

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held at the Holly Tree, Deddington on

Wednesday 14 December 2011 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Flux (Chair), Bliss, Collins, Cox, Day, McDowell, Finnigan, Oldfield, Watts, Williams and Wood.

195/11	Apologies: Cllr Rudge, Squires, Ward County Cllr Jelf and District Cllr O'Sullivan
196/11	Minutes of the last meeting: Cllr Flux signed the minutes as a true record.
197/11	Declaration of Interests: 202/11 Castle Grounds (Cricket club). Cllrs Collins stated a personal interest.
198/11	Matters Arising not referred to later on the Agenda. Cllr Flux presented Max Pankhurst a gift as a thank you for his hard work and dedication over his years as Parish Steward.
199/11	10 Minute Open Forum: None
200/11	County and District Councillors update: It was reported that District Cllr O'Sullivan was making progress and now getting out of his home.
201/11	Emergency Planning <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ready to Go Booklet. Will soon be delivered to all parishioners'. 2. Grit bins. The Clerk will chase Paul Wilson for approval of the siting of the grit bins. The new salt spreader has now been delivered. 3. Emergency plan. The Clerk asked Cllr McDowell to send her the electronic versions of the Emergency Plan so that she can pass it on to those requesting it. 4. The Grove. The residents of the Grove thanked the PC for the siting of a new grit bin. It has been suggested that the residents write to OCC regarding a crossing over the High Street.
202/11	Finance and General Purposes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cash flow to end November. The Chairman of the F&GP working group presented the cash flow. It was noted that Christmas tree donations were £50 from Deddington News and £250 from the Market Group. The donors were thanked by the council. 2. Solar panel reading. Last month the reading was 7,533. The reading is now 7880. 3. Danwood Copier. An expert from ABS computers will look at the copier and report back. 4. Letters of thanks. Have been received from Deddington on Air and Caroline and Georgina Sullivan. 5. NatWest. £75,000 transferred from West Brom to NatWest at 3% for 12 months from 23 November. 6. AWC regeneration agreed between PC meetings and completed to the cost of £5,495. 7. English Heritage. Permission for benches at Castle Grounds has been obtained. 8. Internal auditor has asked that the financial regs be reviewed in the light of changes in PC operations. Done. No need to amend. 9. Satin Lane. No objection from neighbours to work on trees at Satin Lane, therefore going ahead. 10. Forecast for the year and budget for next. The details of the forecast were presented to council. This year the shortfall looks like being about £3,000 which can be set off against last year's surplus in the revenue reserve. This has been an uncommon year in that there have been unusual and unexpected charges such as snow boxes, the final settlement with DCE for the Town Hall and the refurbishments at Welford's Piece and the All Weather Court. In the future there will be no further expenditure on the Town Hall and the PC will benefit from the income from solar panels. The PC has received proposals from Cllrs Oldfield and Ward for some specific projects and a budget provision has been included for this. Cllr Ward said that the proposed work to the land behind the Under 5's play area at the Windmill will be properly costed and brought to the PC for authorisation from the E & R budget. Cllr Ward advised that the foundations under the matting in the play area at Clifton will need replacing in the next 2 years and this could cost approximately £5,000 to action. Cllr Oldfield's suggestions are more wide ranging. There are a number of aspects that need to be examined and agreed in detail. The project then needs to be costed and brought back to council. A working group was set up to pursue the initiative. Cllr Day suggested that DCE might welcome some help with the further re-furbishment of the Town Hall. It was confirmed that, in common with the PC usual practice, if agreed any monetary help would be in the form of a loan rather than a grant. 11. The precept application must be made by 23 January and will therefore be agreed at the January meeting. Cllr Wood said that developing a five-year plan was a sensible way to develop the village. 12. Castle Grounds. Cllr McDowell suggested that a sub-working group be set up to look at the Castle Grounds with a view to re-instating a Cricket Ground. It was suggested that the wider uses of the grounds be considered so the group will look at this and consult with the Friends of Castle Grounds. Cllr McDowell will lead the group. The other members will be Cllrs Cox, Oldfield and Ward, with Cllrs Day, Wood and the Clerk helping on their areas of expertise as appropriate (planning, finance and English Heritage). Cllr Flux suggested that a public meeting might be useful. The Clerk reported that English Heritage is now monitoring activities at the site more carefully than in the past.
