

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 17 March 2004
commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Flux (Chairman), Squires, Mrs Cox, Mrs Swash, Harvey, Alton, Todd, Westley Watts, Co Cllr Jelf, Graham Pitts (Clerk), Sue Gibbs (Minute Secretary).

46 /04 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Wood, Haslam, Ellis, Rollason, Mrs Spencer, District Councillor O'Sullivan.

47/04 **Minutes of Last Meeting**

- (a) Cllr Todd reported that it was not normal practice to report the 10-minute open forum. **It was therefore agreed that this should be deleted.**
- (b) 39/04(h): Cllr Todd said the correct spelling should be Meagher.

Subject to these changes, the Minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday 17 March were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

48/04 **Matters Arising**

- a. **Parking.** Cllr Squires asked whether the Parish Council had any thoughts on the matters raised at the last meeting. **It was agreed that this was a matter for the Highways Working Group to look into.** Cllr Cox confirmed that she had passed to Cllr Haslam the audit which had previously been carried out on this matter. Cllr Swash suggested that the NFU be consulted as they appear to have plenty of car parking spaces available. **It was agreed that Highways should consider this.**

49/04 **Declaration of Interests**

Councillors declared an interest as follows:

- a. Cllr Todd in respect of 48/04
- b. Cllr Flux in respect of 51/04 (i)

50/04 **10 Minute Open Forum**

PC Clive Middleton and Sgt Neville Clayton, Banbury Section Rural Beat Team Sergeant addressed the meeting. (They gave the Council a schedule of the latest crime figures)

51/04 **Environment and Recreation Working Group**

Cllr Squires reported as follows:

- a. **Cricket Club.** The Clerk confirmed that the Cricket Club had agreed in principle to share the cost of maintenance to the pavilion and would be buying the necessary materials.
- b. **Village Plan.** Cllr Rollason had provided a recreation plan from Oxfordshire Playing

Fields Association (OFPA) and it was intended that this should be incorporated into the village plan.

- c. **ORCC.** The Clerk confirmed that membership of ORCC had now been renewed.
- d. **OFPA Cllr Watts** would be attending a presentation on disability friendly playgrounds and how to avoid litigation.
- e. **CPRE.** A letter had been received from CPRE outlining proposed changes to planning policy which would mean that planning applications could no longer be rejected because they would alter the designated landscape character. **It was agreed that this was something which the Parish Council should watch. It was agreed that the matter should be discussed with Cllr Wood who was the chair of the local branch of the CPRE and that action should be taken as appropriate.**
- f. **Oxfordshire Countryside Partnership.** An invitation to attend a full day annual presentation on 13 May had been received. No members of the Working Group were able to attend but if any other members of the Parish Council were able to attend they were asked to let the Clerk know.
- g. **Annual Playground Inspections.** These were now due. Quotes had been received from both ROSPA and Hicks. The latter was £48 cheaper and **it was therefore agreed that Hicks should be asked to do the inspections. It was also agreed that the Clerk should look at whether some kind of “collective contracting” could be implemented either through ORCC or OALC.**
- h. **Village Litter Pick.** Logistically everything had gone very well but the turnout had been disappointing. . It had been acknowledged that Saturday morning was perhaps not the best time as some members of the youth groups had other commitments. Concerns had also been raised as to the legal position were anyone to be injured during the process. The Clerk had looked into this and it was felt that all necessary procedures had been in place. It was noted that there had not been much litter in the centre of the village, but that the roads out of the village each side were not so good and this would be an area to target next time. The Chairman thanked all those who had attended the Pick Up and particularly Cllrs Squires and Watts for organizing the day. He said that CDC had some responsibility for the state of the roads out of the village and **it was agreed that the Clerk should chase this up. It was also agreed that a donation of £5 should be made to each of the groups which had attended, namely the Youth Club, the Boys Brigade and the Cubs and Scouts.** It was noted that the Guides had been unable to send any representatives but they had offered to clean up the litter on the roads to Hempton and Clifton **and it was agreed that Cllr Squires should follow this up in September. Consideration would also be given to whether there were other ways in which the litter pick up could be organized.**
- i. **Horton Hospital Campaign. It was agreed that the PC should write a letter in support of the Save Horton Hospital Campaign.**
- j. **Deddington Circular Walk.** Cllr Rollason had checked out the footpaths and had had problems with a bull on the Clifton loop of the walk. CDC, who had overall responsibility for footpaths, had been informed.
- k. **All Weather Court.** The Chairman reported that the Windmill Management Committee had taken on the work of the Environment working group and had prepared a submission to CDC. CDC had indicated that they would underwrite 50% of the proposed expenditure and the Windmill Management Committee would be now asking the Parish Council for a loan of approximately £7,000, which would be repaid out of the income generated by the All Weather Court, which they estimated would be in the region of £3000 per annum. As it had previously been agreed in principle by the Parish Council to spend up to £10,000 on this project, **it was now agreed that the Windmill**

Management Committee should prepare its formal submission to CDC on this basis and that the request, with exact figures, would be formally submitted to the Parish Council in due course.

