

## DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at 7:30pm at the Hempton Lounge, Windmill Centre, Deddington on Wednesday 16 April 2025.

**Present:** Cllrs H Oldfield (Chair), N ap Simon, A Collins, M Cox, N Mylne, J Norton, S O'Neill, M Robinson, N Smith, M Swadling, T Timms and J Watts **Also, present:** County Cllr A Fatemian, Cherwell District Cllr D Rogers, 2 members of the public, and a Deddington News Representative.

56/25	<b>Apologies:</b> None.
57/25	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> <b>General Interest:</b> Cllrs M Cox and S O'Neill 64/25 Finance and General Purposes item q) Satin Lane allotments.
58/25	<b>Minutes:</b> Cllr N Smith proposed, Cllr M Swadling seconded the motion and the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> (unanimous by those in attendance) that the minutes of the meeting held on the 19 March 2025 were a true record of the meeting.
59/25	<b>Matters arising from the minutes and not referred to later on the agenda:</b> None.
60/25	<b>10 Minute Open Forum:</b> None.
61/25	<b>County Cllr A Fatemian update:</b> Written report received.
62/25	<b>District Cllr D Rogers update:</b> Written report received.
63/25	<p><b>Environment and Recreation Working Group.</b></p> <p>a) <b>Anti- social behaviour at the play areas and reporting to the police.</b> Two instances of anti-social behaviour by older teenagers at the Windmill Centre. Need to report all incidents to Thames Valley Police in order for them to build a picture. CCTV cameras had been offline since 28 February and did not record the incidents. This has been followed up with Wired4Tech. PCSOs will resume early evening sweeps of the Windmill. Parents of known individuals will be contacted, and there will be a post on social media stating that the playgrounds are covered by CCTV, and that damage will not be tolerated and will be reported to the police.</p> <p>b) <b>Windmill Mini Tennis – Landscaping.</b> Intention to keep the area as informal as possible – low growing shrubs and ground cover on the northern strip against the fence, strim and weed-kill. One bench to be provided at the rear of the tennis pavilion. Tennis Club to be encouraged to assist with watering and keeping the area free from litter. Just under £2,000 left in the budget for finishing off. No reply received regarding outside coaching. Touch tennis still to be researched. Advice received from Steve Parkinson/OALC that 'charges from a local council for playing sports can be treated as non-business' meaning no VAT need be charged on hire of sports facilities. Suggestion to have an official opening event.</p> <p>c) <b>Bikes at Windmill Copse.</b> Discussion regarding the key risks of children using bikes in the woodland area - injuries to children using the bikes, and injuries to other users of the space. Cllr M Robinson proposed, Cllr H Oldfield seconded the motion and the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> (11 for, 1 abstention) to: Ban bikes from the three areas within Windmill Park that have play equipment; erect signage stating that the woodland area is a shared space and calling for care and respect for all users, and also offering an avenue for any complaints or observations to be reported; Formalise periodic monitoring by members of the WMC/DPC team; Remove any ramps; Ask DPC insurers for an opinion on the agreed option – to be supplied with a risk assessment.</p> <p>d) <b>No Mow May and June.</b> Clerk to write to Thomas Fox to ensure they understand what is required, and that the work will be monitored. No hand cutting of No Mow May and June growth.</p> <p>e) <b>Gaveston Garden brambles.</b> Brambles have built up again on the western side of Gaveston Green. Potential fire hazard during dry weather. Clerk to try and get BTS back to tackle the issue as soon as possible.</p> <p>f) <b>Update on the Lookout.</b> Successful meeting held with builder – confirmation that it is possible to turn it into a teenage hangout area. Contractors to be sourced - unsure on costs at this time. Cllr J Watts flagged the risk of a hangout area attracting anti-social behaviour. Overall, Councillors were in favour of proceeding with the project.</p> <p>g) <b>Aerial skate.</b> Thanks extended to Cllr T Timms who has got the aerial skate working again.</p>
64/25	<p><b>Finance and General Purposes.</b></p> <p>a) <b>To sign off Internal Control Checklist – March 2025.</b> Cllr H Oldfield to action.</p> <p>b) <b>Repair of woodwork and repainting of outside of Windmill Centre.</b> 3 quotes received. Preferred painter has a long waiting list – if commissioned in next two weeks works can be started by the end of the summer. DPC keen to apply for a grant to potentially cover the cost of the works – however, this will lead to a project delay as no contract can be signed until a decision on the grant is made, which won't be until September. This would mean the work would be unlikely to</p>

occur before next year, meaning that the woodwork may continue to deteriorate. General feeling that DPC have a duty to try and get funding where available, unless there is a contractual reason why this cannot be done. DPC to flag with the Windmill Centre Committee that if there are specific projects that will need DPC funding in the future, this should be raised prior to the December meeting so that it can be appropriately considered. Cllr N Mylne proposed, Cllr A Collins seconded the motion and the Council **RESOLVED** (11 for, 1 against) to approve in principle the necessary repair of woodwork and repainting of the outside of the Windmill Centre at a cost of up to £11,000, with a grant to be sought. No contract can be signed/work undertaken until the determination of the grant application, as this would invalidate the grant application. The proposed figure includes a 10% contingency.

