

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 18 February 2004
commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Flux (Chairman), Squires, Mrs Cox, Mrs Swash, Harvey, Alton, Wood, Rollason, Watts, Ellis, District Cllr O'Sullivan, Co Cllr Jelf, Graham Pitts (Clerk), Sue Gibbs (Minute Secretary).

15 /04 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Todd, Haslam, Westley, and Mrs Spencer.

16/04 **Minutes of Last Meeting**

Cllr Watts asked for the Minutes to show that he was present.

7(d)/04: All Weather Pitch: Cllr Squires said that the proposal had been that the Windmill Centre should be given 6 months in which to come up with a viable plan to obtain grant funding for this project.

Subject to these changes, the Minutes were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

17/04 **Matters Arising**

Responding to Cllr Squires, the Chairman reported no further developments on the RBL and promised to follow this up again.

18/04 **Declaration of Interests**

Councillors declared an interest as follows:

20/04: Cllrs Flux and Rollason

22/04(g): Cllr Harvey

24/04(g): Cllr Flux

19/04 **10 Minute Open Forum**

There were no members of the public wishing to speak

20/04 **Deddington Windmill Community Centre Ltd – Presentation from Mrs M Robinson**

Mrs Robinson thanked the Parish Council for the opportunity to speak and present the paper, which provided information on the origins of the Windmill Community Centre from 1981 onwards, its current management structure, its relationship with the Parish Council and its finances. She highlighted two areas needing significant expenditure in the future, namely the hall and the shower areas, and said that the management committee was currently in the process

identifying grant funding for these. She confirmed that they were also happy to look at the All Weather court and said that it would only be as a last resort that they would look to the PC to finance this. She also reminded the PC that the only reason it had £500,000 in the bank was because of the Windmill Centre.

Cllr Cox said that the Windmill Centre was only an asset for the community if it continued to make a profit and emphasized the need to look 20 years ahead to ensure this. Concern was expressed that because the condition of the building was running down, it would become less attractive for people/organizations to hire. Mrs Robinson confirmed that qualifying members of the committee had to be residents of the Parish.

The benefits to the Parish which had arisen because of the Windmill Centre, both financial and otherwise, were acknowledged.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Robinson and her colleagues for their work in putting together the paper. **It was agreed that this should be a public document and be posted onto the Deddington website.**

21/04

Deddington Estates Feoffees

The Chairman reported that following the death of Mr Hunt, Charles Newey had taken over as secretary of the Deddington Charity Estates. The Charity was run by 6 trustees, two of whom were nominated by the Parish Council. The current nominees were Cllr Swash and Terry Clinch. After their term of office expired it had been agreed that they should continue for a further term of 4 years, but this had never been recorded by Deddington Estate Feoffees. Charles Newey had therefore now requested that the PC write to DEF to confirm their nominees. Both Cllr Swash and Terry Clinch had indicated they were happy to continue, but equally Terry Clinch was happy to stand down if a current member of the Parish Council wished to take over. Cllr Squires suggested that the current nominees continue until the next Parish council election when new nominations could be made, as he felt this would be more democratic. However, the Chairman pointed out that the Parish Council had no powers to determine the length of office to those appointed to another organization. Cllr Rollason was concerned that the Parish Council might be losing its link with another village organisation if both its nominees were not on the Parish Council. A vote was taken on whether nominations should be made for 4 years or until the next Parish Council election and **it was agreed by 6 votes to 3 that nominations should be made for a further 4 years. It was further agreed that Cllr Swash and Terry Clinch should remain as the PC's representatives.** The Chairman stated that he would make sure Charles Newey was aware of the discussions regarding the term of office and the concerns which had been raised.