203/11	Highways and Transport Cllrs Cox and Oldfield met Tim Wilde from OCC's highways and did a tour of the village. The PC is hopefully making progress on some of the longstanding issues, including the grit bins. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Resiting of post box; Mr Wilde approved the proposed location on the hard standing to the right of the bus shelter as you look from the Unicorn (with a proviso concerning possible buried cables). Application

	<p>to be made to Royal Mail to move the post box.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Speeding: The volunteer speedwatch has stalled because of the need for daylight at peak traffic times – it is planned to begin again in April. A Hempton resident currently has the speed gun to check numbers and may be producing examples of his proposed signs for the village. Members of the Highways Working Group are aware of the relevant OCC officers to contact about the proposed buffer zones and the need for School signs on the northern approach to Deddington. Cllrs plan to be in touch with them, if necessary, when they hear back from Cllr Jelf about buffer zones. 3. Blocked drain: The drain alongside the northern, smaller section of the village green that used to become repeatedly blocked has now been sealed off and tarmaced over and waste water runs away down a gutter and into another drain. The problem seems to be solved. 4. Missing bollard: The bollard has been stolen. The Clerk to check with Highways as to why it has taken so long to act on this matter thereby giving the opportunity for theft. The county council are prepared to put it back in place if the bollard can be found otherwise OCC will charge £50 for a new one. There is currently another bollard at a tilt that also needs attention. 5. New Street Bus Stop: Tim Wilde had no objection to the suggestion that this might be re-sited in front of Deddington Manor. The Clerk will ascertain the views of the owner of this property about this proposal. If she has no objections a request will be made to move the bus stop as part of the upgrading of bus stops that is planned for Deddington next year. 6. Bench at east-side bus stop to be donated by Jean Rudge. Tim Wilde was not sure whether the proposed site belongs to OCC or the adjacent house. In either case he approved the siting. The owners of Leaden Porch House will be asked if this strip of land belongs to them and whether they'd be happy for a bench to be placed there. 7. New funding system for highways: Tim Wilde advised DPC that budgets for smaller highways projects are now managed by individual councillors for individual areas rather than the highways department. Under this new 'localism' approach, old schemes might be looked at with new eyes. Our relevant OCC Cllrs are Kieron Mallon and Ann Bonner (apparently both members for Banbury wards). It was agreed to apply for funding for two projects, as soon as possible <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Holed paving stones for the grass verge in Church Street alongside the church. Tim Wilde to provide an estimate for this work b) A pedestrian crossing across New Street. This has previously been mothballed on safety grounds, but Tim Wilde thought it was worth pursuing again. The elderly residents in The Grove will be encouraged to write to OCC in support of a crossing and other neighbours should do the same. Cllr Flux said that he would speak to Cllr Keiron Mallon about these applications. <p>8. GRIT BINS Tim Wilde approved the sites previously proposed by the council but they require a final green light from Paul Wilson before the bins can be installed as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) At the corner of Featherstone House – to cater also for the alms houses where the verge is too narrow to accommodate a bin b) On the grass verge on the corner of Hudson Street and New Street in front of the May Fu Two, and preferably partially buried and green coloured to be inconspicuous since there's a clutter of street furniture there. (Hudson Court and the May Fu Two corner ruled out because they do not belong to OCC.) c) The Grove – on the south side alongside a wall where there was a grit bin in the past. The residents and the freeholders are delighted to have a bin there, especially if they don't have to sprinkle the grit themselves. d) On the north side of the town hall. There are currently seven rubbish bins there, which are blocking the entrance to the phone box, and leaving no room for a grit bin. It was confirmed 4 of the bins are PC owned. Cllr Finnigan to ensure polite notices to be placed on remaining three to request their removal. <p>As stated at the last meeting there is already a smallish grit bin at the health centre. It was suggested that if the health centre are agreeable, the school be asked to provide volunteer parents to spread grit from the health centre on their section of Earls Lane. In return the PC will refill the bin as required.</p>
204/11	<p>Environment & Recreation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Christmas Tree. Cllr Finnigan said that the Solar lighting was proving disappointing. The Town Hall electricity supply previously available to the PC for the Christmas Tree is no longer available. Therefore the usual process whereby the PC uses the Town Hall electricity and then reimburses DCE has not been possible. Cllr Day suggested that the lease be revisited when up for renewal. He also suggested that it be considered when redecoration and other options are being considered by DCE. 2. Queens Jubilee. Cllr Rudge has passed on to the Jubilee Committee the idea of planting Deddington Pippins to mark the Queen's Jubilee and would welcome suggestions for possible planting sites.