- c) **CAST request for back dated signage payment.** It was suggested that the Council should only pay for 2 signs as these are the only signs which are legally required. The signs have also already been purchased so DPC cannot claim back the VAT. It was raised, however, that DPC purchased the signs for Deddington and Hempton, and purchased more signs than needed for these locations. Additionally, the CAST group (Clifton Against Speeding Traffic) is providing plentiful voluntary work and purchased the signs with good intentions. It was flagged that if people are asking for support in future it would be helpful to come to DPC first as then VAT can be claimed back. Cllr H Oldfield proposed, Cllr M Swadling seconded the motion and the Council **RESOLVED** (11 for, 1 against) to approve back-dated signage payment for Clifton CAST signs at a cost of £363.70.
- d) **RoSPA Inspection.** Cllr T Timms proposed, Cllr M Robinson seconded the motion and the Council **RESOLVED** (unanimous) to approve payment for RoSPA Inspection at a cost of £514.50 +VAT.
- e) **80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day update.** Rob Forsyth has circulated details of 10am event in the Market Place and war memorial cemetery. Clerk and Cllr A Collins are arranging the bonfire. It is hoped that the fire brigade will be present. Must ensure that no nails from burned pallets are left on site. Transport to be sourced for moving wood to the site. Cllr A Collins to produce risk assessment for the event. Request for stewards for marshalling the fire and the road.
- f) **Meet the Councillors session.** 7 Councillors agreed to attend sessions in principle. Sessions to be held quarterly. If successful, sessions could be moved to monthly in the future. Snug at the Unicorn, the room at the library, and the church living room were all considered as potential locations.
- g) **Market community hub and events listing.** Market community hub has resulted in some interest regarding councillor vacancies.
- h) **Castle Grounds goal post.** 'Junior' sized goal post to be installed on site to replace the existing rusty goal post. Will need to fit in the holes already present on the site. Best price to be found and claim to be made for Open Space S106 money to cover the costs.
- i) **Picnic bench table – Wimborn.** Additional cost to cover foundations and fixing. To request that saving on S106 money earmarked for basket swing replacement can be used to cover this and additional cost of dropped kerb to path from Hempton Gate. Cllr M Robinson proposed, Cllr N Mylne seconded the motion and the Council **RESOLVED** (unanimous) to purchase a picnic bench table at Wimborn at a cost of up to £800.
- j) **Annual Parish Meeting – 7 May 2025 at Hempton Lounge.** Request for ideas and for annual summary from working group chairs.
- k) **Blandford Fly.** Following concern raised about possible threat to other wildlife from anti-Blandford fly chemical treatment in rivers, the Environment Agency has withdrawn support for treatment in the Cherwell, so Steeple Aston parish council have abandoned their plans for funding treatment.
- l) **To confirm meeting dates for the remaining months of 2025.**
- m) **Tree works – Castle Grounds.** Cllr J Watts proposed, Cllr M Swadling seconded the motion and the Council **RESOLVED** (unanimous) to approve tree works at Castle Grounds at a cost of £950. Chair to fill in Project Proformas for tree works to claim Open Space S106 to cover cost.
- n) **Tree works – Windmill Centre.** Cllr J Watts proposed, Cllr M Swadling seconded the motion and the Council **RESOLVED** (unanimous) to approve tree works at the Windmill Centre at a cost of £1125. Chair to fill in Project Proformas for tree works to claim Open Space S106 to cover cost.
- o) **Communal car proposal.** Cllr N Smith to explore potential companies that might organise management of the scheme and share part of the proceeds with DPC if a hybrid car were purchased. Will report back at future meeting.
- p) **Surface flooding at entrance to Castle Grounds.** Cllr H Oldfield proposed, Cllr N Smith seconded the motion and the Council **RESOLVED** (11 for, 1 against) to sponsor the named resident's application for funding regarding surface flooding at the entrance to Castle Grounds

