

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held at the Town Hall, Deddington, on

Wednesday 20 January 2010 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Flux (Chair), Allison, Anderson, Collins, Day, Rudge, Squires, Todd, Ward and District Cllr O'Sullivan and the Parish Clerk were also in attendance.

001/10	Apologies: Cllrs Finnigan, Ince, Privett, Watts and County Councillor Jelf,
002/10	Minutes of the last meeting: It was requested by Cllr Wood that the points raised in the previous minutes should be clarified in the following way: 188/09 176/09 (3) Youth Activities – ‘When the PC considers making money available to the Youth Cub, it will be a condition that the club is viable and with a proper management structure.’ 195/09 (2) Estimate for 2009-10 and provisional budget for 2010-11 – Youth Club money is not ring fenced and should not be regarded as such. Therefore the following sentence should be removed. “There was discussion as to where the ring-fenced monies were for the Youth Club” Cllr Flux then signed the minutes as a true record.
003/10	Declaration of Interests: 010/10 09/01626/F Ithaca, Hopcraft Lane Deddington. Cllr Todd personal interest 010/10 09/01731/LB Treholford, New Street, Deddington. Cllr Todd personal interest 010/10 09/01768/CLUE Stile Cottage, Goose Green, Deddington. Cllr Allison personal interest 010/10 09/01890/F 19 The Daedings, Deddington. Cllr Flux personal interest 013/10 (8) VAS. Cllr Rudge declared a personal interest. 013/10 (9) Snow on pavements. Cllr Todd declared a personal interest.
004/10	Matters Arising not referred to later on the Agenda: None
005/10	10 Minute Open Forum: None
006/10	County and District Councillors update: None
007/10	Neighbourhood Policing: Cllr Flux suggested that the PC could be more involved in the NAG. It was agreed that he will speak to Dave Keats to confirm whether he still wishes to continue as the PCs NAG representative. If so, he will be asked to attend the next PC meeting to discuss ways of maximising communications between the NAG and the PC.
008/10	Recreation 1. Youth Activities. The Youth Club now has a properly constituted committee in place. Cllr Ward has suggested to Helen Spencer that she contact the Windmill Management Committee to see what other nights might be available. Cllr Flux and Joyce Minnear have discussed the potential for using the WC on Friday evenings. This is being investigated with the Badminton club. 2. Friends of Castle Grounds. Good progress being made on a 5 year plan. Three quotations for work have been passed to Dan Bashford of English Heritage who has advised that the work is required as a matter of some urgency. He will liaise with the Clerk as applications for grants will need to be formally submitted through the PC as the landowner. FOCG will also be submitting an application to the PC for help with removal of Hogweed in March/April - considerable volunteer hours will ensure reduced costs. Cllr Anderson is checking on insurance cover for volunteers. Cllr Squires mentioned that volunteers may need Health & Safety and first aid training. Cllr Rudge suggested that if the Oxfordshire Conservation Volunteers assist the FOCG volunteers may be covered by their insurance. 3. Correspondence. Posters have been received from Tanya White of Parkside Leisure (Get Oxfordshire Active) advertising new Jogging and Nordic Walking groups starting up in Banbury, Bicester and Kidlington. The aim is to assess whether there is sufficient interest to warrant offering the same scheme in Deddington. Posters to be displayed on Parish Notice Boards. The Nordic Walking courses are run over 8 weeks for Over 50s only. 4. AOB. The RWG are still discussing the possibilities of a fitness trail and has viewed the equipment at the People's Park in Banbury.
009/10	Environment & Special Projects Working Group 1. Christmas tree was dismantled and removed very efficiently on 5 January by Cllr Ince's team of experts led by Nipper Clarke. Thanks to everyone involved. 2. TOE grant application for wildflower meadow has been acknowledged and is being considered. Cllr Rudge and the Clerk have responded to some questions that were asked by TOE. Cllr Rudge has asked Cynthia Napper from ONCF for continuing advice. It is recommended that plug plants are used and that planting should take place late summer/early autumn. 3. Wildflower identification course This was previously discussed at the December PC meeting. Cllr Rudge has since enquired about grants for this and offered to part fund it herself. If she attends she would still like it to be acknowledged that any expertise gained is intended for the benefit of the ESP group and the Parish in general.
010/10	Planning Working Group Applications 09/01626/F – Ithaca, Hopcraft Lane, Deddington (Part retrospective). Various work. Eight out of the fifteen items are new whilst some have already been done without having planning permission.

