

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 21 May 2003
commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Flux (Chairman), Mrs Harvey (Vice-Chairman), Mrs Spencer, Mrs Swash, Mrs Cox, Todd, Alton, Squires, Wood, Ellis, Watts, Rollason, Westley, , Graham Pitts (Clerk), Sue Gibbs (Minute Secretary).

1/03 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from District Cllr O'Sullivan and County Councilor Jelf

2/03 **Declaration of Interests**

Councillor Todd declared an interest in two letters that were listed in the Correspondence schedule and the Chairman in an item on Members Allowances

3/03 **a. Minutes of Last Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 16 April were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. There were no matters arising.

4/03

10 Minute Open Forum

There were no members of the public wishing to speak.

5/03 **Finance and General Purposes Working Group**

Cllr Todd reported as follows

- a **Town Hall.** The Clerk had been in touch with CDC and was arranging to meet the necessary
- b. **Insurance.** The premium would be increasing to £2357.20 from 1 June, an increase of 15%. **This was approved.**
- c. **Friends of Deada's Wood.** The Friends had written asking if they could have an annual grant of £50. The Working Group recommended that this be paid to cover this year's costs but bearing mind the PC's financial position was not prepared to suggest a longer term commitment. **This was agreed. It was also agreed that such grants be canvassed in the Autumn so that the budget for the following year could take account of such requests.**
- d. **Noticeboards.** Only the Boards at the school and Health Centre still needed to be put up. The board originally intended for the Windmill Stores had been relocated at the Windmill Centre. Consideration will be given to sighting an additional board at Goose Green.
- e. **Deddington PC Accounts 2001/2003 and 2002/2003.** These were being audited by Peter Clare and it was anticipated that these would be concluded on 29th May. As soon as this had been done, Cllr Wood and the Clerk would be finalising the accounts for the previous year and these would also be audited by Peter Clare.
- f. **Internal Auditor.** Peter Clare would not be able audit the current year's accounts and the post of internal auditor was still vacant. Anyone knowing of any suitable person was

asked to contact the Clerk.

g. **Correspondence.**

- Oxon CC had written to the PC regarding its nomination of School Governors. **It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the village school to ascertain the current position.** Linda

Davies is the current nominee and she was reaffirmed at the beginning of this year.

- West Bromwich Building Society - Interest for 2002/03 was £20,170.29
- It was noted that the OALC AGM on 7 July at Kiddlington.
- **Jubilee Funds.** At the Parish Meeting the question of the funds remaining from the Jubilee Celebration Committee had been raised. Cllr Haslam reported that money totaling about £2000 had been distributed to various Village organizations. The account had not been closed as a VAT refund was still being outstanding. He believed there was about £200 still remaining in the Account but would verify the position with Jane Plummer.

h **Members Allowances.** The Chairman declared his interest as a member of CDC Remuneration Committee. After some discussion, **Cllr Wood proposed that members of this Council did not claim allowances for individuals, except for the Chairman's allowance (which equaled the amount disbursed by way of Student Grant). This was seconded by Cllr Alton and agreed unanimously. This will be reported to CDC.**

6/03

Environment and Recreation Working Group

Cllr Swash reported as follows:

- a. **Grass cutting.** It was agreed that the grass in the cemetery should be cut shorter. The Stewards were also to be asked to weed kill the dandelions.
- b. **Bullring Sign.** The Clerk had arranged for this to be attached to the wall. This would be done within the next 10 days.
- c. **Deddington Colts.** Cllrs Squires and Watts, who had been liaising with the Colts, felt that, having provided them with the solution, it should now be left to the Colts to pursue this themselves with the Cricket Club and the Town Football Club.
- d. **BMX Track.** A grant in excess of £1,542 is to be received towards this. A letter was going to be sent to Deddington News asking for helpers with the work on this.
- e. **Village Clean Up Day.** This had been a success. The Chairman thanked Cllr Swash on behalf of the Parish her hard work in organizing this. It was agreed that a donation of £10 should be sent to the various youth groups who had participated
- f. **Hanging Baskets.** Deddington News was asked to include a notice encouraging villagers to make up hanging baskets, tubs etc where possible.
- g. **Windmill Centre.** The Chairman clarified the PC's relationship with the Windmill Centre and the Windmill Management Committee, confirming that if the Committee changed to a Company limited by guarantee it would still be governed by the Charity Commission. It was completely independent of the PC, although the Parish Council has a representative on the Committee. **It was agreed that as Mr Hart was still a member of the Committee he could be asked to liaise with the Parish Council if necessary at any time.**
- h. **Stonepits.** The Chairman reported that a quote of £1300 had been received from Thames Water to install water. Further expenditure would be required to connect water

from the mains to the allotments, making the total bill in the region of £2,000. It was therefore felt that other ways of getting water to the allotments should be explored.