205/11	<p>Terms of Reference and Job Descriptions –Cllr Day Cllr Day said that he had intended to look at formal suggestions on the working groups but unfortunately had not had the time to do so. This will now be taken forward to a future meeting.</p>
206/11	<p>Planning Working Group Applications 11/01674/F and 11/01675/LB Cromwell House, Market Place Deddington – Rear Ground Floor</p>

	<p>Extension with minor interior alterations. This is a small rear extension that will have no impact on attached properties. No objection.</p> <p><u>Withdrawn Application</u> 11/01460/F Earls Court Earls Lane Deddington – Detached Car Port and Garden Store, Rear porch, Front Porch with Bay Window, Pergola and two storey rear extension,</p> <p><u>Approvals</u> 11/01498/F 4 Hempton Road Deddington – Single and two storey extensions 11/01464/LB and 11/01463/ADV Red Lion Cottage market Place Deddington 11/01289/F and 11/01290/LB Vervain, Philcote Street, Deddington.</p> <p><u>Correspondence</u> Unicorn Inn Deddington – an enforcement officer for Cherwell has looked into this matter and informed the PC that a Listed Building consent application should have been obtained. They are expecting a belated application for consideration and will consider this application when received. Kempster Place Philcott Street – A concerned local resident advised the PC of building works to the rear of the property. CDC was asked to visit the site and having done so Cherwell Planning Officer has confirmed that the work being undertaken falls under permitted development Calcutt Farms Corn Store – This development approved some months ago by CDC was completed recently and a complaint was received from a local resident who's view has been restricted and who was previously unaware of the approved application. Councillor Day contacted the resident to provide the history of the application and also spoke to the farmer to explain this local residents concern. It is unfortunate that the SEB had cut down a number of trees on adjoining land which has further opened up the view. It was suggested that the resident makes a polite enquiry to the farmer for a meeting but unfortunately the PC could not assist as the farmer has followed approved plans for landscaping recommended by CDC.</p> <p>The clerk received an e mail complaint from a resident to the application 11/00259/TCA removal of 7 trees at the Stile Deddington discussed at last month's meeting. The response to the clerk from Mark Harrison Arboricultural Officer North, Cherwell District Council is on file.</p> <p>AOB The Clerk and Councillor Williams recently attended a planning training day conducted by Bob Duxbury. The PWG thanks them for taking their time to attend.</p>
207/11	<p>Library Update. Cllr Collins reported that the decision regarding the Library had been made two weeks earlier than expected. Deddington, along with the other "community" classed libraries, would receive 50% paid library manager cover. He suggested that there might be some benefit in getting the library involved as a pilot. However, there will be no action between now and April. He suggested that Friends of Deddington Library may be sought to reform or a new group be formed. It should be investigated as to whether charitable or trust status for the group would be of benefit. Cllr Flux said that Gift aid was possible for charities. Cllr Wood asked how many volunteers would be required. Cllr Collins said that the indication for the original proposed 2/3rd was that 20 volunteers would be required and so this was a good indication of the potential numbers required. Cllr Wood questioned if the volunteers would have use to the library computer. Cllr Collins said that there would be no access to the library Galaxy system but the Job Description does state computer knowledge and usage. Cllr Oldfield said that the volunteers should be given the right tools to do the job. Cllr Flux agreed that the library service should train up the volunteers. The Clerk mentioned that OCC Cllr Ian Hudspeth had suggested extending the library hours, such as Sunday mornings. Cllr Collins stated that he considered this unfeasible as the library manger was expected for part of the shift. Cllr Collins concluded that it needed to be decided what organisation the volunteers would sign up to. Cllr Flux suggested that in the New Year a new group be set up in liaison with Geoff Todd as Chair of Friends of Deddington Library. Cllr Collins thanked Cllrs Oldfield, Ward and Williams for their help in the press release. Cllr Oldfield mentioned that at 12:30 on Friday further press were to go to the library. Cllr Williams to forward photographs if a member of the Police is unable to attend for a photograph. The Tolkien letters were also briefly discussed, as there has been a request for the originals to be sent to OCC archive. It was unclear as to whether they were to be displayed or stored. The Clerk noted that the letters belonged to the Parish and it had been a struggle to get them returned as OCC had initially denied all knowledge of them when the PC was trying to retrieve them. The reason for the request to return them will be investigated.</p>
