

## DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a Meeting held at the Church Hall, Hempton on  
Wednesday 18 November 2009 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Flux (Chair), Anderson, Collins, Day, Finnigan, Ince, Squires and Ward, Watts and Wood. County Councillor Jelf and the Parish Clerk were also in attendance.

170/09	<b>Apologies:</b> Cllrs Allison, Privett, Rudge and Todd and District Cllr O'Sullivan
171/09	<b>Minutes of the last meeting:</b> Cllr Flux signed the minutes as a true record.
172/09	<p><b>Declaration of Interests:</b></p> <p>176/09 <b>1 Review of Sports clubs in Deddington</b> Cllrs Collins, Flux and Ward declared personal interests.</p> <p>176/09 <b>5</b> Cllr Flux declared a personal interest.</p> <p>178/09 <b>09/01433/F – Holcombe Hotel, High Street, Deddington</b> Cllr Ince personal interest.</p> <p>179/09 <b>6. Satin Lane.</b> Cllr Squires and Cllr Ince declared personal interests.</p>
173/09	<b>Matters Arising not referred to later on the Agenda:</b> None
174/09	<p><b>10 Minute Open Forum:</b></p> <p>A number of residents from Hempton attended the meeting to raise issues regarding Highways issues within the village including speeding and the drainage problems. Geraldine Lay said that the average speed within the village was 45 miles per hour and explained that 40 households had got together to campaign to seek that this is reduced. She also explained that the drain blockages had caused much damage. County Cllr Jelf reported that the blockages had now been resolved and with regard to the speeding he was investigating introducing a 40 buffer on the way into the village, which would help reduce speed on entry into the 30 mile zone. He will be attending a meeting to discuss this matter in the new year that should hopefully result in a consultation process and then implementation. Cllr Flux suggested that OCC be contacted by residents to increase pressure. Jacquie Pinagli said that a number of crashes had recently occurred on the corner towards the Chipping Norton road, which appeared to be due to speeding drivers losing control. She suggested the speed limit be reduced to ensure a fatal accident does not occur. Tony Roche has a young family and raised his concerns in loading and unloading them from the car. He is also concerned that in the future his children will be at risk when riding their bikes on the road. Joan Lane questioned whether a chicane could be used as in other villages such as Somerton that are used as a "rat run" to the M40. Deborah Labuschagne also raised the issue that there was no suitable crossing to get her children safely to the bus stop. She also mentioned that the pinch point sees many near misses. She suggested there should be a stop sign to ensure that cars only proceed from a standing still position to avoid a head on collision. She considered that the issue affected all roads entering the village. Cllr Collins suggested that she write to the chair of school governors for inclusion in the "way to school" issue. The Parish Council will write to OCC in support of the residents concerns.</p> <p>Derek Lay then thanked the PC for its assistance in getting the drains sorted but mentioned that it would have been helpful to have been notified before hand of the dates on which they were to be repaired. County Cllr Jelf explained that whilst he knew they were to be fixed he was unaware of the proposed dates.</p> <p>David Westbury also spoke in his capacity as Chair of the Friends of Castle Grounds. As an update he mentioned that they had been in consultation with English Heritage and Natural England and that much of these discussions were in parallel. There is a lot of dead tree and shrub clearance work to be done and a request for grant funding will be made. This will have to be put forward by the PC on behalf of the FOCG. The FOCG are currently obtaining three quotes for the English Heritage proposal and will keep the PC informed. Cllr Flux asked that Terry Clinch be informed that it has been checked and the PC do own the land. The FOCG thanked the PC for its support for their activities and Cllr Flux thanked FOCG, in return, for the work that they are putting in to try and improve the site.</p>
175/09	<b>County and District Councillors update:</b> Cllr Flux asked County Cllr Jelf about the proposed cuts. County Cllr Jelf explained that the major fiscal cuts had only been briefly outlined so not sure of "what and when" and unlikely to know until February 2010.
