

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present: Cllrs M Robinson (Chair), H Oldfield, S O'Neill, E Palin, D Rogers, N Smith, C Snashall and T Timms **Also, present:** County Cllr G Epps, 1 member of the public, and a Deddington News Representative.

126/25	Apologies: Cllrs J Watts, M Swadling, N ap Simon, N Mylne and M Cox.
127/25	Declarations of Interest General Interest: Cllrs M Robinson and S O'Neill 136/25 Planning Report item c) 25/01637/LB Castle House Cottage, 1 Hopcraft Lane, Deddington, as the applicant is a friend/neighbour.
128/25	Minutes: Cllr M Robinson proposed, Cllr C Snashall seconded the motion and the Council RESOLVED (unanimous by those in attendance) that the minutes of the meeting held on the 18 June 2025 were a true record of the meeting.
129/25	Matters arising from the minutes and not referred to later on the agenda: Parish Newsletter. This has now been distributed. Thanks extended to all who helped with this. Finger post. Has now been welded, and is being stored. Some finishing off work to be done, before the price is sent to OCC. Oxford United Stadium. Response received from local MP Sean Woodcock, expressing support for DPCs position of support for the new stadium.
130/25	10 Minute Open Forum: None.
131/25	County Cllr G Epps update: Written report received. County Cllr G Epps encouraged residents to inform parish councils about public rights of way issues and supports the Parish Path Wardens scheme. Volunteers needed to fill gaps. The Clerk informed the council that a local resident currently reports back monthly on Clifton footpaths, and Cllr J Watts often reports back on those in Hempton. Cllr N Smith said he has a volunteer for Deddington. The Gul-e system was flagged to the council, which involves running charging cables across pavements without trip hazards or other safety challenges. Residents will be able to apply to be part of this scheme later in July. Hempton traffic calming meeting - County Cllr G Epps is unable to attend, but has written a supportive letter which will be submitted to the meeting. Cllr H Oldfield to attend on behalf of DPC. County Cllr G Epps noted that Cllr M Cox paper on speeding on Clifton Road is very useful, and that he will try and set up a site visit there. It was also noted that responses to the changes to speed limit seemed to be more against than in favour. Additionally, it was noted that there will be a site visit by County facilities team to the library, with strong recommendation from County Cllr G Epps that some re-decoration is needed.
132/25	District Cllr D Rogers update: See 138/25
133/25	Finance and General Purposes. a) To sign of Internal control checklist – July 2025. b) To discuss current Barclays and Unity Trust bank accounts and whether there are any other accounts that could be operated to give more preferential Interest rate. To be rolled over to next month's meeting to allow for input from all members of the finance and general purposes working group. c) To confirm working group members. Memberships of working groups notes. Concern expressed regarding the small size of the E&R working group, with it noted that it also has no lead at the moment – Cllr M Robinson said that the current approach is that projects are going to be divided between members, with Cllr M Robinson to write the report, and Cllr N Smith to present it. d) New Nursery name. Cllr C Snashall proposed, Cllr T Timms seconded the motion and the Council RESOLVED (unanimous) to name the new nursery the <i>Brian Fuller Nursery</i> . e) Car club proposal. Assumed that there would be no financial return to the Council. General feeling that it would not be appropriate for public money to be put towards financing a private company. Also benefit would be limited to Deddington residents only. Cllr N Smith to investigate other forms of funding, such as grants. Cllr N Smith proposed and Cllr E Palin seconded the motion, to support the car club proposal in principle, and support action to consult with residents and investigate availability of external sources to fund a two-year kick start period with a car club provider. <i>*This proposal was amended by Cllr C Snashall, to include that the Council are concerned that no public money should be used. This was seconded by Cllr T Timms and the Council RESOLVED (5 for, 1 abstention) to carry the amendment.</i> This is to be confirmed at the September 2025 meeting