22/04

Planning Working Group

Cllr Harvey reported as follows:

- a.** A list of approvals since the last meeting was circulated, together with notice of the withdrawal of an application.
- b.** **04/00246/TCA Gegg's Lodge Hempton Road, Deddington.** Lift crown and reduce limbs of 1 Yew by 15%. **No objection**
- c.** **04/00152/F 8 Walnut Close, Clifton.** First floor extension over existing dining room and garage. **No objection.**

- d. 04/00086/F 2 Victoria Terrace, Deddington.** Loft conversion, internal alterations and installation of 2 roof lights. **No objection.** It was noted that work had already started in December. **It was agreed that clarification would be sought as to whether planning permission was in fact needed.**
- e. 04/00045/F Whitegates, Philcote St, Deddington.** Erect single storey extension at side, also dismantle and relocate concrete panel garage. **No objection.**
- f. 04/00170 The Hermitage, Market Place, Deddington.** Repair stonework to South gable wall, replace 1 window and rebuild chimney. **No objection.**
- g. 04/00034/F 43 The Daedings, Deddington.** Two-storey side extension to form granny annexe and erection of front porch. Cllr Harvey declared an interest. Cllr Swash reported that there was concern that this represented an over development of the site and would turn a 3 bedroom house into a 5 bedroom house. Cllr Cox said there was also a question that the property might be divided into two. **It was proposed that the Parish Council should oppose the application on the grounds that it was an over development of the site and the property could be divided into separate properties in the future. This was agreed with one vote against;** as a resident of the Deadings, the Chairman did not vote.
- h. 04/00011/ Land adjacent to and North East of 1 The Maunds, High St, Deddington.** Erection of 1 dwelling. Cllr Swash outlined the background to the various applications in respect of this site which had been received recently. There was concern that this latest was an over development of the site and that parking was a particular concern. It was difficult to ascertain exactly where the house would go and it was felt that more information was needed. Cllr Swash confirmed that no letters of objection had been received, but there had been letters of concern. **It was agreed that there was insufficient information available for any decision to be made.**
- i. Alterations to the Co-op.** The Clerk reported that he had spoken with the manager of the Co-op and had written to their Area Property Manager who confirmed that damage done to the green area outside the Co-op, during the building works, would be made good. Cllr Ellis asked about the garage of the corner cottage which was being used for storage; **it was agreed that the Clerk should chase this up.**(The use of the garage had been previously approved)
- j. Signage at the Business Centre.** The Clerk reported that he had written to the Enforcement Officer but had not yet had a response. The Owner had contacted the Parish Office to advise that he did have all relevant permissions.

23/04

Finance and General Purposes Working Group

Cllr Wood said that the F&GP Working Group had not met since the last Parish Council meeting. He reported as follows:

- a.** Income and expenditure accounts to the end of February were tabled, with forecast expenditure to the end of March. Additional funds would be needed to cover this period and **it was agreed that the necessary funds should be transferred accordingly.**
- b.** The £31,000 due from CDC had still not been received and **it was agreed that the Clerk would chase this up.**
- c.** The programme for the internal auditor was in place; there was a list of tasks to be carried out every 3 months, starting from the end of March.
- d.** The Clerk confirmed that the precept had been notified to CDC and that this had been accepted.

- e. **It was agreed that Cllr Wood should become a signatory to the West Bromwich Account.**

24/04

Environment and Recreation Working Group

Cllr Squires reported as follows:

