

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held at the Town Hall, Deddington, on Wednesday 21 June 2006 at 7.45pm

Present: Cllrs Squires (Chair), Flux (Vice-Chair), Todd, Watts, Wood, Rollason, Mrs Spencer, Collins, Alton, Anderson, Westbury, Rudge, District Cllr O'Sullivan

In Attendance: Lorraine Watling (Clerk), Sue Gibbs (Minute Secretary)

83/06	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Apologies were received from James Privett.</p>
84/06	<p>Co-option of Councillors</p> <p>The Chair reported that there were 6 vacancies remaining on the Council. These would be filled by co-option. However, as 7 candidates had put their names forward it was agreed that a vote should be taken by existing councillors. This was done and the following representatives were duly elected:</p> <p>Angus Alton, Don Anderson, Martin Ince, Dave Westbury, Jean Rudge, James Privett.</p> <p>All the candidates were thanked for putting their names forward. It was noted that vacancies often occurred during the course of the 4 year term of the Parish Council, which might allow the unsuccessful candidate to re-apply. .</p>
85/06	<p>Declaration of Interests</p> <p>The Chair asked all new Councillors to complete a declaration of interest and existing councillors to check that theirs was up to date.</p> <p>10(c): Cllr Todd declared an interest 11(a). Cllr Mrs Spencer declared an interest</p>
86/06	<p>Structure of Working Groups</p> <p>It was agreed that the existing structure of working groups should continue. Membership would be follows:</p> <p>Highways - Cllrs Collins and Rudge Planning – Cllrs Todd, Westbury and Anderson F&GP: Cllrs Wood, Alton, Todd and Flux Environment: Cllrs Watts, Rollason, Spencer and Squires</p>

	<p>It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Cllrs Ince and Privet regarding their membership of working groups. Chair of the respective working groups would be elected at their first meeting.</p>
87/06	<p>Village Plan Working Group</p> <p>The Chairman reported that he would be contacting the members of the Village Plan Working Plan to see if they wished to continue. It was agreed that any new councillors wishing to become involved with this should contact Cllr Squires.</p>
88/06	<p>Chair & Vice-Chair of Parish Council</p> <p>As had been agreed at the previous meeting, now that the remaining additional members of the Parish Council had been co-opted the Chair asked for a vote on whether to re-open the nominations for the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Parish Council. The results were:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">4 votes in favour of re-opening the nominations 6 votes against re-opening the nominations 1 abstention.</p> <p>It was therefore agreed that Cllr Squires and Cllrs Flux should remain as Chair and Vice-Chair respectively.</p>
89/06	<p>Minutes of the last meeting</p> <p>The Minutes of the last meeting held on 17 May 2006 were approved. There were no matters arising.</p>
90/06	<p>10 Minute Open Forum</p> <p>There were no members of the public wishing to speak.</p>
91/06	<p>Highways Working Group</p> <p>No meeting had taken place since the last Parish Council. Cllr Wood reported as follows:</p> <p>(a). Speeding in Hempton. A letter had been received from a resident relating to speeding in Hempton. This had been forwarded to Thames Valley Police and Highways Department.</p> <p>(b). OCC Bus Strategy. A copy of this was available from the Parish Office.</p> <p>(c). Parking on Market Day. A letter of concern regarding parking on Farmers Market Day had been passed to Charles Newey.</p> <p>(d). 'A' Boards. Concerns had been raised regarding the number of A boards advertising local businesses appearing on pavements in the village. It</p>