	<p>f) Welford's Piece wasps' nest removal. Cllr C Snashall proposed, Cllr T Timms seconded the motion and the Council RESOLVED (unanimous) to remove the wasps' nest at Welfords Piece at a cost of £97.50. This was actioned under Emergency/Health and Safety powers.</p> <p>g) Revenue reserves allocations. See 133/25 Finance and General Purposes item h) Major expenditure plan.</p> <p>h) Major expenditure plan. Thanks extended to Cllr D Rogers for his work on this plan, showing foreseeable potential future expenditure. To make this a formal plan, DPC need to agree each financial allocation by resolution at the August Parish Council meeting. Plan is for this to be regularly updated/reviewed annually.</p> <p>i) Category 1 memorial stones at Hempton Road Cemetery. Appropriate action is to attempt to contact the ERB at their last notified address, and to lay any category 1 stones flat. Risk of laid down stones causing a trip hazard. Grass mowing therefore needs to be kept on top of. Costs to be brought back to next meeting.</p> <p>Cllr H Oldfield entered the meeting.</p> <p>j) To update policies: CCTV. The Council accepted the updated CCTV policy following minor changes. Cllr M Robinson to confirm with WMC that their signs are current and legal.</p> <p>k) Volunteer Driver service – grant request. Cllr C Snashall proposed, Cllr M Robinson seconded the motion and the Council RESOLVED (unanimous) to approve a grant of £100 to the Volunteer Driver service.</p> <p>l) Wimborn Close library box. Request from resident to put a library box up in the Wimborn Close area. Thanks extended to the parishioner for their enterprise. DPC will have the right to remove the box if it becomes uncared for.</p>																																																		
134/25	<p>Approval of invoices: Cllr M Robinson proposed, Cllr C Snashall seconded the motion and the Council RESOLVED (unanimous) that the invoices with a total of £14,164.55 be approved for payment. £4,692.47 monies were received.</p>																																																		
135/25	<p>Report upon the investment of the Council's Funds as at 30 June 2025.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="177 976 1541 1379"> <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>62,357.46</td> <td></td> <td>Current</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Imprest</td> <td>7,282.35</td> <td></td> <td>Imprest</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unity Trust Bank</td> <td>2,940.72</td> <td></td> <td>Current</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unity Trust Bank</td> <td>87,737.61</td> <td>2.25%</td> <td>Savings</td> <td></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>89,258.50</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>23 May 2025</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Skipton Building Society</td> <td>92,593.74</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>27 May 2025</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>520,968.39</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Account	Balance	Interest	Notice	Matures	Current	62,357.46		Current		Imprest	7,282.35		Imprest		Unity Trust Bank	2,940.72		Current		Unity Trust Bank	87,737.61	2.25%	Savings		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	89,258.50			23 May 2025	Skipton Building Society	92,593.74			27 May 2025	Total	520,968.39			
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136/25	<p>Planning Report.</p> <p>Applications</p> <p>a) 24/02755/F Deddington Mill, Milton Gated Road, Deddington. Change of use of land and erection of a separate single storey Office. Old application that has just been permitted.</p> <p>b) 25/01676/F Land adjacent to Clifton Gate Development, Clifton Road, Deddington. Variation of condition 2 (plans) of 25/00739/F change of material to walls of detached garage from natural stone to red brick. Cllr S O'Neill proposed, Cllr C Snashall seconded the motion and the Council RESOLVED (unanimous) no objection.</p> <p>c) 25/01637/LB Castle House Cottage, 1 Hopcraft Lane, Deddington. Various works including painting steel frame of existing vehicular access gate in hammarite black, replacement of existing softwood timber subframe for treated timber painted black, replacement of existing T&G gate fascia with composite T&G boards in black. Cllr S O'Neill proposed, Cllr M Robinson seconded the motion and the Council RESOLVED (unanimous) no objection.</p> <p>d) 25/01562/TCA Deddington Parish Church St Peters and St Pauls, Deddington. Tree works. Formal vote not possible as not an agenda item. DPC to respond stating that whilst unable to take a formal vote, the DPC would like to register unanimous support for the application.</p> <p>Approvals</p> <p>25/01087/F The Little House, Clifton Road, Deddington. 24/02755/F Deddington Mill, Milton Gated Road, Deddington. 25/01185/TCA Fairview, St Thomas Street, Deddington.</p> <p>Appeals</p>																																																		

