

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held at the Town Hall, Deddington, on Wednesday 20 February 2008 at 7.45pm

Present: Cllrs Squires (Chair), Alton, Anderson, Collins, Flux, Privett, Rudge, Spencer, Todd, Watts, Westbury and Wood. The Parish Clerk was also in attendance.

016/08	<p>Apologies Apologies were received from Cllrs Ince, Rollason, County Cllr Jelf and District Councillor O’Sullivan</p>
017/08	<p>Minutes of the last meeting The following amendments were made to the minutes of 16th January 2008: 006/08 (7) Amend last sentence to read Cllr Anderson noted that an application at Ash Cottage, Chapel Lane, had conditions relating to drainage. 014/08 Vandalism: The second sentence should read Cllr Collins reported that Teen Scene as potential users consider safety, via CCTV, to be a major issue. Cllr Squires then signed the minutes as a true record.</p>
018/08	<p>Declaration of Interests 022/08 Wind Turbines Cllr Todd personal and prejudicial 022/08 Wind Turbines Cllr Westbury personal and prejudicial 022/08 Planning Application 07/02703/F Cllr Spencer personal and prejudicial</p>
019/08	<p>Matters Arising not referred to later on the Agenda Cllr Squires informed the council that the paperwork provided for Teen Scene would be used to benchmark all other applications. The PC is therefore spearheading the way forward and in doing so raising the village profile. He thanked all involved.</p>
020/08	<p>10 Minute open Forum Two representatives from the Windmill Committee (WMC) made a presentation about the possibility of installing wind power at the Windmill Centre. The use of renewable energy at the Windmill Centre utilising a wind turbine(s) would cut the Centre’s electricity costs, reduce its carbon footprint, contribute to the wider goal of reducing the dependence on finite fossil fuels (locally, UK and Europe-wide) and be Deddington’s flagship energy conservation measure. Two turbine designs are being investigated: horizontal axis turbines (the type most commonly seen) with two or three blades, and the newer vertical axis turbines which are reportedly quieter, lower, and less visible. Two options are currently being considered. Option one is for one 20kW horizontal turbine on an 18m high tower on the far south west side of the playing field. This would be 150m from the nearest houses (the recommended minimum distance is 100m) The second option is for four 5kW vertical turbines possibly sited between the all weather court and the bowls club (four would be required because the maximum size of this design is 5kW). Both schemes have comparable costs - around £45–50,000 installed cost. Both options would generate 20kW of electricity. The Windmill’s annual energy consumption is 18,500kW so the small surplus could be sold back to the grid. It is hoped to provide remote internet monitoring for schooling purposes.</p> <p>Opinions have been sort from the RSPB, Natural England, the Banbury Bat Society and Banbury Ornithological Society. There are strict guidelines on noise emissions to ensure residents are protected. A computer-generated visual of the site is being developed to illustrate the visual impact. An application for funding would be made to the Sita Trust under their Large Grants Scheme for 89% of the installation cost, up to a maximum of £50,000. A third party would be sort to fund the shortfall either by way of a grant or loan such as Midcounties Co-op who are interested in supporting the scheme. Local builders would be asked to quote for providing the groundwork’s. The next step is to apply to CDC, on an exploratory basis, for planning permission for the horizontal turbine.</p> <p>A Clifton resident asked that consideration be made to extend any Sustrans grant application for linking Deddington to Clifton, through the village to the canal. It was then suggested that linking it to Aynho would further expand the cycle network and link Oxfordshire with Northamptonshire.</p>
021/08	<p>Finance & General Purposes Working Group 1) Cash Flow – Large receipt of £2,990.50 was the grant for the bus shelter. 2) Forecast 2007/8 and draft budget 2008/9 - These had been previously circulated to all councillors with explanatory notes. The forecast deficit for this year reflects the</p>