208/11	<p>Benches Update. The Clerk informed the PC: Betty Hill Memorial Bench, Castle Grounds. The base has been set and the bench will be installed on 15 December 2011. Eddie Lynch Memorial Bench, Castle Grounds. The base has been set but the family have decided to wait until Spring to install the bench. Then they will arrange for it to be done. Mr and Mrs French Memorial Bench, Windmill Street. The family are applying to OCC for a bench to be installed at the entrance to Windmill Street and will cover the costs and future maintenance of the bench. Additional Memorial Bench in the Cemetery. In Spring another bench is being donated by a resident. It will mirror one currently installed</p>
209/11	<p>War Memorial Cllr Collins presented a paper to the PC explaining the background and arguments for and against. A copy of this is in the office. Cllr McDowell said that the people that had raised the money chose to put it there so it</p>

	<p>should remain. Cllr Day proposed that the PC should be against moving the War Memorial and will not support any move to do so. This was seconded by Cllr Cox. Cllr Finnigan requested an amendment to the proposal so that it be noted that "the PC do not consider the siting of the war memorial to be the responsibility of the PC". Cllr Day suggested a further amendment to his proposal to note that "the war memorial is currently in the Church Yard, where those who raised the money decided to put it". The PC then voted unanimously, with one abstention, in favour of this proposal.</p> <p>RESOLVED that Deddington Parish Council is against moving the War Memorial that is currently in the Church Yard where those who raised the money decided to put it, will not support any move to do so and does not consider the siting of the war memorial to be the responsibility of the PC.</p>																																
210/11	<p>Report upon the Play Areas: Cllr Ward to examine the options for replace the slide removed from Welfords Piece due to H&S.</p>																																
211/11	<p>Invoices for Payment: Schedules of invoices totalling £6,994.85 for December were approved for payment.</p>																																
212/11	<p>Investment of Council Funds At the close of business on 14 December 2011 the balances were as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>ACCOUNT</th> <th>BALANCE</th> <th>INTEREST</th> <th>NOTICE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Barclays Imprest Acct</td> <td>1,614.09</td> <td>0.1%</td> <td>Imprest</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Barclays Current Acct</td> <td>8,280.97</td> <td>0.1%</td> <td>Current</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W. Bromwich Building Soc.</td> <td>51,655.87</td> <td>1.0%</td> <td>Overnight (inc interest)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alliance & Leicester</td> <td>200,000.00</td> <td>2.5%</td> <td>1 year fixed (July 12)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Anglo Irish Bank</td> <td>200,000.00</td> <td>2.84%</td> <td>1 year fixed (Jan 12)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nat West</td> <td>75,000.00</td> <td>3.0%</td> <td>1 year fixed (Nov 12)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>536,550.93</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ACCOUNT	BALANCE	INTEREST	NOTICE	Barclays Imprest Acct	1,614.09	0.1%	Imprest	Barclays Current Acct	8,280.97	0.1%	Current	W. Bromwich Building Soc.	51,655.87	1.0%	Overnight (inc interest)	Alliance & Leicester	200,000.00	2.5%	1 year fixed (July 12)	Anglo Irish Bank	200,000.00	2.84%	1 year fixed (Jan 12)	Nat West	75,000.00	3.0%	1 year fixed (Nov 12)	TOTAL	536,550.93		
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213/11	<p>Correspondence. Charging for PC Elections. The Clerk informed the PC that CDC had notified Councils that its fees had not changed for eleven years and so the new charges would be considerably more than in previous years.</p>																																
214/11	<p>Any Other Business: Deddington OnAir. Cllr Bliss reminded Cllrs that Deddington OnAir presents "A contemporary Christmas Carol" streaming everyday 19-24 December at 2pm. Planning. Cllr Day stated that further planning applications had been received and that the working group would be making their objections, if any, to meet the deadlines prior to the next meeting.</p>																																
215/11	<p>Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 18 January 2012 at 7.30pm in the Windmill Community Centre, Deddington.</p>																																