7/03

Highways Working Group

Cllr reported as follows

- a. **Speed Limits.** The Working Group was disappointed that the changes had not been completed. This was apparently because OCC was waiting legal confirmation regarding the changes. **It was agreed that the Clerk would chase this up again.**
- b. As a response from OCC regarding Hempton and Clifton was still outstanding. **It was agreed that the Clerk would chase this up again.**
- c. **Hempton Road.** The Clerk was asked to send a letter to Mr Keats thanking him for his time and offering the PC's full support.
- d. **The Clerk was asked to write a further letter to Mr Carrington regarding the Hempton Road Crossing offering the PC's full support.**
- e. **Babtie.** A financial meeting had been held to confirm costs in April, but there was nothing else to report.
- f. **Oxford Transport Review.** Cllr Wood had attended a meeting but had been very disappointed, feeling that nothing of substance had emerged.
- g. Overall the Working Group was disappointed at the time it takes to progress issues of importance within the Parish.
- h. **Better Ways to School.** Deddington School had scored well in the tender bid and was being awarded a grant. **It was agreed that a letter of congratulation be sent to the Headteacher.**
- i. **Parking at Lime Cottage.** Following the introduction of a parking area outside the cottage, and the resulting loss of grass verge, Mrs Robinson had written to Mr Carrit. Although this was a highways matter and not a planning one, there was concern that the Parish Council had not been made aware of this change. **It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Mr Carrit asking for his reaction.**
- j. **Posts on Goose Green.** **It was agreed that the PC should accept OCC's offer to replace the posts on Goose Green and ask whether this could also include posts on the grass area outside the Co-op.**
- k. **Overhanging Trees.** Cllr Todd was concerned about the overhanging trees on the road to Adderbury. **It was agreed that the Clerk should raise this with Highways.**

8/03

Planning and Property Working Group

Cllr Harvey reported as follows:

- a. A list of approvals, subject to conditions was read out.

- b. 03/00774/LB Calder Cottage, Philcote Street, Deddington. Replace windows on front elevation. **No objection**
- c. 03/00801/LB Clifton Mill, Clifton. Replace existing windows on West elevation. **No objection.**
- d. 03/00954/F Stone Lea, Hempton. Proposed new natural slate roof and repair of existing stone walls to existing barn. **No objection**
- e. 03/00755/F 9 Gaveston Gardens Deddington. Single Storey rear extension. **No objection**
- f. 03/00767/F The Three Horseshoes, Bull Ring, Deddington. Renewal of Application for the erection of 1 dwelling with parking and garage for existing dwelling. **No objection**

9/03 **Invoices for Payment**

Invoices totaling £8651.66, in accordance with a schedule circulated at the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes, were approved for payment.

10/03 **Investment of Councils Funds**

At the close of business on 21 May 2003 the balances were as follows:

BANK BALANCES AS AT 21/05/03

| ACCOUNT NUMBER | BALANCE | INTEREST | NOTICE |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 70708526 | 1535.26 | .1% | Imprest |
| 70708542 | 19722.22 | .1% | Current |
| TOTAL | 21257.48 | | |
| Bradford & Bingley | 1000.00 | 3.4% | 120 Days |
| W. Bromwich Building Soc. | 506203.68* | 3.75% | Overnight |
| TOTAL | <u>528461.16</u> | | |

*NB. Balance with interest at 22/5/03 is £526373.97

11/03 **Correspondence**

A list of correspondence was circulated at the meeting.

- a. Church Lighting. A response had been received from the Church offering to pay half the costs of the lighting.

12/03 **Attendance of Members**

The attendance record of members was circulated.

ANNUAL MEETING

- 13/03
The Clerk took the Chair and asked for nominations for the Chairmanship of the Council for 2003/04.
- 14/03
Election of Chairman for 2003/2004
Cllr Harvey proposed Cllr Flux. This was seconded by Cllr Swash. There being no other nominations, Cllr Flux was duly re-elected and took the Chair. Cllr Flux thanked all members of the PC for their support.
- 15/03
Election of Vice-Chairman for 2003/2004
Cllr Swash proposed Cllr Harvey; this was seconded by Cllrs Spencer and Ellis. There being no other nominations Cllr Harvey was re-elected. Cllr Harvey also thanked all members of the PC for their support.
- 16/03
Working Group Structure and Membership
It was agreed that the same Working Group structure should continue for the next year.
Membership would be as follows:
F&GP Working Group
Cllrs Todd, Swash, Rollason, Alton, Wood
Environment & Recreation Working Group
Cllrs Swash, Spencer, Harvey, Ellis and Watts
Planning Working Group
Cllrs Harvey, Wood, Cox and Swash
Highways
Cllrs Haslem, Westley and Wood
It was agreed that the Working Groups would determine their own respective Chairmen and meeting dates.
- 17/03
Dates of Council Meetings for 2003/2004
It was agreed that Council Meetings should continue to be held on the third Wednesday of each month. It was also agreed that consideration should be given to changing this to a Monday in future.
- 18/03
Scheme of Grants to Students commencing Tertiary Education
It was agreed that this should continue. After some discussion, it was also agreed that the Clerk should write to the Deddington News for the July edition, making the Parish aware that these grants could be applied for and clarifying the scope of courses which would qualify.

19/03

Royal British Legion.

The Chairman reported it appeared likely that the RBL Branch would continue, although the British Legion Club might close. **It was agreed that he and Cllr Wood would continue to liaise over this and report back at the next meeting.**

20/03

Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 18 June 2003 at the Town Hall commencing at 7.30pm.