

# DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held at the Holly Tree Club, Deddington on

Wednesday 17 October 2012 at 7.30pm

**Present:** Cllrs Wood (Chair), Bliss, Cox, Flux, O'Neill, Oldfield, Rogers, Squires, Watts, Williams, Watts, County Cllr Jelf and four members of the public.

167/12	<b>Apologies:</b> Cllrs Collins, Day and Finnigan and District Cllrs O'Sullivan
168/12	<b>Minutes of the last meeting:</b> <b>152/12</b> The fifth sentence should read as: "He [David Rogers] is particularly interested in highway matters and also <b>involvement in emergency planning</b> ". <b>156/12 (3) Events on PC land.</b> The second sentence should read as: "Cllr Watts queried whether the policy was encompassing all PC land (allotments, Castle Grounds etc) whether owned or rented and if so was it workable and practical and care needed to be taken not to kill the "volunteer army". <b>158/12 Other matters.</b> The second to last sentence should read: "Cllr Oldfield raised her concerns that the PC should forcibly express its views on the new planning changes" <b>159/12 (3) Investments.</b> The third bullet point should start with: 'It was recommended that the available money should be invested in Santander UK and NatWest'. The council approved the minutes of 19 September 2012 as a true record and so Cllr Wood signed these.
169/12	<b>Declaration of Interest.</b> 175/12 (4) Town Hall Cllr Oldfield expressed an interest.
170/12	<b>Matters Arising not referred to later on the agenda.</b> Cllr Squires referred to minute 160/12 about the Friends of Castle Grounds request for money for herbicide clearance. He noted that in 2009 the Satin Lane Allotment Association had been granted £2,500 for general works. Cllr Flux said that the 2009 minute only recorded the outcome and not the background communications that supported the council decision.
171/12	<b>10 Minute Open Forum.</b> County Cllr Jelf addressed the council. He informed Cllrs that although he had been formally approved as the Conservative candidate for the May 2013 elections, this decision had recently been reversed in favour of another candidate. Therefore he will no longer be representing the Conservatives after April 2013. He thanked Cllrs and residents for the support that they had given to him during his 10 years in office.  Steve Ashby, Head Coach of the Tennis Club addressed the council about the clubs intention to submit a planning application for floodlights on the WMC Tennis Courts. He explained that it was hard to retain junior members beyond the summer months due to poor light. Although the primary school children can use the hall the older juniors and adults need the space of a court. In order to coach players all year floodlights are therefore required. Currently another site is used when the nights draw in but this is more expensive and inconvenient. The club wishes to grow by retaining current and attracting new members. Mr Ashby confirmed that the necessary finances were in place. Cllr Wood suggested that the club consults with neighbours as the application that had been proposed 14 years previously had raised concerns about light and noise pollution. Cllr Watts commended the club for approaching the PC prior to submitting an application and Cllr Squires noted that the PC should balance the opinions of the neighbours and also the tennis club members. Cllr Flux suggested that Mr Ashby meet with the Planning Working Group to run through the technical details and provide further information prior to the application being brought to council.
172/12	<b>County and District Councillor update.</b> <b>Clifton – Deddington footpath.</b> Cllr Jelf confirmed that the total cost for the Clifton footpath was £25,000. He was grateful to receive the thank you emails from Clifton residents.
173/12	<b>Highways &amp; Transport</b> <b>1. Collection of Speeding Data.</b> A pack of speeding data was provided to Cllrs at the meeting and Cllr Rogers summarised the main findings. He noted that the notes of the meeting with the PCSO had not been included. Cllr Rogers will help the PCSO liaise with the Speed watch Volunteers within the parish. He concluded that there are problems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Entering Hempton from Chipping Norton</li><li>• Leaving Deddington towards Clifton</li><li>• Around the school – more signage needed &amp; the school is considering re-introducing a crossing supervisor</li><li>• New Street/High Street – the suggestion of a crossing at the Grove has been raised again.</li></ul> It was agreed that the WG should meet with OCC Highways representatives to discuss these matters. The Clerk asked the HWG to confirm who they wish to meet and for details of their availability and will then contact OCC to arrange. Speed enforcement was discussed and Cllr Cox reported that this was not considered a priority this year. Cllr Watts asked if it was possible to ask for more presence/enforcement and Cllr Cox suggested asking Cllr Collins as he is the current chair of the NAG. <b>2. Clifton Grass Verge.</b> A complaint has been received from a Clifton resident regarding the nettles covering the grass bank between the Mill and Stoneyford that are making pedestrians use the road instead. The Clerk has requested that the nettles on the OCC highway verge are cut back. The PC will ask OCC to confirm the highway boundary and then the owner of the other part of the bank will be asked to cut back the nettles that are growing through. The Clerk will update the correspondent. <b>2. Disabled Persons Parking Place (DPPP) Application – Earls Lane- Tays Gate House.</b> OCC has