	<p>was noted that the Parish Council had no authority in this area, it was a matter the Highways Department. However, whilst it was felt that the PC should be supportive of local businesses, there was also concern regarding potential health and safety issues. It was agreed that in the first instance the Clerk should contact the Highways Department asking them for clarification of their policy with regard to A boards, and how they enforced it. This would then be passed for consideration to the Highways Working Group.</p> <p>(e). Cherwell Travel Plan. It was noted that this had been extended to include more destinations and Deddington News was asked to publicise this.</p>
92/06	<p>Planning Working Group</p> <p>Cllr Todd reported as follows:</p> <p>(a). 06/00876/CLUE Parcel of land west of Wooton Dene, Hempton Road, Deddington. Certificate of lawful use existing – change of use of land for the storage of building plant and materials. It was noted that this application was regularise the current use of this land. No objection.</p> <p>(b). 06/00960/F & LB: Cromwell House, Market Place, Deddington (Withdrawn 06/00415/F & LB). Conversion of existing small single storey barn in garden to form annex accommodation with raised roof. It was noted that this was a re-submission. It was noted that there were potential problems of overlooking neighbouring properties, but no letters of objection had been received this time. It was agreed that no objection should be raised but that it should be recommended that the barn should be occupied only by the same occupier as the House.</p> <p>(c) 06/00614/F (Amended) Tithe End, County View, Clifton. Amendment to originally given address. No objection.</p> <p>(d). 06/01059/F 7 Market Place, Deddington. Change of use from residential to D1 use. It was noted that this was a transfer of the complementary and beauty therapies business from the Bull Ring into larger premises. Concern was expressed regarding the impact this would have on parking in the village as not only would additional spaces be required for staff but also for clients. It was agreed there should be no objection, but that it should be recommended that as a condition of planning consent being granted staff be encouraged to park elsewhere. In the meantime, it was agreed that the Highways Working Group should be asked to look again at the issue of parking.</p> <p>(e). 06/01060/LB 7 Market Place Deddington. Decoration of external window and door frames, internal alterations including removal temporary stud partition wall and construction new permanent partition wall with doors and hanging non-illuminated sign to front. No objection</p> <p>(f). 06/001061/ADV 7 Market Place Deddington. Oval non-illuminated sign to front. It was noted that this was the sign which currently hands on the converted garage behind the Antiques Centre in the Bull Ring. No objection, so long as it is hung at the same height as the sign for the Antiques Centre.</p> <p>(g). A list of approvals and one refusal since the last meeting was read out.</p>

93/06	<p>Finance and General Purposes Working Group.</p> <p>Cllr Wood reported as follows:</p> <p>(a). Accounts to 31 March 2006. Councillor Wood presented the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2006. These, and the Statement of Assurance were approved by the Council and the Clerk was authorised to send the annual return to the external auditors.</p> <p>(b). Cashflow Statement to 31 May. This was tabled.</p> <p>(c). Town Hall. Negotiations were continuing and some of the problems had been resolved. It was hoped that agreement could be reached on the remaining outstanding issues. All of the relevant paperwork was available for inspection in the Parish Office. In the meantime, it had been agreed that the Parish Council could continue to use the Town Hall until November.</p> <p>(d). Youth Club. As previously discussed, it was agreed that a grant of £563 be made to the Youth Club to buy some more equipment.</p> <p>(e). Wesleyan Chapel. A request for £500 towards the repair of three windows had been received from the Wesleyan Chapel. It was agreed that the Wesleyan Chapel be given an interest free loan for this amount, repayable over 5 years.</p> <p>(f). Transfer of Funds. A transfer of funds had been arranged that afternoon from the Alliance and Leicester because the interest rate had dropped to 2.6%. The money has been transferred to a Birmingham Midshires account where it will benefit from a rate of 5.04%, paid monthly for a 2 year deposit.</p>
94/06	<p>Environment & Recreation Working Party</p> <p>The Chair reported as follows:</p> <p>(a). Village Clean Up. This had been very successful; there had been a good turn out and all those who had participated were thanked for their help. The Spencers were also thanked for sponsoring the event. It was noted that the majority of litter was located on the main roads in and out of the village and it was hoped that there would be an opportunity to clean up the road to Hempton.</p> <p>(b). Village Youth Projects. The Working Party was considering a number of projects which might be undertaken and would be meeting with the youth club in the near future. Concern had been raised about cars speeding in and out of the Windmill Centre and it was agreed that the WMC should be asked if they could install larger 5mph signs and a warning sign that children were playing. It was noted that there was strong interest in cricket in the village and that this should be raised with the Cricket Club.</p> <p>(c). Charter Community Housing Grant. A meeting had been held with Jaz Cundy of Charter Housing who has a budget of £18,000 to spend in the village. Charter proposed to spend this on modernising the play areas, improving the path in the Cemetery and also installing a shelter there. They would be writing proposing this to their tenants who had until 10 July to object. After that quotes could be obtained and the work go ahead. The</p>

