

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 18 January 2006
commencing at 7.45pm

Present: Cllrs Flux (Chair), Squires, Todd, Mrs Swash, Putland, Wood, Alton, Mrs Cox, Watt, Alan Collins, District Cllr O'Sullivan, Lorraine Watling (Clerk), Sue Gibbs (Minute Secretary)

1/06.	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllrs Haslam, Mrs Spencer, Rollason, Westley, Co Cllr Jelf.</p>
2/06	<p><u>Minutes of last meeting.</u></p> <p>107/05(a) The Chair confirmed that this letter had come from the Trustees of the Royal British Legion, and not from Hayward and White.</p> <p>103/05(b) Cllr Todd asked that reference to the re-routing of the buses be included. This had been included in Cllr Putland's note relating to the Fair.</p> <p>Subject to these changes, the Minutes of the last meeting held on 16 November were approved as a correct record.</p>
3/06	<p><u>Membership of the Council</u></p> <p>The Chairman reported that as had been agreed at the previous meeting, Martin Ellis was no longer a member of the Council. It had been agreed that a replacement, preferably from Clifton, should be co-opted until the elections in May. Alan Collins had agreed to join the Council and the Chairman welcomed him to the meeting.</p>
4/06	<p><u>Declaration of Interests</u></p> <p>6 /06 (c). Cllr Swash declared an interest. 7/06 (e). Cllr Flux declared an interest</p>
5/06	<p><u>10 Minute Open Forum.</u></p> <p>There were no members of the public wishing to speak.</p>
6/06	<p><u>Report from Planning Working Group</u></p> <p>Cllr Swash reported as follows:</p> <p>a. 10/05 Deddington Highways Depot, Banbury Road, Deddington. Construction of a new refueling station, salt loading area and associated drainage works (including installation of new septic tanks), plus demolition and removal of existing fuel station and concrete storage bin. No objection.</p>

	<p>b. 05/02501/F Berwick House, Deddington. Conversion of existing car port to garage. No objection unless any complaints are received from the neighbours.</p> <p>c. 06/00049/F Glencree, Philcote St. Cllr Todd reported that this application had just been received and was applying to demolish an existing flat-roofed porch and add a pitched roof. No objection.</p> <p>d. A list of applications approved was circulated.</p> <p>e. Application withdrawn: 6 Hempton Road, Deddington.</p>
7/06	<p>Finance and General Purposes Working Group</p> <p>Cllr Wood reported as follows</p> <p>(a) The cashflow to the end of December was tabled.</p> <p>(b) The forecast for the rest of the year and budget for the following was tabled. It was noted that there were higher than expected E&R expenses in December and that the settlement with Gary was included under administration. In future, the clerk will keep a record of grass cutting, to compare these with the projected number for the whole year.</p> <p>(c) The Budget for 2006/07. There were a number of items of expenditure which were impossible to budget as it was not at all clear how much these would be. These related to possible work to the Town Hall, the pathway at Clifton and an anticipated request for funding from the Youth Club. The current budget should therefore be viewed as a preliminary position. A revised budget to be examined in detail and approved would be presented at the meeting in March.</p> <p>(d) Precept. It was proposed that the precept should be increased by £1 to £31.50. This was in line with inflation. Although it was recognized that the Parish Council should not be subsidizing likely expenditure, it was also felt that it would not be possible to argue for a greater increase when the PC had run a balanced budget this year. It was acknowledged that if the budget went into deficit next year, there were sufficient reserves to meet this shortfall and a greater increase could be made the following year. It was therefore agreed that the Precept for 2006/07 should be increased by £1.</p> <p>(e) Loan to Windmill Centre. The Windmill Centre had repaid the 1st years contribution and it was noted that the refurbishment of the All Weather Court was proving a great success.</p> <p>(f) Chairman's Allowances. A late request for a tertiary education grant had been received from David Lane from Hempton. It was agreed that this should be awarded. It was noted that students could claim this one off grant at any time during their tertiary education course, but it was agreed that in future applications should be received by December. Applications received after that would have to wait until the next academic year. Cllr Wood proposed a grant of £100 for the Chairman's allowance. This was seconded by Cllr Todd and approved.</p> <p>(g) Salary Award for Local Council Clerks. It was noted that a letter</p>

