

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held at the Church Hall, Hempton, on Wednesday 15th November 2006 at 7.45pm

Present: Cllrs Squires (Chair), Alton, Flux, Privett, Rudge, Spencer, Todd, Watts, Westbury and Wood.

In Attendance: Lorraine Watling (Clerk)

155/06	<p>Apologies Apologies were received from Cllrs Anderson and Rollason, and County Councillor Jelf.</p>
156/06	<p>Minutes of the last meeting The last meeting was held in the Town Hall, not the Windmill Centre. Item 147/06 (e) - Cllr Watts asked that the words 'and Centrepoint' be deleted. Item 148/06 - it was noted that planning application 06/01611/LB 13 High Street, Internal Alterations, had also been approved by CDC. Item 150/06 (c) the date should read 17th May 2000. The minutes of the last meeting were then approved as a true record.</p>
157/06	<p>Declaration of Interests Cllr Flux declared an interest in planning application 06/02048/F as he has recently installed solar panels on his house.</p>
158/06	<p>Matters Arising not referred to later on the Agenda There were no matters arising.</p>
159/06	<p>10 Minute Open Forum The meeting was well attended by Hempton residents. One utilised the 10 minute forum to tell the PC that he had asked Acting Sergeant John Croxton whether there is a paper on police enforcement in Deddington, Hempton and Clifton. He also noted that he has been promised a copy of a speeding survey undertaken by the police in Hempton and Barford.</p>
160/06	<p>Report from the Highways Group Cllr Privett reported as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Bicycle Rack/Bus Shelter: The working group has reviewed the grant application information received from OCC and will canvas local people for their views and report back. Albert Humphries from OCC Highways has noted that the hard standing is disintegrating. (b) The Lane, Hempton: The surface is giving cause for concern. The Clerk contacted OCC but this is not one of their priority areas. They will issue a works instruction for 2 areas to be repaired by the 'patching gang'. (c) Traffic Calming: The working group is taking speed readings to gather data for analysis and forwarding to OCC (recommended by the traffic officers). A session was undertaken in New Street and a 'near miss' was witnessed. Lots of HGV's had passed through the village but none had been speeding. The top speed recorded was 48 mph for a Police Car on a call. A second session in Hempton early one Friday evening recorded a lot of frightening speeds. A third brief session was undertaken outside of the Primary School. It was noted that people were travelling too fast when they enter and exit the village. Cllr Squires asked whether the data is being recorded in

	<p>the same format as OCC. Cllr Privett did not think so, but did not consider this to be a problem. Cllrs Alton and Spencer were concerned about speeding on the Clifton Road and Earl's Lane. Cllr Wood suggested that readings be taken on Earl's Lane at 7.00 am. Cllr Flux said that people are still entering the village by the Windmill Centre at 50-60 mph. Cllr Privett asked whether the new crossing had resulted in a decrease in speed. Cllr Flux said yes but only when it was in use. Cllr Privett noted that the Highways group would be delighted to chat to Hempton residents after the meeting.</p> <p>(d) Parking on The Green in Deddington: The working group is not aware of any instances of this but will monitor the situation. Cllr Privett asked whether, if necessary, a polite sign could be put up on the Green. This was unanimously agreed.</p> <p>(e) A Boards: Cllr Collins met with Johnsons and suggested that they contact other businesses and lobby OCC. A letter has been received from the vets about signage to their premises so Cllr Privett will contact them to suggest that they do the same.</p> <p>(f) Hempton Pinchpoint: OCC contacted the occupants of the house at the pinch point that had ivy restricting the view of drivers. They have promised to cut this back.</p> <p>(g) Laurel Hedge at The Corner House, Hempton Road: This was noted as being overgrown, but the resident has since cut it back.</p> <p>(h) Windmill Centre Car Park: The first quote for the work required came in at over £5k. Richard Broadbent is getting a second quote.</p> <p>(i) Street Lighting on the footpath to the Daedings: Cllr Squires reported that a tree is blocking the 2nd street light as you enter the Daedings from the Hempton Road via the footpath (approx 50 yards). This is affecting the lighting levels on the footpath. The clerk will report this to OCC Highways.</p>
161/06	<p>Planning Working Group: New applications 06/01993/F - 35 Gaveston Gardens Deddington. Replacement garden shed and change of use from landscape area to garden. The landscape area concerned is the buffer area created as a landscape barrier for part of Gaveston Gardens and The Daedings (affecting no.'s 20, 21 & 27) along the northern boundary. The applicants wish to incorporate this area under their ownership into their garden and place an additional shed in this area against the boundary. This landscaped area was included as site DE9 in the Cherwell Local Development Framework for the parish. The PC wish to defend this "buffer area" and a change of use could set a precedent for all properties controlling this important landscape area from The Daedings to the Banbury Road. Cllr Todd proposed and Cllr Flux seconded a motion to object to this application. As the trees are now maturing in this area the Clerk will also ask CDC to consider issuing Tree Preservation Orders to preserve them.</p> <p>06/02048/F - Stable Cottage, Hempton Road, Deddington - installation of solar panels. This is within the Conservation Area. Cllr Westbury said that the PC must recognise that there will be an increase in demand for such installations. Cllr Ince worried that this might set a precedent in</p>