- a. **Hempton Allotments.** There was concern that the question of land registration should be resolved before water was installed before the summer. The Chairman confirmed that he had again written to the solicitors and would continue to chase this up.
- b. **Hard Play Area.** Cllr Watts would forward details of quotes obtained by the Parish council to the Windmill Management Committee.
- c. **Best Kept Village.** The pros and cons of entering this competition were discussed, in particular the implications of a reduction in grass cutting and whether there was full support for a village clear up day. It was felt that there was support for this and that entering the competition made the village a more pleasant place. If the village did enter, it would need to be orchestrated by the Environment Working Group. **Cllr Squires proposed that Deddington should enter the competition; this was seconded by Cllr Wood and unanimously agreed.**
- d. **Village Plan.** The Working Group felt it would be a good idea to update the village plan, but this would require input from all the other Working Groups in terms of preparing questionnaires and supplying information etc and there might be cost implications. Concern was expressed that producing such a plan might raise expectations; however, it was also felt it would give a good indication of what villagers actually wanted as this would become less anecdotal. Cllr Wood asked whether it might be possible to update the 1994 plan rather than create an entirely new one. **It was agreed that the Working Group should look at the work of the Millennium Committee and the 1994 Village Plan and come back with recommendations as to the best way forward.** Cllr Alton expressed his willingness to assist with any questionnaires which might need to be drafted.
- e. **Countryside Forum.** Cllr Wood reported that this had been a good meeting.
- f. **Fire Service Provision.** No one had been able to attend the meeting looking at the new Executive Strategy but it appeared that there would be no impact on Deddington.
- g. **Oxfordshire Compact.** Cllr Rollason will review this and report back.
- h. **Oxfordshire Community Partnership.** Cllr Watts will review this and report back.
- i. **Deddington Circular Walks.** These were normally sold at £1 per copy, but the Parish Council was due to receive 850 free copies of the leaflet outlining the Circular Walks. **It was agreed that the Clerk would enquire whether it would be possible to have additional leaflets to enable one copy to be supplied to each household with its copy of Deddington News.**
- j. **Clifton Road.** Cllr Cox reported that the Clifton road had recently become cluttered with rubbish, including car tyres. The Clerk confirmed that the Stewards had spent that morning litter picking the road. He confirmed that fly tipping was the responsibility of CDC and **agreed follow this up.**

25/04

Highways Working Group

Cllr Wood reported as follows:

- a. **Clifton Footpath.** A note had been received from OCC stating that it would cost

£60,000 to tarmac this. **It was agreed that this should be pursued**

- b. **Better Ways to School.** Meetings had been arranged for 10 March and 31 March. The Clerk was requested to ask the school if a member of the Working Group could attend.
- c. **Clifton Crossing.** The mail drop in the Deddington News had brought a good response. The Working Group would review the feedback and report at the next meeting.
Hempton. Cllr Wood had had a meeting with Steve Bowden of OCC to discuss improvements at the pinch point. A response from OCC was now awaited. Cllr Wood would chase this up in a couple of weeks if necessary.
- d. **Traffic Calming.** OCC had confirmed letter regarding traffic calming and that Deddington was in the queue when the new budget was created. Cllr Jelf said that he had had a meeting with Steve Bowden who had promised this would be implemented by the end of April. He added that Steve Bowden was now well aware of the Parish Council's concerns and the pressure that they were exerting.
- e. **Earls Lane.** Cllr Swash expressed concern about the holes in Earls Lane and also the posts which had been erected outside Earls Court which would make mowing very difficult. Furthermore they were very flimsy and if damaged could become dangerous. The Clerk confirmed that he had already written to Steve Bowden about this and Cllr Jelf also promised to take this up with him.
- f. **Road sweepers.** The Clerk confirmed that road sweepers had gone out to Hempton but had not yet swept the pavements.

26/04 **Invoices for Payment**

Invoices totaling £2490.27 in accordance with a schedule circulated at the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes, were approved for payment.

27/04 **Investment of Councils Funds**

At the close of business on 18 February 2004 the balances were as follows:

BANK BALANCES AS AT 18th February 2004

ACCOUNT NUMBER	BALANCE	INTEREST	NOTICE
70708526	474.56	.1%	Imprest
70708542	1265.93	.1%	Current
TOTAL	1740.49		
Bradford & Bingley	1000.00	3.4%	120 Days
W. Bromwich Building Soc.	520373.97	3.4%	Overnight
TOTAL	523114.46		

28/04 **Correspondence**

A list of correspondence was circulated at the meeting.

- a. **Letter from Linda Davies responding to request that PC become a Governing Sponsor.** The Chairman reported that this letter confirmed that no decision had been taken in relation to sponsoring bodies. He also reported that there had been rumours that pupils were not being taken into the school. What had happened was that 40 applications had been received for Year 1, but the school was only allowed to accept 30. The admissions criteria had been rigorously applied and as a result, all those from Deddington and Hempton who had applied had been accepted, with 1 or 2 from Clifton.

29/04 **OALC.**

Cllr Flux reported that he had now been elected as a member of the Executive Committee of The Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils.

30/04 **Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 17 March at the Town Hall commencing at 7.30pm. Cllr Alton asked that the days of future meeting be included as an agenda item, as had previously been agreed.