	<p>received an application for a DPPP in Earls Lane and asked the PC to comment. The PC decided that the application should be supported but the householder must be informed that any blue badge holder could use this DPPP. The PC will request that the highway is returned to its former use should the blue badge holder leave the property. Consideration should be given to the placement of the pole declaring a DPP parking space given that a pathway runs across the front of the property. The Clerk will email the councils decisions to the traffic regulation officer.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. <b>DPC survey.</b> Questionnaires collected and the group will meet to discuss its findings.</li> <li>4. <b>Area Review of Subsidised Bus Service - Transport Needs Surveys.</b> The PC has been invited to help with the 6 yearly review by delivering the survey. It will receive £100 funding for doing so. Cllr Oldfield said that it was important that people complete these surveys as the findings may affect regular bus users. It was agreed that the costs of helping with this should be kept to a minimum. The working group will contact the PC's for Barford, Duns Tew and the Heyfords for input.</li> </ol>
174/12	<p><b>Planning Applications</b></p> <p><b>12/010702/F Hazel Hedge Cottage Tithe Lane Clifton.</b> Conversion of detached garage building to self-contained annex for the use by Hazel End Cottage, including the formation of two dormers raising the roof by 450mm, relocation of access gates and formation of parking/turning area. <b>No objection</b> but ask that conditions are included ensuring the annex cannot be sold separately and remains part of Hazel Cottage</p> <p><b>12/01286/F 1 Chapel Square Deddington.</b> Demolition of existing single storey rear extension and construction of a two storey rear extension. The working group found this a difficult plan to consider as the layout of ground levels between this property and its neighbour is difficult to see in plans provided. <b>The PC objected to this planning application</b> on the grounds that the increased height of this rear extension will adversely affect the light into the neighbouring property which has a ground level that appears to be much lower. It was recommended that a case officer visit the site before any decision is made.</p> <p><b>12/01373/F 2 Duns Tew Road Hempton.</b> This is a re-submission of refused 12/00937/F. Demolish Kitchen and Garden Store and build single story rear and 2 storey side extension. This property was originally a 2 bedroom cottage it was changed to a 4 bedroom property under permitted development with the addition of a loft extension. The only major change in regard to the refused application 12/00937/F is that the side extension no longer extends in front of the existing building line. <b>The PC objected to this planning application</b> for the following reasons: this plan aims to enlarge the property to a seven bedroom dwelling which the PC considers to be overdevelopment of the plot creating a disproportionate footprint, the plan significantly reduces the space between the neighbouring property and the proposed Juliette balcony on the first floor will create an unacceptable level of overlooking.</p> <p><b>Approvals</b></p> <p>12/00222/TCA The Firs St Thomas Street Deddington  12/00221/TCA The Orchard Hopcroft Lane Deddington  12/01090/F 29 St Johns Way Hempton  12/01130/F Market House Market Place Deddington</p> <p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p><b>Deddington Tennis Club</b> has written to the PC notifying Cllrs of its plans to reapply for planning permission to floodlight two tennis courts and seeking the views of the PC on the potential application. (NB Previous applications failed due to proximity of houses and the light and noise nuisance to residents). The club informed the PC that it had already sent letters to local residents inviting them to consult but only one resident took up this offer to attend a meeting. Discussion followed. It was queried whether the tennis club can apply for planning permission as it doesn't own the land, who CDC would expect to receive the application from and whether a planning request from the PC would be considered as "permitted development". The Clerk will query these points with the CDC planning department. It was queried who would ultimately own/maintain the floodlights if the Tennis Club financed them. It was agreed that the PWG will meet (as mentioned earlier) to discuss the application with the Tennis Club.</p> <p><b>Proposed Relaxation of Planning Rules</b></p> <p>The PC has concerns over the government proposals to relax the planning rules and wishes to be involved in any consultation process. The Clerk therefore wrote to the Prime Minister, The Secretary of State, our MP, and the Head of Strategic Planning at Cherwell (and copied this letter to our County and District Cllrs) and a copy of this letter is available in the office. One Cllr suggested that the PC should ask CDC to confirm its stance on the proposed relaxations and whether they were blocking it, as other councils have already done. The clerk will write to CDC to confirm its position. It was noted that the current situation gave very mixed messages to homeowners as to what they can do. Cllrs were of the opinion that planning works best when you have very clear guidelines.</p>
175/12	<p><b>Finance &amp; General Purposes</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Bank accounts.</b> Balanced and agreed. Income includes £594 from the bowls and cricket club, and £604 from the Windmill for PC share of AWC takings. Expenses include £1,089 to CDC for dog bin emptying, and £3,754 to Wickstead for cheese slide installation.</li> <li>2. <b>Fidelity Guarantee Cover.</b> Not looked into yet.</li> <li>3. <b>Investments.</b> The offer to transfer funds from AngloIrish to Allied Irish UK has been declined, and the account closed, and funds received. The account with West Bromwich Building Society has also been closed, and those funds have also been received. It was decided to put £140,000 into Santander and</li> </ol>