	<p>The PC would like any new rendering to match that already completed. Neighbours are concerned about the retrospective decking application as it has raised the level of the garden and created what they regard as an overlooking problem. The PC supports the neighbours concerns and objects to this part of the application. It also objects to the glass canopy which is considered to be out of character and also recommends that the driveway should be constructed of the same materials as the neighbouring house which shares a common access from the highway.</p> <p>09/01726/LB – South Gate, Market Place, Deddington. New hand rail to front steps. No objection.</p> <p>09/01731/LB – Treholford, New Street, Deddington. Repair of stone mullions. No objection.</p> <p>09/01764/F – Daeda Cottage, The Mews, Market Place, Deddington. First floor extension over existing ground floor. No objection.</p> <p>09/01768/CLUE – Stile Cottage, Goose Green, Deddington. Certificate of lawful use existing for the continued use of Stile Cottage as a dwelling. The applicant states it has been used as a dwelling since 2004. A Parish Councillor confirmed this.</p> <p>09/01806/F – Chatterley House, Main Street, Clifton. Erection of home office/home gym in front of the existing house. The PC is concerned about a modern building being placed in front of the existing one that has been built in a traditional style that matches the majority of buildings in this stretch of Main Road. Trees/hedgerow between proposed building and the road could be removed at some later date thus changing the street scene. There is room for the proposed development south of the existing garage and between it and the house, thus keeping the new build back from the building line. Objection to its proposed siting.</p> <p>09/01890/F – 19 The Daedings, Deddington. Extension to enlarge a 4 bedroom house to a 5 bedroom property. The proposals are similar to changes already made to several neighbouring properties that had to ensure that there is a turning facility and sufficient parking space available for 3 vehicles. The PC has no objection but recommends that this parking condition is also applied to this property. It also recommends that a condition be included to ensure that there is no sub-letting.</p> <p>Approvals</p> <p>09/01433/LB – Holcombe Hotel, High Street, Deddington 09/01466/LB – Corner House, High Street, Deddington) 09/01480/F – Ivings House, Philcote Street, Deddington 09/01498/F – Calder Cottage, Philcote Street, Deddington 09/01695/LB – Manor Flat, Deddington Manor, New Street, Deddington</p> <p>Withdrawals</p> <p>09/01646/F – Ash Cottage, Chapel Close, Clifton. One detached dwelling with integral garage. A site meeting took place with the builders’ representative, persons concerned, District Cllr O’Sullivan and Cllr Todd on 21 December 2009. Objections to the proposed scheme were outlined together with concerns over the siting of existing services and access to houses beyond the site. Builders’ representative said that he would suggest a revised application taking into consideration relevant objections and concerns. PC notified 12 January 2010 that the application had been withdrawn.</p>
011/10	<p>Finance and General Purposes Working Group</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Budget and precept procedures. Cllr Wood explained that a budget had to be agreed as the basis for the precept request. These items are for consideration only and will still need to be put to council for approval along with other items that are not currently budgeted for. The PC cannot commit a future Council to set a future precept. Full details in F&GPWG Appendix. Cashflow statement to end of December. Cllr Wood presented the cashflow statement. Estimate for 2009-10 and suggested budget for 2010-2011. The estimate remains the same. Budget 2010. Suggestions were made by the E&SP and Highways working groups. E&SP, although no items have been approved the outstanding items are all small so it thought that if they are approved they can be absorbed in the general E&SP budget. Hempton Road Cemetery. If there is a surplus from this year it will go into the general revenue reserve but cannot be carried forward specifically for the cemetery in the PC accounts. War Memorial. The possible costs are unknown and the work has not been budgeted for as it is not certain that it will take place. If it does happen it will be funded from the revenue reserve or current budget if a surplus is available. Deddington in Bloom. It is hoped that the PC will get sponsorship but are prepared to support if necessary. Highways. If a further VAS is required OCC should pay. The number of dwellings in the village has gone up from 914 to 916. Precept 2010-2011. The provisional budget assumed a 10% precept increase as part of a longer term programme to get the PC finances onto a better basis in light of the continuing uncertainty about interest rates. Cllr Wood proposed that this 10% be approved by the PC. Cllr Squires proposed an amendment to the proposal that limited the increase to 5%. Cllr Wood suggested that our actual charge for a D band property was low in comparison with other PC’s as the Parish had previously received a lot of interest on its investments that had buffered the precept. Cllr Collins suggested that parishioners’ are feeling the declining economic climate more this year than last. Cllr Rudge suggested a compromise of 7.5%. Cllr Allison considered that 10% was not justifiable despite the excellent service the parish offers. Cllr Squires amended proposal for a 5% increase was seconded by Cllr Collin and passed with the vote 5 for and 4 against.