	<p>from OCC, ensuring no cost, comeback or liability to the council now and in the future, and no obligation for subsequent work.</p> <p>q) <b>Satin Lane allotments.</b> Cllr H Oldfield proposed, Cllr J Watts seconded the motion and the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> (unanimous) that DPC will ask the new owners of Satin Lane allotments to make a gift of the allotments to the Parish, explaining the little likelihood of planning permission for development there.</p> <p>r) <b>Authorisation for chair or clerk to be the signatory if DPC are successful in getting a grant for the repainting of the Windmill.</b> Cllr J Watts proposed, Cllr M Swadling seconded the motion and the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> (11 for, 1 abstention) to authorise Cllr H Oldfield to be the signatory if DPC are successful in getting a grant for the repainting of the Windmill.</p> <p>s) <b>Update on major expenditure.</b> This document is being updated.</p> <p>t) <b>Review of policy documents – Risk Assessment.</b> Cllr H Oldfield proposed, Cllr N Smith seconded the motion and the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> (unanimous) to approve the Clerk’s amendments to the Risk Assessment, including use of the RoSPA Risk Matrix as proposed by Cllr M Robinson.</p> <p>u) <b>Review of policy documents – Asset Register.</b> Cllr M Robinson proposed, Cllr J Watts seconded the motion and the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> (unanimous) to approve the Clerk’s additions to the Asset Register.</p>																																																		
65/25	<p><b>Approval of invoices:</b> Cllr S O’Neill proposed, Cllr M Robinson seconded the motion and the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> (unanimous) that the March 2025 Imprest account invoices with a total of £768.36 and the April 2025 current account invoices with a total of £13,751.32 be approved for payment. £362.80 monies were received.</p>																																																		
66/25	<p><b>Report upon the investment of the Council’s Funds as at 31 March 2025.</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Account</th> <th>Balance</th> <th>Interest</th> <th>Notice</th> <th>Matures</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Current</td> <td>54,490.26</td> <td></td> <td>Current</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Imprest</td> <td>7,896.79</td> <td></td> <td>Imprest</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unity Trust Bank</td> <td>4,250.13</td> <td></td> <td>Current</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unity Trust Bank</td> <td>37,919.74</td> <td>2.60%</td> <td>Savings</td> <td>*6 May rate reducing to 2.25%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Redwood Bank</td> <td>93,798.01</td> <td>3.75%</td> <td>95 Day Notice</td> <td>Opened August 2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cambridge and Counties</td> <td>85,000.00</td> <td>5.21%</td> <td>1-year fixed deposit</td> <td>14 August 2025</td> </tr> <tr> <td>United Trust Bank</td> <td>85,000.00</td> <td>5.01%</td> <td>1-year fixed deposit</td> <td>23 May 2025</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Skipton Building Society</td> <td>92,593.74</td> <td>4.40%</td> <td>1-year fixed deposit</td> <td>27 May 2025</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>460,948.67</b></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Account	Balance	Interest	Notice	Matures	Current	54,490.26		Current		Imprest	7,896.79		Imprest		Unity Trust Bank	4,250.13		Current		Unity Trust Bank	37,919.74	2.60%	Savings	*6 May rate reducing to 2.25%	Redwood Bank	93,798.01	3.75%	95 Day Notice	Opened August 2019	Cambridge and Counties	85,000.00	5.21%	1-year fixed deposit	14 August 2025	United Trust Bank	85,000.00	5.01%	1-year fixed deposit	23 May 2025	Skipton Building Society	92,593.74	4.40%	1-year fixed deposit	27 May 2025	<b>Total</b>	<b>460,948.67</b>			
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67/25	<p><b>Planning Report.</b></p> <p><b>Applications</b></p> <p>a) <b>25/00679/TCA Castle House, Bull Ring, Deddington.</b> Tree works. Neighbour comments received verbally welcoming the proposed work. All works recommended by a professional arboriculturist report. Cllr S O’Neill proposed, Cllr M Cox seconded the motion and the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> (unanimous) no objection.</p> <p>b) <b>25/00739/F Land adjacent to Clifton Gate, Deddington.</b> Variation of Condition 2 (plans) of 23/01518/F Appeal B ref: APP/C3105/W/23/3336047, 3 bay garage to meet client’s requirements for garaging cars. Variation slightly enlarges the already approved plans. Cllr S O’Neill proposed, Cllr M Swadling seconded the motion and the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> (unanimous) no objection.</p> <p>c) <b>25/00793/F Hazel Hedge Cottage, Tithe Lane, Clifton.</b> Single and two storey extension, demolition of garage and erection of double garage with home office above. Cllr S O’Neill proposed, Cllr J Norton seconded the motion and the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> (unanimous) no objection.</p> <p>d) <b>25/00840/AGN Home Farm Cottage, Main Street, Clifton.</b> Prior approval application for agricultural building extension for storage of farm implements. Cllr S O’Neill proposed, Cllr J Watts seconded the motion and the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> (unanimous) no objection.</p> <p><b>Approvals</b></p> <p>25/00298/TCA Featherton House, Chapel Square, Deddington.  25/00128/F Dolphin Cottage, 5 Hudson Street, Deddington.  24/00834/F Hazel Hedge Cottage, Tithe Lane, Clifton.  24/02808/F and 24/02809/LB The Manse Bull Ring, Deddington.  24/02542/F Land adjoining and west of Stonecroft House, Clifton Road.</p>																																																		