	APP/C3105/W/23/3324704 East of Combe Cottage and South of St Johns Way, Hempton. No update at this time.
137/25	<p>Large Scale Developments Working Group report.</p> <p>a) Hempton appeal. Still awaiting decision.</p> <p>b) Site North of the Fire Station. Cllr H Oldfield has written to Katherine Daniels (Planning officer), asking for a copy of the S106 agreement. The Clerk informed the Council that it is still with the Legal Dept.</p> <p>Cllr D Rogers entered the meeting.</p>
138/25	<p>District Cllr D Rogers update: Written report received. Cllr M Robinson queried what the effect would be of changing business rates on services that DPC take from Cherwell. Cllr D Rogers informed the Council that at this time it is unknown. It has been confirmed that there is going to be a full business rates reset. How it is going to be implemented is still being discussed. CDC is the fourth worst affected council in the country. The challenge is that if the full £16 million funding cut is implemented in the first year, then only statutory services would be provided. Cllr D Rogers has requested a full list of statutory services, and will keep DPC informed.</p>
139/25	<p>Environment and Recreation Working Group.</p> <p>a) Findings of the RoSPA Report. <i>Swing</i> – Timber on the crossbar is decayed and rotting, so swing has been put out of action until it can be repaired. Should be covered by Creative Play warranty. Creative Play to be asked to do a site visit urgently to repair the swing, zip-wire and trampoline. <i>New equipment at Wimborn Close and Welfords Piece</i> – Two problems flagged. Cracks have appeared in the wood around the plastic domes as a result of dry weather. Outdoor Play will fix this. The bench is in the falling space of the large tractor wheels – bench can either remain in situ and be monitored, but be noted in future reports, or bench and supporting beams can be removed and left flush with the supporting structure to eliminate the perceived hazard. Awaiting inspection team’s recommendation. <i>Slide mound</i> – Erosion problem is getting worse, and the slide had been cordoned off. Three quotes needed for repair/refurb. One from a local contractor and one from the original contractor have been received. Awaiting a third quote from another local contractor known to DPC.</p> <p>b) Bikes in the copse. Zurich will not advise/sign off on DPC specific risk assessment/management plan, but expect DPC to follow the law and the guidance available. DPC have been made aware of motorised bikes being used in the area. Agenda item for August meeting.</p> <p>c) Goal post at the Castle Grounds. General feeling that it would be nice to have some equipment at the Castle Grounds for young people to use. Main issue with replacing the goal post is finding one that fits within the existing fittings. Mobile goal post costs more than the fixed one, and may be vulnerable to vandalism. Cllr D Rogers flagged that the existing posts were custom made, and that it shouldn’t be too difficult for someone local to make one based on the existing diameters/measurements. Possibility for spot weld to stop it being taken out for a few years. Options to be explored further and brought back to future meeting.</p> <p>d) Lookout. Two quotes received. Amended spec and drawing done for more contractors to be approached. Waiting for decision on S106 Play Fund. Flagged that children are currently systematically removing tiles from the roof. Re-roofing to be added on as an optional extra.</p> <p>e) Water supply at the Windmill. Tony Rees has fixed the water fountain.</p> <p>f) Grass cutting and No Mow May and June. Thomas Fox will leave Goose Green uncut until September to let rare Bee Orchid seeds set. The edges of the green and wider paths to be cut.</p> <p>g) Mini tennis. The tennis club put a box of tennis rackets and balls out, which got smashed by people playing football on the mini tennis courts. Facebook post to be put out highlighting that there is CCTV at the Windmill, and that there is a lot of small-scale vandalism currently occurring. Problem with gravel, leaves and twigs falling down the bank and on to the courts. Suggest a low board or plastic edging strip to be run along the north side of the courts to prevent this. Steve Rees to be asked to action this.</p> <p>h) Castle Grounds – Badger path. Clerk has met two contractors. Needs a permanent solution. Difficult for access and machinery, thus meaning high costs. Alternative is to close the path during winter when it is unsafe</p> <p>i) Battery back-up at the Windmill. The grant application to the SEE Community Resilience Fund has been submitted and acknowledged. Decision expected in September.</p>
140/25	<p>Highways and Transport.</p> <p>a) Hempton traffic calming. See 131/25 County Cllr G Epps update. Cllr H Oldfield to speak at the meeting saying that Deddington Parish Council unanimously support the proposals.</p> <p>b) Earls Lane. Cllrs M Cox and H Oldfield carried out a site visit. Cllr M Cox has requested an OCC site visit for Earls Lane and Clifton Road.</p>

	<p>c) Speeding Clifton Road. Resident has been in contact to flag that the VAS is facing the wrong way – DPC have contacted OCC to request that it is turned round. Sign is also no longer working properly at entrance to Clifton – this has been reported. Request also received for double white lines; however, this is not possible as the road is straight with good visibility.</p> <p>d) Community Speed Watch. Two new operators have joined from Hempton who will require roadside training.</p> <p>e) Clifton. A parishioner requested a meeting to discuss traffic calming measures in Clifton. They have been invited to attend a meeting in August.</p>
141/25	<p>Items for information.</p> <p>Castle Grounds flooding. It appears that the drainage problem at the entrance to the Castle Grounds has not been solved, as the builder has been unable to locate the pipe.</p>
142/25	<p>Update from the Parish Council Representatives.</p> <p>Clifton orchard. No current representative on the DPC. To be flagged with Cllr M Swadling at next meeting.</p> <p>Swing in Wimborne. Has been cut down by someone – unsure who was responsible. Residents have now put it back up with new ropes.</p> <p>Transport meeting. Update to be provided next month.</p> <p>Dorchester Group. Outline application for 6–8000 houses at Heyford Park North to be submitted imminently. Northern part of Heyford Park falls within Deddington Ward. There will be mitigation for neighbouring wards. Cllr D Rogers to explore this further.</p> <p>Section 106 money. For things such as SUDS and play areas that CDC have retained – concern that over the years the wording of S106 documents has changed. Cllr D Rogers proposed, Cllr M Robinson seconded the motion and the Council RESOLVED (unanimous) to write to the monitoring officer and the Head of Legal at CDC to get assurance that the funding is secured for CDC assets within the Parish.</p>
143/25	<p>Date of the next meeting: The next Parish Council meeting will take place on 20 August 2025 at 7:30pm in the Hempton Lounge, Windmill Centre, Deddington. Meeting closed at: 20:53.</p>