	<p>usual items of maintenance work around the village. Budgeted expenditure for next years includes four unusual items suggested by working groups. As interest rates are likely to change an estimated reduction in income has been budgeted. It was suggested that it would be useful to use breakeven budgets from now on. Cllr Wood proposed that the council should approve the framework budget. This was seconded by Cllr Flux and unanimously agreed.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3) A contract of employment has been agreed for the weekend steward. 4) Cllr Wood explained to councillors the way that revenue and capital reserves are dealt with in accounts. A document detailing this explanation was distributed. 5) Youth Club AGM - Cllr Wood recently attended and reported that the Youth Club had been granted £7,129 from Awards for All. It is anticipated that this may be spent by September. Cllr Flux suggested that they might like to contact OCC should further funds be required. 6) External Auditors – A letter has been received from the Audit Commission to inform that Stoy Hayward LLP have been re-appointed external auditors for five years. The Audit Commission proposed that if Stoy Hayward fall by the wayside during this time a panel of Audit Commission officers would be used as external auditors. Cllr Wood proposed that the PC accept this proposal. This motion was seconded by Cllr Squires and unanimously agreed. 7) Deddington on Line – Cllr Anderson is the official parish council link with Deddington On-Line and explained that because of its great success now requires some financial support although no formal approach has yet been made to the PC. DOL hope to re-organise the site and Cllr Anderson explained that a new content management system will be introduced which provides for various organisations etc to have their own dedicated sections on the site. Trusted third parties would be given access to amend and update their own web pages. It was proposed by Cllr Wood that, if formally approached, a contribution of £100 be made. Cllr Todd seconded the proposal and it was unanimously agreed. 8) Standing Orders – It was recommended that changes be made to current agreed standing orders with regard to prejudicial interests and public participation. Cllr Wood proposed, Cllr Alton seconded and it was agreed unanimously Refer to copy of new standing orders.
022/08	<p>Planning Group Wind Turbines at the Windmill Centre</p> <p>Open question and answer session: Cllr Todd felt that clarification was needed about the type of turbine finally selected and that further information was required before any decision should be made. He voiced concerns about the movement of the rotary blades casting shadows on the playing surfaces. The WMC representatives explained that an area of 3 square metres would be required for the turbine base. The turbines would have a life of approximately 25 years. In terms of timescale it was hoped that planning permission could be sort by summer – if this was received grant funding would then be sought. Cllr Spencer asked if the turbines would be vandal proof. The WMC representatives consider this to be a serious issue that they are looking into. Cllr Todd suggested that the Annual Parish Meeting would be a suitable occasion to consult and inform the residents of the Parish.</p> <p>Cllrs Todd and Westbury left the meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Privett concluded that it sounded like a good idea but need to be proved. Cllr Rudge stated that the residents living close to the proposed site needed to be fully supportive. Cllr Wood said that the Parish Council could not speak for residents and that the proposal needed to be put parishioners to gauge their views. Cllr Flux said that CDC was looking for the PCs agreement in principle as the landowner. Cllr Alton suggested that a letter of support from the PC be written for the WMC with a caveat that the village would have to support the introduction of turbines with a comfortable majority. Cllr Wood suggested that there should be a number of caveats. Cllr Squires suggested that before going further a public consultation was required with the people potentially affected and that the Annual Parish Meeting would be a good forum for this. The meeting decided that the clerk will draft a letter with Cllr Flux explaining that the PC is in favour of looking at ways of exploring the use of renewable energy sources for Cllrs to consider at the next PC meeting.</p> <p>Cllrs Todd and Westbury then re-joined the meeting.</p>