176/09	<p><b>Recreation Working Group (RWG)</b></p> <p>1. <b>Review of Sports clubs in Deddington.</b> A recent RWG assessment of the income and expenditure associated with the village sports clubs suggests that only the football clubs are currently making a positive contribution towards the costs. They noted that PC is not involved in the agreement for the tennis club and receives no money. Cllr Flux explained that the contributions received by the PC from clubs is towards maintaining the grass and that the Tennis Club do not use the grass. The contribution the PC receives from the Cricket and Bowls club does not cover the costs of the pavilion insurance. Cllr Flux explained how this situation arose. The pavilions belong to the Parish Council. Initially all clubs where tasked (where appropriate) to upkeep grounds, maintain pavilions and arrange their own insurance. But years ago when the clubs were struggling the then PC decided to help by covering the costs of maintenance and insuring the pavilions. The PC later decided to pass the maintenance costs back to the clubs but not the insurance costs. Cllr Wood explained that this was during a time when the PC was cash rich and</p>

	<p>so able to offer such support. Cllr Anderson suggested that now some clubs are receiving a disproportionate benefit. Cllr Wood suggested that recommendations should now be developed by the RWG as they have now received clarification from Cllr Flux. Cllr Collins suggested that when doing so the working group talk to the groups in question. Cllr Ince suggested that this matter did need to be resolved before the next financial year. Cllr Watts asked whether the PC might support a proposal to ask the clubs to pay the costs of pavilion insurance. Cllr Flux said that this should be given serious consideration. The insurance is due for renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010 and Cllr Wood suggested that in the present economic climate the clubs should make an appropriate contribution to the costs. This view was supported by the other Cllrs. Cllr Collins suggested that a “parachute” clause be introduced in the agreements in case clubs face financial trouble in future. Cllr Wood agreed and said that all potential financial problems facing clubs should be looked at sympathetically. Cllr Ince suggested that the treasurers of the clubs be liaised with about their club finances. Cllr Anderson also suggested that old minutes relating to this matter should be read. The RWG will investigate further and come back to the PC with a proposal.</p> <p>2. <b>Bowls Club.</b> The bowls club submitted a request to the DPC on 7 October to cut the hedges. Cllr Ince said that the PC had a responsibility to cut the outside and top of the hedges and had done so. The upkeep of the inside hedge is the responsibility of the Bowls Club. The previous request for a fence was again raised. Cllr Flux has already spoken to a representative of the Bowls Club and notified them that the new hedge had been provided. This was considered to be sufficient and no incidents have been reported. Cllr Flux will again speak to the club regarding this matter.</p> <p>3. <b>Youth Activities.</b> CDC has sent a letter outlining plans to offer FOC Sports sessions for 11-16 year olds, which visit an area for a blocked 10 week session. An expression of interest form to be submitted. It has been drawn to the RWG attention that the local youth club may fold. It needs a new committee that must be prepared to take on the formal PAYE arrangements associated with the staff employed by the Youth Club. The RWG is not sure what age group the Youth Club is targeting but there appear to be more children from the primary school attending which is putting off the older Warriner children from going as it is too “young”. The RWG feels that the Warriner children possibly need the facility more, and if it took youths from Y7 onwards it might facilitate the move from primary to secondary school. The RWG wondered whether the initiative from Cherwell could act as a stop gap while the youth club re-groups. Cllr Ward will meet with Helen Spencer on 23 November to discuss the needs of the club and what the PC might do to help. Cllr Ward will also follow up with the Youth Activators at CDC. Cllr Wood reminded the PC that money had been allocated for the Youth Club which has not yet been used. Cllr Wood had been the previous PC contact but suggested that Cllr Ward may like to take on this role. Cllr Ward will let Cllr Wood know her decision after the meeting with Helen.</p> <p>4. <b>Friends of Deddington Castle.</b> Daniel Bashford from English Heritage has advised that there may be grant money available from Natural England.</p> <p>5. <b>Dog Mess.</b> Cllr Ward mentioned that the dog mess situation on the football pitches is getting out of hand. Cllr Squires suggested banning dogs from the WMC but this was felt to be a little harsh. Cllr Anderson suggested talking to the Dog Warden. Cllr Flux said that there was a need to educate. It was requested that the Deddington News report the problem and the issues associated with children’s health. Cllr Watts said that as a referee he would be held accountable if a game goes ahead on a pitch which is covered with excessive dog mess. Cllr Ince suggested that notices be put up in the first instance asking that mess be cleared up. If this does not result in an improvement the next step should be to ask that all dogs be kept on a lead and if this fails to ban dogs from the Windmill Centre.</p> <p>6. <b>Other matters.</b> Cindy and Andre Tansley have been thanked for being official footpath monitors for the Deddington Circular Walk.</p>