	<p>£80,000 into NatWest. Santander should pay 3.2% if we get the money in in time (still in progress as overly bureaucratic) otherwise 2.75%. Money will be transferred from Barclays when the application has been approved. NatWest pay 2% and has already been opened.</p> <p>4. <b>Town Hall.</b> DCE have given permission to install an electricity outlet from the South side OCC light fitting on the Town Hall for Christmas Tree lights. DCE have paid for the windows. At a recent meeting it was agreed that to avoid the PC being asked for support on an ad hoc basis, DCE will prepare a three year plan for the rest of the required work, roof, chimney and complete outside stripping and re-plastering. This will provide a basis for proposals to be put before the PC. It was noted that DCE and PC are working well together. Further discussions will be held about the Coat of Arms and Maps on the Town Hall.</p> <p>5. <b>Clifton Road pavement.</b> A statement of costs has been requested.</p> <p>6. <b>Litter Bins.</b> Approval was given to spend £450 on the purchase of three new litter bins.</p> <p>7. <b>Gaveston Gardens work.</b> Three quotes were sought and two received. It was agreed that a contractor be asked to undertake the works to Gaveston Gardens at a cost of £920.</p> <p>8. <b>Parish at War.</b> The PC has been approached for a further £200 towards the Supplement. This application was supported in principle but the committee will be asked to first apply to the Oxfordshire's Armed Forces Community Covenant Grant Scheme. This is a £30m national fund to encourage integration and mutual support between the Armed Forces and their local community. Another objective of the Covenant is to recognise and remember the sacrifices made by the armed forces, and therefore it might be available to help with works to the War Memorial. Cllr Collins will be asked to investigate.</p> <p>9. <b>School Notice Board.</b> The school have complained about the noticeboard and have asked that it is either taken down or repaired. This will be investigated further by EWG.</p> <p>10. <b>Book Grants.</b> It was noted that no tertiary grant applications had been received to date.</p>
176/12	<p><b>Environment &amp; Recreation</b></p> <p>1. <b>Gaveston Gardens.</b> Quotes have been sought for the proposed works as detailed above.</p> <p>2. <b>Conservation meetings.</b> Jean Rudge has very kindly volunteered to attend any wildflower and related conservation get-togethers on behalf of the PC and was attending a Oxfordshire Nature Conservation Forum that evening. The PC passed on their thanks for her assistance.</p> <p>3. <b>Litter bins.</b> Three new waste bins are required to replace the ones with the bottoms rusted out.</p> <p>4. <b>Christmas Tree.</b> Logistics of the Christmas tree being moved from Hempton to the Market Place are being worked out. One quote to move a donated tree has already been obtained and another will be sought.</p> <p>5. <b>Planters.</b> The village steward and the residents who assist in maintaining the planters were thanked. It was noted that the planter near the Fire Station was in need of attention – the school had agreed to look after this when former Cllr Rudge was a school governor so the situation needs confirming.</p> <p>6. <b>Policies.</b> In Cllr Finnigan's absence Cllr Bliss will collate any comments regarding the Tree and Council property policies and make the necessary amendments in order that these can be considered and hopefully approved at the November meeting. This will be an agenda item.</p> <p>7. <b>'Betty's' Bench.</b> The area around Betty's bench has been evaluated and the more pervasive weeds and scrub will be carefully cleared and wildflowers sown around it on the embankment. It was determined that gravel will be put down on the area immediately around the bench, to allow people to approach the bench without damaging the fledgling seeds.</p> <p>8. <b>Play Area Inspection.</b> The Clerk has shown Cllr Bliss and the village steward how to undertake basic play area inspection, so any of the three can monitor the play areas within the Parish. It was decided that the working group should report on the play areas in the future meetings.</p>
177/12	<p><b>Cemetery – update from Chair.</b></p> <p>Deddington Parish Council has recently become aware that families are entitled to arrange funerals without the need to employ a funeral director. The council will therefore prepare a procedure in due course that allows for this whilst ensuring that Deddington Parish Council complies with its duties as a Burial Authority.</p>
178/12	<p><b>Remembrance Sunday</b></p> <p>Cllr Collins will lay the wreath as Chair of Deddington Parish Council but Cllr Wood will carry the wreath whilst Cllr Collins is playing the drum. Cllr Flux and two members of the British Legion will take the salute.</p>
179/12	<p><b>Confirmation of the date of the Annual Parish Meeting – Wednesday 8 May 2013</b></p>
180/12	<p><b>BT Fibre Optics Project</b></p> <p>BT Openreach held an event on 12 October, which was attended by local television and media. The said that the all-fibre optics exchange was still on schedule for switch on mid January 2013. Information sheets are available to view in the parish office. The copper wiring will remain for the foreseeable future. Discussions arose about residents experiencing slower broadband speeds lower over the last couple of months. Cllr Squires proposed that the PC write to BT to ask why it has it slowed down. Cllr Oldfield seconded this. Cllr Flux requested an amendment that the PC should encourage people experiencing a problem to write in instead. Cllr Wood seconded this. The amended motion was voted on and resolved (7 votes for, 2 against and 1 abstention). The original proposal was then voted on with 3 for, 5 against and 2 abstentions – this therefore fell. Residents experiencing problems should therefore contact BT directly.</p>
181/12	<p><b>Report on Play Areas.</b></p> <p>The Clerk reported that the course she had attended was very good. She has provided training to the village steward and Cllr Bliss regarding the formal recording of play area assessment and will develop a system to demonstrate that this is being done.</p>