	<p>Applications 07/02703/F – Castle Dene, Castle Street, Deddington: 2 dormer windows to west (courtyard) elevation to replace existing velux windows. (Cllr Spencer left the room for this item). No objection 08/00094/LB – The Old Bakery, Market Place, Deddington: Internal re-decoration to provide new handrail, plaster board lining walls, metal beam support, fire door and decorate front in white. Hampton’s International, new owners of former Hayward White estate agents refurbishing premises. No objection. 08/00135/LB – Peartree Cottage, St. Thomas Street, Deddington: Remove existing fireplace to expose original, replace internal doors, replace front door and install stud partition to form downstairs WC. No objection. 08/00194/LB – 5 Philcote Street, Deddington (and amendment) Replacement of front windows (3) and guttering. Timber frames being used for windows. No objection. 08/00205/TCA – St. Peters and St. Pauls Church, Church Street, Deddington: Crown lift, secondary branching of 8 Yew trees up to 3m. No objection. 08/00259/F – Applewood (formerly Monks Court), Castle Street, Deddington Erection of sunroom/orangery to rear/side elevation. Constructed of matching natural stone, hardwood framing and glazing to windows. No objection 08/00260/LB – Applewood (formerly Monks Court), Castle Street, Deddington As 08/00259/F Included above. No objection.</p> <p><u>Permissions granted</u> 07/02420/F – Home Farm Cottage, Main Street, Clifton 07/02508/F – 38 Gaveston Gardens, Deddington 07/02525/LB – The Old Bakery, Market Place, Deddington 07/02590/LB – Town Hall, Market Place, Deddington 07/02662/TCA – Castle End, Castle Street, Deddington 07/02664/TCA – Castle End, Castle Street, Deddington 07/02629/TCA – The Mount, St Thomas Street, Deddington</p> <p><u>Other matters</u> CDC – Consultation with Parishes on Local Development Framework. Events will be held on 11 March and 27 May. Cllrs Anderson and Todd are unable to attend the event on 11 March. Interested Cllrs should contact Cllr Todd for more information. Draft East Midlands Plan Panel Report Published. Details can be accessed. Letter with PC Clerk. Car Valeting in Earls Lane During Earls Lane parking consultation a resident has drawn attention to the problems caused by car valeting being carried out in Earls Lane. The Clerk will send a letter to CDC drawing attention to this and copy it to OCC. CDC Energy Planning Policy. CDC has responded on this subject stating that the government published policy guidance in December, 2007 which will be incorporated into its Core strategy Preferred Options to be published this Autumn. St Thomas Street, Deddington – Conditions attached 06/00462F Condition 6 - planting of replacement trees during first growing season overdue. CDC contacted.</p>
023/08	<p>Highways Working Group (HWG) Cllrs Privett, Ince, Collins, CC Jelf and the Clerk met with Cllr Hudspeth from OCC at the Windmill Centre. The following matters were discussed.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Cllr Hudspeth was thanked for the help provided by OCC staff on various projects, repairs and ongoing matters. 2) A4260 – a letter has been received from OCC regarding remedial measures, Cllr Hudspeth will find out what is happening on this issue. He suggested that Thames Valley Police be contacted to enquire about getting a mobile enforcement camera sited in the village. Cllr Privett to action 3) Traffic Island / Crossing Point in Village – awaiting initial report from OCC, but this was again highlighted and shown to Cllr Hudspeth 4) Crossing Point by School – Cllr Hudspeth will contact the schools contact for Better Ways to School to see what their position is with this issue. 5) Earls Lane Parking – Cllr Hudspeth was taken to Earls Lane to see the problem first hand and so better appreciate the extent of the problem. He was surprised at the amount of traffic even though he visited this site at a time that could be considered to be quiet by normal standards. The HWG asked about the possibility of a financial contribution from OCC. Cllr Rudge will find out what is happening regarding Surgery’s funding requests. Copies of the questionnaire and summary comments