177/09	<p><b>Environment &amp; Special Projects Working Group</b>  <b>Environment</b></p> <p>1. <b>Big Climate Event.</b> Cllr Rudge attended the Big Climate Event. Ian Curtis from the Environmental Change Institute made it clear that climate change must be taken seriously and that governments must act before it is too late. It is estimated that we have only eight years before the damage done by global warming is irreversible. The important messages of sustainability, frugality and simple economics can foster a ‘sense of community’. Cllr Rudge identified the following projects that a Community Action Group could investigate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Setting up a ‘Low Carbon group’ – there is a very successful one in Hook Norton whereby they have fitted homes with Smart meters, which show how much electricity is consumed and help to change people’s behaviour and save money.</li> <li>• Approaching the PPC to become an ‘eco-congregation’</li> <li>• Introducing a ‘Nappy Trial scheme’ (four and a half trees are destroyed to keep one baby in disposable nappies for 30 months and they make up 4% of household waste)</li> <li>• Encouraging the school to share in environmental initiatives (hedgerow surveys, pond audits, wildflower/tree planting, keeping records). The Northmoor Trust run free workshops for schools and also will visit with the ‘Energy bus’. This is a resource to enjoy for 2 or three days and is</li> </ul>

	<p>available for a donation (£50 suggested). It would show the children of Deddington that the PC share their environmental concerns.</p> <p><b>2. Application for funding from the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment.</b> An application for a £500 grant for the "Creation of wildflower meadow and hotspots" has been drafted for review by the F&amp;GP prior to submission to TOE.</p> <p><b>3. Deddington pippin trees.</b> The response from the allotment committee was favourable. Cllr Wood will check the allotment lease to see if tree planting is allowed. Cllr Rudge requested that Cllr Todd forward address of the potential supplier.</p> <p><b>Special Projects</b></p> <p><b>I. Christmas Tree.</b> The tree has been sourced, delivered and erected. It was the cheapest of 3 quotes by £150. The costs so far have been covered by donations from the Deddington News, Phil Rudge and Cllr John Day. Thanks for help in erection of the tree were extended to Nipper, Roger, Hughie, Jason, Geoffrey Cllrs Privett and Ashworth and the village stewards, Max and Richard. A local Electrician has indicated that he is willing to help at minimal cost so if all goes to plan all costs should be covered by the kind donations. A plan for removal is required.</p> <p><b>II. Litter/Dog Bins.</b> New Dog bin for Castle grounds. Post installed. New bin to be fitted 19<sup>th</sup> November 2009. It has been placed in a position that the dog warden is prepared to empty.</p> <p><b>III. War Memorial Cemetery</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The status of the risk assessment of headstones has been requested from The Church Wardens. Waiting for a reply.</li> <li>• Cllr Collins is sounding out current opinions on War Memorial location.</li> <li>• Quotes for War Memorial movement/refurbishment/enhancement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 - Robertson Memorials. Report received. There are concerns about moving the memorial without damage. Their suggestion was to refurbish in situ and add another Portland wedge for the more recently fallen servicemen.</li> <li>2 - Thomas Cakebread Ltd Monumental Masons. Awaiting report.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Cllr Flux reported that the PC has responsibility for maintaining the memorial in its current site. It can not pay for it to be moved. Cllr Squires stated that the parish opinion was split 50-50% over suggestions that it be moved. He suggested that the path still needed to be improved to enhance the area. Cllr Flux took this opportunity to thank all those involved in the Remembrance Day parade. This was very well done.</p> <p><b>IV. Hempton Road Cemetery.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The costs of hard standing for water trough and waste bins to be established for February submission to PC.</li> <li>• Cemetery inspection undertaken on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2009. All graves inspected by Cllr Ince, Parish Clerk Watling and Parish Steward Bannister. The following actions arose from the review (Next Review set for 2 years time. Clerk to diarise). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6 ~ Glass jars on grave. Clerk to request removal as a health &amp; safety issue for stewards.</li> <li>6 ~ RIP markers needed. £200 sought and approved by all.</li> <li>4 ~ Grave "Top ups". Ground to be made good.</li> <li>0 ~ Head stone loose.</li> <li>2 ~ Graves over grown. Letter from Clerk to be sent requesting trimming.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Overhanging trees to be pruned.</li> <li>• The Best Practice forms to run the Cemetery have now been produced following PC consultation. Its adoption was agreed and the Clerk asked to send the paperwork to the local undertakers. Cllr Flux and Clerk thanked again for all their work on these best practice forms.</li> <li>• Green burials. Cllr Squires mentioned that green burials are becoming more common whereby people are buried in biodegradable coffins with a tree on top. Cllr Ince to investigate as concerned that the planting of numerous trees in the Cemetery could take up a lot of room.</li> </ul>