	<p>Working Group would be meeting Charter on 17 July and would report back to the next PC meeting.</p> <p>(d). Grass Cutting. Cllr Spencer had reviewed the quotes for grass cutting as follows. To cut the whole area would cost £2750 a year, while continuing to do the just centre third, as had been the case for the last year, would cost £1800. Consideration had also been given to extending the area that is cut to the area around the edge which was very overgrown with nettles. To do this would cost an additional £450. There was concern however that this had not been included in the budget, although it was argued that it could be recovered through the precept the following year. It was also noted that the budget included provision for one off items of expenditure such as hedge cutting to be paid for from savings made by having only 1 steward rather than 2. After some discussion, it was agreed that the schedule for grass cutting would continue as it is. In addition £280 should be spent on a one off cut of the nettles around the perimeter and along the entrance to the grounds. Consideration should also be given to identifying someone able to work additional hours occasionally to undertake jobs the steward is unable to do and to also provide cover when the steward is on holiday.</p> <p>(e). Oxfordshire Rights of Way Grants. It was agreed that the Chairman should contact C Tansley regarding this. Consideration might also be given to improved signage at the Castle Grounds and improving the surface of the car park. The Clerk reported that English Heritage had removed the sign for Castle Grounds to repair it and it would be returning in due course.</p> <p>(f). Fair. It was agreed that the Clerk should chase Hatwells on this.</p> <p>(g). Picnic Benches and Dustbins. It was agreed that the Clerk should obtain quotes for these.</p> <p>(h). OPFA Roadshow – 12 July. Cllr Spencer agreed to attend this.</p> <p>(i) Cycle Parking. Cllr Collins reported that he had been contacted by a parishioner wishing to cycle from Clifton to Deddington in order to take the bus, and asking for somewhere to park his bike to be made available. It was agreed that the Highways Department should be contacted regarding this, and the Highways Group were asked to take this forward. In the meantime, it was suggested that the area behind the bus stop was a suitable location for a bike rack and the Clerk was asked to make enquiries regarding this.</p> <p>(j). Water butt at Cemetary. Cllr Flux thanked whoever it was who had repaired the water butt at the cemetery, which had been leaking.</p>
95/06	<p>Parish Plan Working Group</p> <p>The Chairman reported that the data had now been downloaded. A working group meeting to discuss this would be convened.</p>
96/06	<p>Invoices</p> <p>A schedule of invoices totalling £8705.27 was tabled, a copy of which is filed with these minutes, and was approved for payment.</p>

97/06	<p>Investment of Council Funds</p> <p>At the close of business on 21 June 2006 the balances were as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="359 376 1340 633"> <thead> <tr> <th>ACCOUNT NUMBER</th> <th>BALANCE</th> <th>INTEREST</th> <th>NOTICE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>70708526</td> <td>702.72</td> <td>.1%</td> <td>Imprest</td> </tr> <tr> <td>70708542</td> <td>13,491.25</td> <td>.1%</td> <td>Current</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W. Bromwich Building Soc.</td> <td>298,709.76</td> <td>4.45%</td> <td>Overnight</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alliance & Leicester</td> <td>257,223.01</td> <td>2.6%</td> <td>30 Days</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>570,126.74</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ACCOUNT NUMBER	BALANCE	INTEREST	NOTICE	70708526	702.72	.1%	Imprest	70708542	13,491.25	.1%	Current	W. Bromwich Building Soc.	298,709.76	4.45%	Overnight	Alliance & Leicester	257,223.01	2.6%	30 Days	TOTAL	570,126.74		
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98/06	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>A schedule of correspondence since the last meeting was circulated.</p> <p>5 June 2006: Letter from RoSPA. It was noted that the RoSPA inspections of playgrounds had been carried out that day.</p>																								
99/06	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>(a). Code of Conduct of Councillors. The copy letter from Tony Baldry relating to the Code of Conduct for all Councillors was circulated.</p> <p>(b). Minute Secretary. The Chair reported that the PC was still looking for a new minute secretary and Deddington News was asked to publicise this again.</p> <p>(c). Standing Orders. It was agreed that the Standing Orders should be issued to new councillors and re-issued to existing councillors so that they could consider whether any changes might be beneficial. Any such ideas will be debated at the next Parish Council meeting. It was agreed that any conclusions from this debate would then be passed to the F&GP in order that they can come up with the necessary formal wording required to actually make the changes.</p> <p>(d). Former Members of the Parish Council. It was agreed that thanks for all their work over the last few years should be extended to all the former members of the Parish Council.</p>																								
100/06	<p><u>Next Meeting</u></p> <p>The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 19th July at 7.45pm at the Town Hall, Deddington.</p>																								