	<p>conservation areas, but Cllr Squires said that this would not be the case as each application is reviewed on a case by case basis. Cllr Wood suggested that it be approved if the panels are unobtrusive. Cllr Squires recommended that CDC develop a planning policy for such installations. There was a vote to determine whether the planning application be supported. 6 Cllrs voted for the application, 5 against and Cllr Flux abstained. The PC therefore has no objection to the planning application but recommends that less visually obtrusive panels be used.</p> <p>06/02088/F Victoria House, Horse Fair, Deddington New conservatory to side/rear elevations and new entrance lobby Within CA but shielded by high surrounding wall. No objection.</p> <p>Approvals by CDC</p> <p>06/01567/LB Priory Dene, Hudson Street, Deddington - removal of kitchen range and tiles Fireplace and chimney to be retained for potential reuse in the future</p> <p>06/01744/LB - Holly Cottage Tith Lane, Clifton - underpinning.</p> <p>06/01766/TCA - Old Malthouse, Church Street, Deddington - Fell 1 Cherry tree fell 1 Elder and reduce shrubs by 50%</p> <p>06/01911/TCA - The Stile House, New Street Deddington -Lift canopy of 1 Horse Chestnut to 10', prune 1 Mulberry by 15%, reduce Poplar by 30%, fell 1 Tree of Heaven, reduce 1 Sorbus by 20% and reduce branches of 1 Lime by 30% over neighbouring property.</p> <p>Comments awaited from Cherwell DC</p> <p>Naming of development in Earls Lane, Deddington. The Clerk has had no reply from CDC so will send another letter asking for reassurance that the PC will we be consulted on future occasions (as previously).</p> <p>06/01562/F - Stoneleigh House, Victoria Terrace Deddington - Retrospective Non-compliance of condition. The Clerk has not received any comment from CDC in answer to the PC's objections and so will follow this up.</p> <p>Local Development Framework</p> <p>It was noted that Cherwell DC has advised the PC that 29 Supplemental Sites for inclusion in the LDF have been received in respect of Banbury and other parishes but NOT Deddington. The total number of sites is now 219. Cherwell District Council has acknowledged receipt of our August submission to the LDF.</p> <p>Walter Meagher inspected the LDF document and commented upon sites DE9 and 10. The information provided in his recent letter will be forwarded to CDC by the Clerk for inclusion in Deddington PC's submission.</p>
162/06	<p>Report from the Finance & General Working Group:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cash Flow to end of October – the main expenditure categories are similar to last year. There are some major items of expenditure which will result in a deficit at the end of the year. 2. Standing Orders – Further draft circulated to be reviewed by all Cllrs and reported upon at the next meeting.