	5. PC minutes. It was suggested that they might benefit from being shorter. Cllr Flux said it had been previously agreed that they reflect what happens at meetings and show how the council reaches their decisions. The Clerk and minute secretary will reduce the minutes where possible.																												
012/10	War Memorial. Cllr Collins to arrange a meeting. Current strength of feedback suggests that repair of the war memorial is preferable to parishioners' and interested parties than a possible relocation.																												
013/10	<p>Highways Working Group.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Highway issues. The following issues have been passed Pete Ronald of OCC and to the NAG: Speeding in Earls Lane & Hempton Road; excess speed in Hempton; 'Give Way' marks at the south side of Market Place and the pinch point by Church Street; parish 30mph signage; electronic warning in Earls Lane; Philcote street signage. 2. Pedestrian Crossing of New Street. Cllr Allison reported no progress. 3. Post Box. Cllr Allison has spoken to Royal Mail who have not received the submission from the utilities. A further site meeting to be arranged. 4. Blanket Road Closure application. Dates being collected from parties. Deddington Festival requires spur road closure in the Market Place from Friday am 18th to Noon Saturday. Awaiting meeting with CDC 5. Clifton – Deddington Foot Path. This matter has also been added to Pete Ronald's list. It was noted that the recent snow meant some children wanted to walk to school but advice could not be provided for undertaking this safely without a footpath. 6. Slippery Pavement by crossing. Clerk to chase. 7. Storm Drain Main St. Clifton. Cllr Rose has replied and the response has been forwarded to Gordon Hunt. Awaiting reply. 8. VAS. Cllr Collins suggested that the VAS be re-set to be activated at 35mph in line with the speeding policy of the Association of Police Chief Officers. This will stop the signs flashing at drivers slowing down as they enter the zone. Cllr Rudge suggested it remain at 30mph as the difference may mean that drivers do not slow down to 30mph. Cllr Day considered that the flashing does not cause annoyance and is helpful reminder to adhere to the speed limit. Cllr Collins proposed the change to 35mph, which was seconded by Cllr Todd and agreed by 7 for and 2 against. 9. Snow on pavements. Cllr Squires suggested that the PC might consider taking on the responsibility for salting parish pathways as they do in parts of Wales. Cllr Day suggested that this was a matter for public consultation. Cllr Allison said that it was OCC's responsibility and the PC should not be held accountable. The Clerk also raised the issue that the Stewards may not be able to get to the Parish in order to actually do the work. It was decided that as the item was not formally on the agenda it should be passed to highways for consideration and feedback to PC at a later date. District Cllr O'Sullivan stated that the residents from the Grove had requested that the salt bin that had been removed be replaced. 																												
014/10	Report upon the Play Areas: The bark has been delivered and spread. The replacement swing has now been fitted and the graffiti removed. A new 'dogs prohibited' sign has been purchased to replace the rusty one at the entrance of the children's play area. This will be fitted by the steward shortly.																												
015/10	Invoices for Payment: A schedule of invoices totalling £2,732.96 were tabled and approved for payment.																												
016/10	<p>Investment of Council Funds</p> <p>At the close of business on 20 January 2010 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>1,370.06</td> <td>0.1%</td> <td>Imprest</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Barclays Current Acct</td> <td>9,496.29</td> <td>0.1%</td> <td>Current</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W. Bromwich Building Soc.</td> <td>133,963.21</td> <td>1.5%</td> <td>Overnight</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alliance & Leicester</td> <td>200,000.00</td> <td>3.2%</td> <td>1 year fixed (July 10)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Anglo Irish Bank</td> <td>200,000.00</td> <td>3.25%</td> <td>2 year fixed (Jan 11)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>544,829.56</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ACCOUNT	BALANCE	INTEREST	NOTICE	Barclays Imprest Acct	1,370.06	0.1%	Imprest	Barclays Current Acct	9,496.29	0.1%	Current	W. Bromwich Building Soc.	133,963.21	1.5%	Overnight	Alliance & Leicester	200,000.00	3.2%	1 year fixed (July 10)	Anglo Irish Bank	200,000.00	3.25%	2 year fixed (Jan 11)	TOTAL	544,829.56		
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017/10	<p>Correspondence.</p> <p>Local council awards. The Clerk suggested that Max be put forward as a candidate for a special award as he often goes above and beyond what is expected of him. The Council unanimously agreed.</p>																												
018/10	AOB. Terry Clinch has passed Cllr Anderson the documentation relating to the alterations and refurbishments to Town Hall. These will be kept in the Parish Office. It was decided that as the PC has given notice to DCE to give up the lease on the Town Hall they should inform the Art Group and Farmers Market and suggest that they speak directly with DCE regarding their continued usage after November 2010. The Clerk to action.																												
019/10	Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 17 February 2010 at 7.30pm in the Town Hall, Deddington.																												