53/04 **Highways Working Group**

Cllr Westley said that the Highways Working Group had not met this month; he reported as follows:

- a. **Parking.** He would check that Cllr Haslam had received the paperwork from Cllr Cox relating to parking. The Chairman reported that two letters had been received from a parishioner relating to parking on the grass verge in New St. She had also been in touch with Co Cllr Jelf who had written to the Parish Council. The Working Group needed to look at this issue again before responding.
- b. **Hempton** Co Cllr Jelf reported that he had been in contact with Colin Carrit who had confirmed the delay in putting in the pinch point was because of a delay over the installation of power lines.
- c. **Crossing in Clifton** The Clerk reported that he had written to all those in Clifton who had responded to the questionnaire informing them of the preferred option. Cllr Haslam would be meeting Steve Bowden in May to discuss this further.

52/04 **Planning Working Group**

Cllr Harvey reported as per the attached schedule:

- a. A list of approvals since the last meeting was circulated. 3 further approvals had been received since the Working Group's last meeting. One of these related **04/00034/F 43 The Daedings, Deddington 43**. It was noted that the Parish Council had previously objected to this application and although it had now been approved, there were 3 conditions attached to the planning consent. The last of these reflected the Parish Council's concerns that the extension should remain ancillary to the existing dwelling and not be sold or leased separately. **It was agreed that the Parish Council should take appropriate action if these conditions were breached.**
- b. **The Working Groups recommendations on new applications were agreed.** The following comments were also made:
- c. Co-op – 1 non-illuminated Post Office sign. As well as formally objecting to this application, **it was agreed that contact should be made with the Co-op direct, as it was felt that this proposal was not in keeping with the surroundings.** The Chairman reported that following concerns raised at previous meetings over the use of the garage at the back of the Co-op now being used for storage, it had been confirmed that this had been part of the original application
- d. Maunds Farm House, High St, Deddington. **It was agreed that no objection should be made to this application providing it remained as one dwelling.**
- e. Late applications in respect of a two storey rear extension and internal alterations to Church Cottage, Church St. Deddington and an application to convert a single cottage back into two, with a two storey extension at Folley Cottage, New St. Deddington, were approved.
- f. **The Basics of Planning** Cllr Cox circulated a report of a planning seminar held on 20 March. The seminar had been extremely informative and useful and had confirmed that the Working group was already working to a good standard. One point raised was that

applications should not be dealt with in open meetings but should be given more time and a site visit should always be carried out. This raised questions of timing when applications were received between the Working Group meeting and full Parish Council meeting. The Chairman pointed out however that all other relevant parties were notified directly and a notice was always posted on site. Co Cllr Jelf added that if there was real concern the relevant District Councillor should be contacted as they alone had the powers to remove an application from delegation.

53/04 **Finance and General Purposes Working Group**

Cllr Todd said that the Working Group had not met since the last PC meeting but he was able to report as follows:

- a. **Deddington Map Group** The PC had originally made a grant of £7250 to this group. The final installment of £917.17 had now been received, and this sum had now been repaid in full. The Group were thanked for all its work in producing the Map, and congratulated on meeting their financial obligations.
- b. **Auditors.** 26 July had been set as the deadline for submitting all the papers to the external auditors.
- c. **2003/2004 Accounts.** These had now been completed and were awaiting approval from Cllr Wood. It appeared as if £18,000 had been drawn out of reserves for the year.
- d. **Wimborn Close** The Clerk confirmed that commuted sum of £31,084.61 relating to Wimborne Close had just been received.
- e. **Precept.** Half the precept money had now also been received.

54/04 **Invoices for Payment**

Invoices totaling £5354.02 in accordance with a schedule circulated at the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes, were approved for payment.

55/04 **Investment of Councils Funds**

At the close of business on 21 April 2004 the balances were as follows:

BANK BALANCES AS AT 21st April 2004

ACCOUNT NUMBER	BALANCE	INTEREST	NOTICE
70708526	1822.23	.1%	Imprest
70708542	15851.40	.1%	Current
TOTAL	17673.63		
Bradford & Bingley	1000.00	3.4%	120 Days
W. Bromwich Building Soc.	534259.85	3.4%	Overnight
TOTAL	551933.48		

Correspondence

56/04

A list of correspondence was circulated at the meeting.

Future Meeting Days

57/04

The Chairman reported that as agreed the Clerk had surveyed all Councillors as to their preferred meeting days. The results had been:

10 in favour of Wednesday evenings (although 2 were equally happy with Tuesdays)

4 in favour of Tuesday evenings (inc. 2 from above)

3 in favour of Monday evenings

It was therefore decided that meeting should remain on Wednesdays.

Time of Meetings

58/04

The Chairman reported that 7 Councillors had been in favour of starting meetings at 7.30pm, but two had indicated that they would go with the majority vote, while 6 had been in favour of meetings starting at 8.00pm. As a compromise, **he proposed that meetings should start at 7.45pm; this was seconded by Cllr Swash and unanimously agreed.**

Date of Next Meeting

59/04

Wednesday 19 May at the Town Hall commencing at 7.45pm. This will be followed by the Annual General Meeting.

Annual Parish Meeting

60/04

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 5 May 2004 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.