	<p>were given to Cllr Hudspeth.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6) Hempton Pinch Point – Cllr Hudspeth was able to better understand the problem after seeing it first hand. All responses received have been for bringing the white line out along with other suggestions such as replacing the Give Way with a Stop sign (although there maybe issues with turning in the LHS). The questionnaire and responses will be forwarded to OCC. 7) Clifton Flooding – Cllr Collins has contacted OCC to request that rather than re-surface some of Clifton (scheduled to take place from Sunday 9th March) there are checks made to the drain in the main road. They have stated that after jetting it seemed to be obstruction free but would undertake a camera survey to see if anything else was at fault before resurfacing. With regard to the secondary aspect of flooding at the bottom of Chapel Lane, OCC are awaiting confirmation of the land ownership so that they can contact the correct persons and request that they improve their drainage or face the possibility of legal action. 8) Storm Drain at southern end of Market Place has been cleared out. 9) Post Box relocation. Cllr Privett and the Clerk met with Darren Mizzen (OCC) and Steven Parry (Post Office) and suggested the best and only feasible site was the corner of the verge, by the waste bin, outside the church. Cllr Todd raised concerns about the sight line when driving down from the Bullring. This proposal was put to the Parish Council and it was passed with 7 voting for, 2 against and 3 abstaining. The Clerk will ask the PO to position the post box as close as possible to the existing bin and telegraph pole. 10) Lighting at night - OCC has advised that if DPC were interested in trialling part night lighting in one or two roads initially they could arrange it subject to consultation. Cllr Squires suggested that this could be put to residents at the Annual Parish Meeting 11) Correspondence – a) temporary road closures on A361 at Beargarden and South Newington; b) Oxfordshire Public Transport Guide delivered throughout the county with free Newspaper at the beginning of December 2007 (Parish Office has a copy) and c) temporary road closure B4031 Clifton between Chapel Close and Home Farm western boundary on Sunday 9 March and limited access for a total of 4 days. 12) Elderly Bus Pass – Cllr Flux reminded all elderly residents that from 1 April 2008 there is a free local bus pass available. 13) Dangerous Bend between Aynho and Souldern – Cllr Todd asked that the Clerk contact South Northamptonshire Council and notify them that the warning lights for the bend are not always in working order. Also the reflective strip on the crash barrier has come off. 14) Cllr Watts asked that a request be made for Speed checks to take place in Hempton preferably between the hours of 7-9am and 3-6pm. The Clerk will ask her contact at Bicester Police for information about her opposite number in Banbury Police.
024/08	<p>Environment and Recreation Working Group</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Teen scene – Contracts are now signed with CDC, Proludic & Steelway Fensecure. Proludic to install early March and Steelway in late March. Work to be managed by Clerk, Cllr Squires or Spencer depending on the date of work. Clerk to inform Windmill Committee (WMC) when dates are confirmed. 2) Youth Drop-in Centre - a visit undertaken by E&RWG to Woodgreen Centre in Banbury. Grant funding exists for proposed facility aimed at 13+ age group. The first priority is to agree a location. 3) Spring Clean – an approach has been received from CDC regarding this year's spring clean initiative. E & R suggested that the action day be focussed on the Windmill Centre. Cllr Flux will discuss with WMC and assess interest. 4) Cherwell Green Spaces & Playing Field Strategy – Cllrs Watts & Westbury to attend CDC meeting on 21 February. Cllr Westbury to attend further meeting 1 March. 5) Funfair – A booking request has been made for 13-15 November. Cllr Todd suggested that their fee be in line with inflation. The price had been set for an initial three year trail. As this is now the fourth year it was proposed that the price be increased by 10% to £220. Cllr Squires seconded this proposal and the PC unanimously agreed to this proposal. 6) Allotment Association – still under investigation with Cllr Westbury. 7) Gaveston Gardens Grass Cutting – deferred until the next meeting 8) Cricket Club request – the cricket club would like an increase to the number cuts per year. Cllr Flux confirmed that the cricket club had said that they would be willing to pay for this.
025/08	<p>Special Projects Update</p> <p>Cllr Flux reported that Cllr Ince has investigated upgrading the current system. A digital system will cost in the region of £1500 and this is already included in the budget.</p>

026/08	<p>Report upon the Play Areas The bark has been delivered and spread at an additional fee. A query needs to be raised before the purchase of any further bark.</p>																								
027/08	<p>Invoices for Payment The schedule of invoices was presented. Invoices totalling £6,264.99 were tabled and approved for payment.</p>																								
028/08	<p>Investment of Council Funds At the close of business on 20th February 2008 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 Current Acct</td> <td>571.77</td> <td>0.1%</td> <td>Instant</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Barclays Imprest Acct</td> <td>11,220.15</td> <td>0.1%</td> <td>Instant</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W. Bromwich Building Soc.</td> <td>334,147.42</td> <td>5.10%</td> <td>Overnight</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Birmingham Midshires</td> <td>200,000.00</td> <td>5.13%</td> <td>Fixed Bond</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>545,939.34</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ACCOUNT	BALANCE	INTEREST	NOTICE	Barclays Current Acct	571.77	0.1%	Instant	Barclays Imprest Acct	11,220.15	0.1%	Instant	W. Bromwich Building Soc.	334,147.42	5.10%	Overnight	Birmingham Midshires	200,000.00	5.13%	Fixed Bond	TOTAL	545,939.34		
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029/08	<p>Correspondence A letter from OCC about a slippery footpath was explained to Cllrs.</p>																								
030/08	<p>AOB Market Place trees. The Clerk will contact OCC to determine the current situation re the Market Place and Hempton Road replacement trees. Cemetery Gates – these have now been repaired. DPC – Cllr Collins asked for clarification of the Parish Councils standing and whether it was a secular council. The council considered that although it has involvement with the Church of England as the national religion its dealings and decisions were not influenced by any religion. Clifton Hedge – the council confirmed that the Clifton play area hedge should be removed in accordance with the quote submitted by Thomas Fox.</p>																								
031/08	<p>Next Meeting The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 19 March 2008 at 7.45pm in Deddington Town Hall.</p>																								