	<p>3. Oxfordshire Broadband Partnership – a £200 grant is available to set up a Wi Fi Hotspot Service but the PC cannot utilise this nor the Windmill Centre. The Library was also discounted because it is sited in a location that is surrounded by buildings. Overall it was felt that the service was not a high priority within the Parish.</p> <p>4. Town Hall: Cllr Flux reported that the paper presented at the last meeting has been used as the basis of an agreement. Nearly all of the questions asked by the PC have been answered. The outstanding issue concerns rent as the agreement says that it cannot be reduced. However, Cllr Flux hoped that the PC will agree to sign up to this lease for at least an initial 4 years. He thanked Cllrs Todd and Wood for their help. DCE agree that the Town Hall is an icon that should be retained by the village. Cllr Collins asked for clarification about the ‘sign off’. Cllr Flux said that DCE had agreed to pay for the basic legal costs for the new lease. Cllr Squires suggested that the lease be discussed at full council in December in the hope that it can be ratified. Cllr Ince requested that the new lease be available to Cllrs before the next meeting. Cllr Flux said that he would pass a copy to the Clerk for viewing/retention in the office.</p>
163/06	<p>Environment & Recreation Working Group:</p> <p>(a) Youth Projects/Teen Scene Area: The Windmill Centre grounds have been surveyed and the teen play equipment reviewed. E&R Cllrs are meeting Roger Hampshire of TV Police on 28th November to discuss their ideas. Cllr Flux noted that it was important not to overload the police as he and Cllr Ince have already been interacting with them over vandalism/antisocial behaviour and have scheduled regular review meetings. Cllr Watts talked about the draft proposal. Cllr Todd asked if basketball or netball hoops would be included - Cllr Watts confirmed this. Cllr Alton asked about the height and location of the proposed facility. Cllrs Squires said that the 6’ tall facility would be sited by the car park and that the middle entrance to the playing field would need to be closed off and others made. Cllr Squires confirmed for Cllr Ince that it would be unsupervised. The working group aims to apply for grant funding by March 2007. The Big Lottery, Landfill Tax, CDC and the PC will be approached for support. It would like £10k to be included in the PC 2007 budget for this project. Cllr Wood said that the project needs to be reviewed and drawings presented so that Cllrs can visualise the proposal properly. Cllr Todd seconded this opinion. He asked whether there was a minimum level of grant funding required from the PC. Cllr Squires confirmed that there was none and said that the PC will be able to see the proposal at the grant application stage. Cllr Collins asked about the target age group for the proposed facility. Cllr Watts said 13 +. Cllr Collins asked how the E&R planned to reach the target group. Cllr Privett noted that he’d heard comments that the youngsters would like something at the Castle Grounds. Cllr Squires said that John Wilde and Roger Davies had advised against this. Cllr Flux said that although it was good to get CDC input the teenagers needed to be canvassed for their input as well. Cllr</p>

Squires said that they would do this once a draft proposal was ready.

- (b) **Wimborn Close Play Area:** Approval was given for money to be spent on the repair of the specialist play surface at the Wimborn Play Area that had been vandalised. It was suggested that a leaflet be drafted and delivered to Wimborn Close residents detailing the cost of the repair, requesting information about the culprits and outlining the penalties for such vandalism. Cllr Collins said that this was only one of several 'Hot Spots' in the village. Cllr Flux suggested that the whole Parish therefore be leafleted in order to raise awareness of the problem. This idea was unanimously supported. The E&R agreed to present a draft at the next meeting.
- (c) **Windmill Centre Pavilion's:** Two meetings have been held with the police. They have been a lot more visible in the village recently but the PC must keep up the pressure and report all incidents. The police have made the Co-op aware of the problems. Measures such as CCTV often just move the problem. The underlying causes need to be identified and dealt with. Facilities need to be provided for the youngsters, the villagers made more aware and close collaboration established with the police. The village neighbourhood watch scheme may need resurrecting.
- (d) **Oxfordshire Conservation Volunteers:** It was agreed that a chain saw and chipper will be hired when OCV come in January and February to lay the Clifton hedge and work on the footpath between the cemetery and the Windmill Sports Field.
- (e) **Additional Village Steward:** The Clerk will reserve advertising space in the February issue of Deddington News. Cllr Squires will draft the advert for an additional part-time village steward to cover weekends and Mr Pankhurst's periods of annual leave or sickness. They will also assist him with tasks that require additional help.
- (f) **Grass Cutting – The Lane Hempton:** The clerk will write to the residents of a house in The Lane Hempton to try and ascertain ownership of a strip of land.
- (g) **Weeds on OCC Footpaths:** The Clerk will write to OCC and ask them to spray the weeds on the paths that connect Hempton, Deddington and Clifton. They will also be asked to spray the layby at Deddington Hill.
- (h) **OPFA Membership:** It was agreed that the Clerk should renew the PC's membership with OPFA.
- (i) **Deddington Circular Walk:** The Clerk will contact Kevin Lerner at CDC and ask that a fallen Willow Tree be cleared on the Hempton Loop. The Clerk will also request confirmation that the path will either be re-instated on the correct line at Coombe Hill Farm following renovation, or that formal approval has been sought for its re-direction.
- (j) **Hanging Baskets:** The Steward will be asked to remove the hanging baskets at the Town Hall. The costs of automated watering systems have been investigated and can be purchased for cost less than the £250 prize money for Best Village 2006
- (k) **Co-op Bin:** .Cllr Privett has spoken to the Co-op and discovered