182/12	<b>Invoices for Payment:</b> Schedules of invoices totalling £4,006.92 for October were approved for payment.																																
183/12	<p><b>Investment of Council Funds</b> At the close of business on 17 October 2012 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>733.79</td> <td>0.1%</td> <td>Imprest</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Barclays Current Acct</td> <td>191,909.17</td> <td>0.1%</td> <td>Current</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Santander</td> <td>75,000.00</td> <td>3.0%</td> <td>1 year fixed (July 13)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nat West</td> <td>75,000.00</td> <td>3.0%</td> <td>1 year fixed (Nov 12)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nat West</td> <td>125,000.00</td> <td>3.0%</td> <td>1 year fixed (July 13)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nat West</td> <td>80,000.00</td> <td>2.0%</td> <td>1 year fixed (Oct 2013)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL</b></td> <td><b>547,642.96</b></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ACCOUNT	BALANCE	INTEREST	NOTICE	Barclays Imprest Acct	733.79	0.1%	Imprest	Barclays Current Acct	191,909.17	0.1%	Current	Santander	75,000.00	3.0%	1 year fixed (July 13)	Nat West	75,000.00	3.0%	1 year fixed (Nov 12)	Nat West	125,000.00	3.0%	1 year fixed (July 13)	Nat West	80,000.00	2.0%	1 year fixed (Oct 2013)	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>547,642.96</b>		
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184/12	<p><b>AOB as allowed by Chairman</b></p> <p><b>Remembrance Day Parade.</b> Some Cllrs queried whether Cllrs would march in the Remembrance Day Parade. The Clerk or Chair shall email Cllrs to confirm whether they are required to march or not.</p> <p><b>Health &amp; Safety.</b> The clerk will remind the village steward that he must wear the fluorescent jacket that he has been issued with when he is working on or near the roads for health and safety reasons.</p>																																
185/12	<b>Correspondence:</b> No comments																																
186/12	<b>Next Meeting:</b> The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on <b>Wednesday 21 November at 7.30pm</b> in <b>The Church Hall, Hempton</b> . The meeting closed at 8:53pm.																																