178/09	<p><b>Planning Working Group</b></p> <p><b>Applications</b></p> <p><b>09/01287/LB – Lime Cottage, New St, Deddington.</b> Erect iron hand rail. No objection.</p> <p><b>09/01353/F – 1 The Paddocks, Deddington.</b> Proposed extension to existing house to create a total of 4 flats. A previous application (00/01610/OUT) for a detached house in the garden of this premises was refused by CDC following PC and neighbour concerns. Objection from a neighbour received while others have expressed concern. Although the PC is mindful that the parish could use additional accommodation of this nature it considers that this is an unsuitable development location. The PC has therefore objected to the current application because of the potential over development of the site, the extension of the building line and concerns about the parking arrangements at the front of the house from Hempton Road leading to verge parking. The PC considers that any parking should be from the existing vehicular access from The Paddocks. A 2 storey build covering the footprint of the existing single storey with a 2 storey rear extension might be more acceptable (if parking via The Paddocks). The PC also noted that the tree report seemed to be signed by the applicant. The PC has asked that the CDC Planning Officer visit the site and that the decision to be made by committee.</p>

	<p><b>09/01433/F – Holcombe Hotel, High St, Deddington.</b> Amendment to approved applications 08/01483/F and 08/01484/LB single storey extension to Charters Cottage at rear. Relocate bar and gents WC (temporary) in existing hotel premises. Replicates the application 09/01006/LB for Listed Buildings consent considered by the PC in September 2009 and granted by Cherwell DC. The PC's earlier comments would apply. No objection.</p> <p><b>09/01466/LB – Corner House, High St, Deddington.</b> Work to front elevation replacing broken bricks with reclaimed period bricks, some re-pointing with sand and lime mortar and replacing modern style plastic rain gutters and down pipes with cast iron style gutters and down pipes. No objection.</p> <p><b>09/01480/F – Ivings House, Philcote St, Deddington.</b> Construct two storey rear extension. Scaled down version of a previously granted permission (06/00535/F). No objection.</p> <p><b>09/00261/TCA – The Knowle, Philcote St, Deddington.</b> Fell 1 Laurel. No objection.</p> <p><b>09/00272/TCA – Heathfield House, High St, Deddington.</b> Fell 1 Leylandii. Reduce 1 Holly. No objection.</p> <p><b>09/00274/TCA – The Hermitage, Market Place, Deddington.</b> T.1 Yew – reduce 30% and reshape. T.2 Yew – fell. No objection but suggest that a replacement is planted for the yew being felled.</p> <p><b>09/01498/LB – Calder Cottage, Philcote Street, Deddington.</b> Replace 1<sup>st</sup> floor timber partitions with timber stud covered in plasterboard and skim coated plaster. Only recently received. No objection in principle.</p> <p><b>Approvals</b>  09/01168/F – 22 St Johns Way, Hempton  09/01281/F – 27 Gaveston Gardens, Deddington  09/00177/TCA – Featherston House, Chapel Square, Deddington  09/00238/TCA – Manor Farm, Hempton Road, Deddington</p> <p><b>Withdrawals</b>  09/01111/F &amp; 09/01112/LB - Winmour, Philcote Street, Deddington.  09/01226/F – 9 The Daedings, Deddington.  09/01288/F – 1 &amp; 2 Castle Farm Cottages, Earls Lane, Deddington.</p> <p><b>Other matters</b>  <b>07/02664/TCA – Castle End, Castle Street, Deddington.</b> Remove diseased branches from Ash tree. When work came to be done it was found that tree was badly diseased. Tree Officer at Cherwell DC has agreed that the tree can be felled on the proviso that a replacement be planted within two years.</p> <p><b>The Retreat, Hudson Court.</b> This application was approved because it was decided that the commercial/shop nature was on a peripheral location and therefore allowable. The PC had objected and had not been informed.</p>