	<p>had been received from OALC setting out the salary awards for local clerks for the following financial year. This would be effective from 1 April 2006. It was noted that the Stewards would receive a similar inflationary increase.</p> <p>(h) Friends of Daedas Wood. A letter had been received about a family picnic on 11 June to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the woods being planted, requesting the PC to pay for a portaloos. It was noted that the PC had done this at the Millennium celebrations and it was agreed that this should be repeated.</p>
102/05	<p><u>Environment and Recreation Group</u></p> <p>Cllr Squires reported as follows:</p> <p>(a) Play Areas. More bark was needed for the older children's play area and a new rubber topper on the gate was needed. It was agreed that the Clerk should ask the Stewards to attend to these. It was agreed that CDC should be asked to remove the old seesaw.</p> <p>(b) Charter Housing Grant. Nothing further had been heard about this and the Clerk was asked to chase them up.</p> <p>(c) Satin Lane Allotments. Plot usage was currently being reviewed. A letter had been received from an allotment holder requesting reimbursement for work she had had done, rotivating a plot she had taken over from someone who had moved to Hempton. She had contacted the previous clerk about this who had promised to go and have a look; he had not done so. Cllr Squires had been in contact with the previous Clerk who had said that he had not given any undertaking that the PC would pay for the work and it was noted that the allotment holder had not been back to the PC with a quote for the work before getting it done. Although 5 or 6 years ago the PC had paid for someone to clear some areas, this was not the usual practice and it had not been done in the last few years. The plot in question had only been out of use for a relatively short time. After some discussion it was agreed that the request should be refused. It was also agreed that the PC should maintain its existing policy, namely that where an area has not been cultivated for a number of years the PC would arrange for this to be cleared, but this would involve the plot being inspected by the PC, proper quotes obtained and the PC managing the work. It was agreed that Cllr Squires would put these rules in writing for approval at the next PC meeting.</p> <p>(d) Draft Guidance on Clean Neighbourhood Act. It was noted that from April the PC could issue fixed penalty notices for litters, graffiti, dog offences etc. This had been debated previously and the PC had felt that it did not want to go down this route. The new PC might wish to reconsider this after the May election. The increasing problem of dog mess was highlighted and concern was expressed about the provision of dog wardens. District Cllr O'Sullivan said he had not received any indication that this service would be withdrawn.</p> <p>(e) Fair. The Clerk had discussed this with Mr Hatwell and provisional</p>

	<p>dates for next year set, to be confirmed by the new Parish Council. Concern was raised regarding the re-routing of the bus services. It was noted that it had previously been agreed that, providing all the concerns set out in Cllr Putland's report were met (specifically including those relating to re-routing the buses), there was no reason not to go ahead with this.</p>
103/05	<p><u>Parish Plan</u></p> <p>Cllr Squires reported that responses had been received from about a third of the Parish. These were being collated by the Clerk. The youth questionnaire was being collated by Cllr Squires and the business questionnaire by Pam. Anything which came out of these would be discussed with the County and District Councils. The Chairman thanked Cllr Squires and the Working Party for all their work on this.</p>
104/05	<p><u>Highways Working Group</u></p> <p>Cllr Putland reported as follows</p> <p>(a). Clifton Path. A very negative response had been received from David Deriaz regarding this. The Chairman reported that he spoken to Co Cllr Jelf several times that say and learned that when David Robertson had heard about this response he had been very disappointed and had taken action to ensure that it was now back on the agenda and that arrangements would be finalized within the next few months. It was agreed that the Clerk, with Co Cllr Jelf's help, would follow this up with Highways and get the exact arrangements clarified in writing.</p> <p>(b). Hempton Road. It now appeared that this work would be done sometime in March.</p> <p>(c). Horse Fair Crossings. It appeared that some initial measuring work had been undertaken and it was hoped that the work would be done sometime at the end of January/early February.</p> <p>(d). Earls Lane. There was concern about the kerb, following the re-surfacing work. It was agreed that this should be taken up with Ralph Grant at OCC.</p> <p>(e). Signposts. A request had been received from Christopher Hall asking if permission could be obtained from OCC for the old signposts to be smartened up using local labour.</p>
105/05	<p><u>Invoices</u></p> <p>A schedule of invoices totalling £2496.36 was tabled, a copy of which is filed with these minutes, and was approved for payment.</p>
106/05	<p><u>Investment of Councils Funds</u></p> <p>At the close of business on 18 January 2006 the balances were as follows:</p>

107/05	<p><u>Correspondence</u></p> <p>A list of correspondence since the last meeting was circulated.</p> <p>(a). Graham Eccles – 4 January: Asked about planning permission that may be required for a sky dish and alarm box. It was agreed that this should be forwarded to CDC</p> <p>(b) Town Hall. An anonymous complaint about youths congregating around the Town Hall was discussed. It was acknowledged that it was difficult to do anything about this and agreed that turning out the light would not be a good idea. The new community policeman had been informed about the problem and asked that whenever a car came through the village an eye should be kept on this area, the Windmill Centre and the road by the OCC depot. It was agreed that he should also be informed of this complaint and invited to come and address the PC at some stage.</p>
108/05	<p><u>Village Meeting</u></p> <p>It was agreed that the Annual Village Meeting would be held 26 April at 7.30pm at the Windmill Centre. This would be before the elections on 4 May. The possibility of inviting someone to come and address the meeting on youth issues was discussed.</p>
109/05	<p><u>Meetings in Hempton</u></p> <p>The March meeting would be held in Hempton. There would be no meeting on Clifton because there was no suitable meeting place.</p>
110/05	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 15 February at 7.45pm</p>

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00pm.