	<p><b>Appeals</b> East of Combe Cottage and South of St Johns Way, Hempton. Appeal date of 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025 has been agreed.</p> <p><b>Correspondence</b> CDC notification of increase in planning application fees effective from 1<sup>st</sup> April following government increase to statutory planning fees. Making of Tree Preservation Order No. 11/2025 – Various species of trees located on land at Mount Pleasant, Hempton Road, Hempton. Confirmation of Tree Preservation Order No. 29/2024 – Various species of trees located on land adjacent and west of Stonecroft House, Clifton Road, Deddington.</p>
68/25	<p><b>Large Scale Developments Working Group report.</b></p> <p>a) <b>Update on Poplars development.</b> Received planning permission for 4 bungalows.</p> <p>b) <b>Hempton Old School Room/Church and S106.</b> Applied to developers Rainier to ask them to state that the £10,000 for the Old School Room could also go to the Church for repairs. This has been done. Cllr H Oldfield has written asking CDC to endorse this. Costs for the church likely to be significantly more than this, but still a positive contribution.</p> <p>c) <b>Purchase of Deddington Estate.</b> Deddington Estate, previously owned by M&amp;G Properties and including four fields of varying sizes around the parish, two houses and the Satin Lane allotments, has been purchased by Storey Homes, a Milton Keynes based development company. See 64/25 Finance and General Purposes item q) Satin Lane allotments.</p>
69/25	<p><b>Highways and Transport.</b></p> <p>a) <b>Hempton traffic calming.</b> Confirmation received that the funding has not lapsed and that the scheme is now being progressed for 2025/26</p> <p>b) <b>OCC meeting 15.4.25.</b> USAF funding held over for the next quarter – no change in the proposed plans. No dates yet for any works. Appears that DPC has been successful in bid for 3x SIDs, to be funded by OCC. DPC consulted on locations. Placement of CSW signs: arrangement to attach to the agreed poles needs confirming, Cllr M Cox to be present to ensure correct placement. Forthcoming works: following a parishioner highlighting the need to warn drivers of the Hempton Road build-out, and the near miss at Fardon Way, additional signage has been scheduled for 5 locations. HGV signs: OCC officer name provided to assist DPC in chasing larger and clearer replacement signs. Deddington Grange lighting: request that it is confirmed that OCC is not taking responsibility for street lighting, although there are some situations where they may adopt lighting. EV chargers: new regulations about placement, waiting for end of April to see if money available to install EV chargers in the Bull Ring.</p> <p>c) <b>Request for SIDs – Earls Lane.</b> Cllr H Oldfield to respond, informing resident of DPC SID application and community speed watch.</p> <p>d) <b>Community speed watch.</b> Signs have been delivered. Cllr M Cox has been trained and kit has been collected. First training session to be held on 25<sup>th</sup> April predominantly for the Hempton Group. Meeting for all CSW operators on May 1<sup>st</sup> at the Holly Tree. Thanks extended to the Holly Tree for allowing the CSW group to use the venue for this meeting free of charge.</p> <p>e) <b>Litter along Banbury-Oxford Highway.</b> Complaint actioned by Cherwell District Cllr D Rogers.</p> <p>f) <b>OCC Official Statement.</b> Meeting pencilled in for around June.</p> <p>g) <b>Road Closures.</b> To be shared on social media and in the Deddington News.</p>
70/25	<p><b>Items for information.</b> A formal vote of thanks was extended to Cllr H Oldfield for chairing the Council for the last 2 and a half years.</p>
71/25	<p><b>Update from the Parish Council Representatives.</b> Cllr A Collins informed the Council of his intention to stand-down as a member. The Council extended their thanks to Cllr A Collins for his long-term contribution to the Council.</p> <p><b>School Governors.</b> Cllr M Cox updated the Council that the first class at the school has now been filled – maximum 30 pupils.</p> <p><b>Friends of Deddington Library Bengal Spice fundraiser.</b> Just over £1000 raised. Thanks extended to all who supported the event.</p>
72/25	<p><b>Date of the next meeting:</b> The next Parish Council meeting will take place on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025 at 7:30pm in the Hempton Lounge, Windmill Centre, Deddington. Meeting closed at: 9:35pm.</p>