179/09	<p><b>Finance and General Purposes Working Group</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Cashflow statement for October.</b> Presented to Council.</li> <li>2. <b>Building Society.</b> All rates are reducing so PC income from interest will also be reduced.</li> <li>3. <b>Town Hall.</b> An Acknowledgement has been received in response to PC's notice letter.</li> <li>4. <b>Tennis Club.</b> A request from the Tennis Club has been received requesting pruning of trees around the pavilion. The Clerk will advise the Tennis Club that the PC has no objection to their doing it themselves. The PC is trying to save money wherever possible.</li> <li>5. <b>Missing Stretch of Pavement outside the Health Centre, Earls Lane.</b> The PC raised this issue with OCC following residents concerns. Footpaths are the responsibility of OCC but they have no finances available for this. The Clerk will copy the paperwork to the Health Centre for information.</li> <li>6. <b>Satin Lane.</b> The Allotment Association have suggested that overgrown land could be cleared. It was agreed by the PC that this be held over for the time being as funds are currently limited.</li> <li>7. <b>Castle Ground ownership.</b> The PC agreed that the Clerk will ask CDC to register the PC's ownership with the Land Registry.</li> </ol>
180/09	<p><b>Highways Working Group.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Congested car parking in Deddington.</b> A proposed letter to residents about parking outside the front of their houses will be put to PC for consideration next month.</li> <li>2. <b>Speeding in Earls Lane &amp; Hempton Road.</b> A date for training on the SID is to be set with Nikki Dale from Thames Valley Police for Councillors and Hempton residents.</li> <li>3. <b>Post Box.</b> Cllr Privett has no further information.</li> <li>4. <b>Real time bus display.</b> The Clerk will advise DCE that OCC hope to replace the broken display in the Town Hall undercroft in the next two years.</li> <li>5. <b>Flooding and Excess Speed in Hempton.</b> Drainage issued resolved. A second meeting produced eight volunteers. Date set for 3 December for meeting between the group and Nikki Dale.</li> <li>6. <b>Market Square Pinch Point.</b> Yellow markings are due. The current signage complies with national regulations and so cannot be changed.</li> <li>7. <b>30mph Sign Hempton Road.</b> HWG to discuss issues with PCSO Nikki Dale.</li> </ol>

	<p>8. <b>Electronic Warning sign for Earls Lane.</b> Rodney Rose, the OCC Cabinet Member for Transport Implementation will be meeting the Chair of school governors.</p> <p>9. <b>Blanket Road Closure application.</b> Cllr Collins currently collecting all dates from interested parties and then he and Cllr Todd will seek a meeting with CDC to review options available.</p> <p>10. <b>Clifton – Deddington footpath.</b> The condition of this path is of concern. PC has been supported by County Councillor Jelf in its request that something be done. The night crew should soon be taking some action as a result of this. The PC seeks a major foliage elimination/weed treatment to reveal current path in the first instance. The HWG intends to pursue the possibility of a proper path being installed like the one between Hempton and Deddington and seeks the support of County Cllr Jelf on this matter. OCC Highways will be asked about the cost of upgrading this path.</p> <p>11. <b>Hempton Road Bus Shelter.</b> Agreed that it need repainting. Steward to action.</p> <p>12. <b>Storm Drain Main St. Clifton.</b> This is still blocked and causes problems when there is heavy rain – Cllr Jelf agreed to follow this matter up.</p> <p>13. <b>Disabled Bays.</b> Cllr Squires enquired about the size and marking of disabled bays and whether they were permanent when someone was made temporarily disabled. This is to be investigated.</p> <p>14. <b>NAG.</b> Cllr Ince asked what has happening with regard to the NAG as it does not seem to be actively involved in the issues that the PC has raised with it. The HWG will pursue this matter.</p> <p>15. <b>OCC Highways.</b> Considerable work is to be undertaken on the trees on the southern approach into Deddington by Chapmans Lane. This work is likely to look drastic but is necessary.</p>																												
181/09	<p><b>Report upon the Play Areas:</b> The new toddlers swing has been delivered and will be fitted by the Steward. The Clerk will order more play bark for the play area behind the Windmill Centre.</p>																												
182/09	<p><b>Invoices for Payment:</b> A schedule of invoices totalling £4,992.81 were tabled and approved for payment.</p>																												
183/09	<p><b>Investment of Council Funds</b> At the close of business on 18 November 2009 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>1,009.12</td> <td>0.1%</td> <td>Imprest</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Barclays Current Acct</td> <td>14,915.64</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 &amp; 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><b>TOTAL</b></td> <td><b>549,887.97</b></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ACCOUNT	BALANCE	INTEREST	NOTICE	Barclays Imprest Acct	1,009.12	0.1%	Imprest	Barclays Current Acct	14,915.64	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)	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>549,887.97</b>		
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184/09	<p><b>Correspondence. None</b></p>																												
185/09	<p><b>AOB</b> Cllr Flux said that PC members should check Cherwell portal with regard to “code of conduct” to ensure Cllrs are in line with the latest thinking.</p>																												
186/09	<p><b>Next Meeting:</b> The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 16 December 2009 at 7.30pm in the Town Hall, Deddington.</p>																												