilling its obligations in terms of frequency of cuts. However, as far as encroachment was concerned and the level of the cut, **it was agreed that it was necessary to look at the original signed contract. It was agreed that the Chairman and Cllr Rollason would liaise to resolve this matter.**
- e) Cllr Swash reported concerns about the fir trees planted to protect some oak trees in the old rifle range area. **It was agreed that CDC's advice be obtained as to whether these should be removed. It was agreed that the Environment and Recreation Working Group should consider whether in the future this should be maintained as a wildlife area with just a pathway cut through it.**
- f) **BMX Track** The Forestry Commission had agreed in principle to the removal of trees for this, but needed more information as to exactly where it was | Insurance was being investigated.

- g) **Allotments.** Cllr Squires advised that allotments should only be cleared as required. **It was agreed that Cllr Squires should liaise with the Clerk and a Mr Paul Hope regarding rabbit control. It was agreed that Deddington News be asked to advertise the availability of Allotments, stating that the PC would plough them first.**
- h) **Stonepits.** The ownership of Stonepits had still not been resolved. The Environment and Recreation Working Group was concerned to ensure that there really was sufficient interest in converting this area to allotments and wanted a list of 10 allotment takers before proceeding further. **It was agreed that they should liaise directly with the people from Hempton.**
- i) **Play Areas at Windmill Centre.** The toddler play area needed cleaning and the older children's needed staining. This was to be carried out by the Stewards.
- j) **Letters.** A further letter had been received from Andrea Draper regarding street lighting outside her house. The Clerk confirmed that he had spoken to the relevant official and had been due to have a meeting on Monday; the official however had failed to turn up and he had been chasing since. **It was agreed that the Clerk would respond to Mrs Draper and inform her what had taken place.**
- k) **Scouts.** A request had been received from the Scouts requesting an area for planting flowers. **After some discussion it was agreed that as an area near the Windmill Centre was required, this should be passed on to the Windmill Management Committee.**
- l) **Dog Fouling.** This continued to be a major problem. **It was agreed that an advertisement should be placed in the Deddington News and that a letter be sent to the Dog Warden expressing concern and detailing where the main problems were.**
- m) **Youth Club.** Cllr Rollason reported that Youth Club would be closing at Christmas unless a new leader could be found. Cllr Swash reported that the Windmill Management Group was already working to find a replacement. It was not felt possible for the Parish Council to do anything at this stage.
- n) **All Weather Pitch Grant.** The Clerk confirmed that there was no progress on this grant application.

**Highways Working Group**

Cllr Haslam reported as follows:

- a. The Clerk confirmed that a letter had been sent confirming the PC's position on the new 30 mph sign location.
- b. No report had yet been received from the police on traffic calming.
- c. The Clerk confirmed that no response had yet been received from OCC on the management.
- d. Following the letter to Mr Carritt, a reply had been received from Mr Wilson. The Clerk was requested to send a letter to Mr Wilson thanking him for the confirmation of funds and stating that the PC had now confirmed the location of 30mph and were happy to see new signs being erected as soon as possible with a space for the coat of arms to be added later. There was concern as to how the coat of arms would be added to the sign, if it were not incorporated into it. **It was agreed that the Clerk should chase up what was delaying the obtaining of the coat of arms.** The Working Group also wanted the letter to request a date for the traffic calming to commence in the parish. The Chairman pointed out that this was part of a wider public consultation and it would be necessary to ascertain what stage this process was at.
- e. **Temporary Promotional Signs.** Concerns had been raised over the erection of temporary signs on traffic lights and poles in the parish. The Working Group requested the PC to re-confirm their position regarding the use and location of temporary promotional signs via the minutes in Deddington News and for the Clerk to write a letter to the Windmill Management Committee expressing concern.
- f. **Correspondence.** Request from Barford St Michael - it was recommended no action be taken.
- g. **Letter from Mrs Rudge** - Cllr Woods was to contact Mrs Rudge on this issue,
- h. **OCC Better Ways Letter.** A copy of this had been sent to the school and the Clerk was requested to send a letter to Rachel Glover at OCC stating that the Governors were reviewing this matter and that Parish Council anticipated that a response would be sent within 90 days,
- i. **Babtic Group.** Cllr Westley was reviewing the opportunities for a Taxi bus service in the parish and this would be reported next month.
- j. **Key Focal Points.** The Working Group had agreed that their focus over the next 12 months would be on
  - i) **Clifton Footpath**, plus position of 30 mph, a safe road crossing location and traffic calming as cars traveled down the road hill from Deddington. All this having been agreed, the Working Group wished to ensure it was implemented as soon as possible
  - ii) **Hempton Right of Way.** This was to be reviewed and a report would be presented at the next meeting.
  - iii) **Deddington traffic flow.** This was to be reviewed and an update would be presented at the next meeting after all previous documents had been reviewed and contact made with P Wilson of OCC.
  - iv) It was agreed that the issue of parking would not be a priority over the next 12 months as there were more pressing issues.

The Chairman reminded the Working Groups that for the avoidance of

confusion, all correspondence relating to Highways or other matters should go through the Clerk.

297/02

**Invoices for Payment**

Invoices totaling £4689.06 in accordance with a schedule circulated at the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes, were approved for payment. Cllr Rollason proposed that payment to DesignGro be delayed until a meeting could be held and a satisfactory agreement reached. Concern was expressed that if the PC were only receiving an income of £60 from the Allotments it were possible that not all allotment holders were paying their rent. **It was agreed that the Clerk should check this.**

298/02

**Investment of Councils Funds**

At the close of business on 21 August 2002 the balances were as follows:

**BANK BALANCES AS AT 18/9/02**

<b>ACCOUNT NUMBER</b>	<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>INTEREST</b>	<b>NOTICE</b>
60858471	4672.18	1%	14 Days
60708569	21110.42	.3%	Overnight
70012564	NIL		Overnight
70708526	2470.34	.1%	Imprest
70708542	283.00	.1%	Current
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>28535.94</u>		
Bradford & Bingley	1000.00	3.4%	120 Days
W. Bromwich Building	518819.43	3.75%	Overnight
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>548355.37</u>		

299/02

**Correspondence**

A list of correspondence was circulated at the meeting.

- a. **English Heritage** The Chairman confirmed that this related to the opening times for Deddington Castle
  - b. **Chiltern in Bloom** An invitation had been received to the award ceremony in Thatcham at 2.00pm on 9 October. It was agreed that the Stewards should attend and that Cllr Swash would go with them.
- Annual Parish Liaison Meeting.** The Chairman reported that an invitation to the Annual Parish Liaison Meeting to be held on 7 November 2002 had been received. There were three spaces and Cllrs were asked to let the Clerk know if they wished to attend.

300/02

**Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 16 October at the Town Hall commencing at 7.30pm