	<p>that there used to be a bin but the previous manager removed it as the staff refused to empty it. He will explore whether this bin can be re-instated if the Steward empties it for the Co-op.</p> <p>(1) Football Pitch at the Castle Grounds: Cllr Collins asked whether a football pitch could be re-instated at the Castle Grounds for the Colts. A farmer has offered to roll and mow it. Cllr Flux said that the idea was discussed approx 5 years ago when it was felt that insufficient people would use it and parking would be a problem. Cllr Alton added that there is a problem with moles that could result in injury. Cllr Flux advised that the insurance and liability rests with the PC. Cllr Todd recommended that a formal proposal be put forward for consideration. Cllr Flux seconded this proposal. Cllr Alton noted that the proposal must come from the Colts.</p>																												
164/06	Play Areas: More bark is required for the Clifton play area so the Clerk will order this.																												
165/06	Invoices for Payment A schedule of invoices totalling £7,495.07 was tabled, a copy of which is filed with these minutes, and was approved for payment.																												
166/06	<p>Investment of Council Funds At the close of business on 15th November 2006 the balances were as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>ACCOUNT NUMBER</th> <th>BALANCE</th> <th>INTEREST</th> <th>NOTICE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>70708526</td> <td>2,123.88</td> <td>.1%</td> <td>Imprest</td> </tr> <tr> <td>70708542</td> <td>7,216.71</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>55,223.01</td> <td>2.6%</td> <td>30 Days</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>563,273.36</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ACCOUNT NUMBER	BALANCE	INTEREST	NOTICE	70708526	2,123.88	.1%	Imprest	70708542	7,216.71	.1%	Current	W. Bromwich Building Soc.	298,709.76	4.45%	Overnight	Alliance & Leicester	55,223.01	2.6%	30 Days	Birmingham Midshires	200,000.00	5.13%	Fixed Bond	TOTAL	563,273.36		
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167/06	<p>AOB</p> <p>(a) Bench in Memory of John Coleman. The Clerk received a letter asking whether an appeal had been set up to raise money for a bench in John's name. Cllr Flux said that the football club has already set up such an appeal. The Clerk will contact the club and ask for more details, then pass these to the enquirer.</p> <p>(b) Hedge Cutting at the Windmill Centre. An estimate for £250.00 had been received as the cost of reducing the height of the beech hedge that runs alongside the windmill centre car park and the sports fields. Cllr Wood proposed that this be accepted and Cllr Todd seconded this proposal.</p> <p>(c) Rats. The Clerk will contact CDC and tell them that rats have been seen in the centre of the village, particularly around The Unicorn, The Co-op and the garages in Hudson Street.</p> <p>(d) Cemetery. Following recent discussions with a recently bereaved resident Cllr Ince asked the PC for agreement to amend the cemetery rules and regulations to allow for a slight increase in the size of the headstones that mark cremations to reflect the larger memorials that are already in situ. Cllr Flux recommended that any headstone remain within the overall footprint. This was approved by Council.</p>																												

	<p>(e) War Memorial. Cllr Squires noted that the path that leads from the Latch Gate along the wall to the war Memorial is in a poor state. Cllr Westbury remembered that there was actually a cobbled path under the surface that probably just needs cleaning off. Cllr Squires noted that the Parish Plan responses suggest that the village is split as to whether the memorial should be relocated elsewhere. Cllr Flux reminded everyone that the memorial was sited in accordance with the wishes of relatives and also noted that there are Commonwealth graves in this area as well. It was suggested that finger posts be installed by Johnsons and in the Market Square to indicate its position. The Clerk will write to Rev Hugh White to mention that the path is not in a very good condition and to ask if the church is proposing to do anything about this.</p>
168/06	<p><u>Next Meeting</u> The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 20th December at 7.45pm in The Town Hall.</p>