

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 21 September 2005
commencing at 7.45pm

Present: Councillors Flux (Chairman), Todd, Alton, Rollason, Wood, Watts, Mrs Spencer, Haslam, Mrs Cox, Co. Cllr. Jelf (part), District Cllr. O'Sullivan, Graham Pitts (Clerk), Sue Gibbs (Minute Secretary).

51/05 **Chairman's Allowances**

A Tertiary Education Grant was awarded to Felicity Sullivan, a student from the parish. It was noted that grants were also being awarded to two other students not present, Guy Chapman and Luke Garratt.

52/05 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Putland, Swash, and Squires.

Absent: Cllr Ellis

53/05 **Minutes of Last Meeting**

The Minutes of the last meeting, held on 20 July 2005, were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. There were no matters arising. Also approved were the imprest and other account statements for August, a planning and property report for August, and correspondence between 21 July and 18 August 2005.

54/05 **Declaration of Interests**

There were no declarations of interest.

55/05 **10 Minute Open Forum**

There were no members of the public wishing to speak.

56/05 **Environment and Recreation Working Group**

Cllr Watts reported as follows:

(a). **Village Plan Working Group.** The next meeting was scheduled for the first Monday in October and it was anticipated that the questionnaire would be ready for the next Council meeting.

(b). **Proposed November 'Pudding n Pie' Fair.** CDC had confirmed that there were unlikely to be any problems with closing the proposed section of road, although the cost would be £75. The letter from CDC had implied that road closure signs could be borrowed and would not incur additional charges. Buses would stop on the main road; concerns were again voiced regarding the school buses but it was thought that they would be unaffected as the roads to be closed were not part of their route. The need to ensure that sufficient space was available for deliveries to the Unicorn Inn had been noted. Reassurance had been received from other villages using Hatwell fairs that they were happy with his operation and that they were well run. It was noted that although Mr Hatwell had proposed to park one caravan in the Square, confirmation had not yet been received as to where the others would be put and **it was agreed that the Clerk would clarify this with Mr Hatwell. It was agreed that the PC should now write to CDC asking for the necessary road closures, and stress in the letter that the safety of all affected by this must be paramount.** It was confirmed that the Fair would take place on

the third weekend in November. They would begin to set up from 6.00pm on 17th November; the fair would run on Friday and Saturday, finishing by 10.00pm each night, and would leave by midday on Sunday 20 November. It was aimed at children in the 5-12 age range and it was hoped that the Fair would be seen as a way of providing entertainment for the younger people of the parish.

(c). **Satin Lane.** As previously agreed the Clerk had contacted all those whose plots were uncultivated or only partially cultivated, with a view to these being offered to those on the waiting list from April 2006. It had been suggested that Charter Housing Association might make a donation towards getting the overgrown areas cleared and made available to the village.

(d). **Castle Grounds.** Cllr Squires had held a site meeting with those parishioners who had been concerned about a number of trees and those thought to be dangerous had been marked. Two quotes had been received to undertake the necessary work and it was agreed that the quote from Staig should be accepted. It was proposed that after the Village Plan had been completed the Environment Working Group should look in detail at options/grants for Castle Grounds. This might be another area for funding to be considered by Charter Housing Association.

(e). **Campaign for Sustainable Communities Bill.** It was agreed that councillors could respond to this as individuals.

(f). **Children's Under 6 Play Area.** The existing see-saw base needed to be removed and replaced. It was also noted that there were tree roots coming through..

(g). **Circular Walk.** There was still a bull in a field on the Walk. The Clerk confirmed that he had sent the relevant reports to CDC who were pursuing this. Cllr Rollason pointed out that this was the second summer in which the walk had been disrupted by a bull and it was agreed that this should be emphasised to CDC.

(h). **Village Shop of the Year.** It was agreed that Deddington had too many shops to be able to nominate for this event.

(i). **Oxon Rural Community Council.** Open meetings were being held on 23rd and 29th September in Kidlington. If anyone wished to attend, details were available from the Clerk.

(j). It was agreed that a new War Memorial sign was needed. It was felt that this should also include War Graves and it was agreed that the PC should go back to the War Graves Committee on this.

57/05

Highways Working Group

Cllr Haslam reported as follows:

(a). The Congregational Church had requested that a 'Keep Clear' sign be placed on the road at their expense. **It was agreed that the PC should write to Highways requesting this.**

(b). **Road Markings.** The Clerk reported that he had already written to Highways regarding getting the road markings reinstated where St Thomas St and Philcote St met, but would chase this up again. It was noted that double yellow lines now ran up the Hempton Road past the farm entrance; **it was agreed that the Clerk should raise this with Highways and check they had been properly placed.** It was also noted that there had been no response to the request to Highways to remove the Keep Clear sign in the Bullring in front of what had once been a garage but was now a shop and **agreed that the Clerk would look into this also.**

(c). **Clifton Footpath.** Nothing further had been heard following the meeting with Ralph Grant. The Clerk had chased this up and been informed that someone from the Pathways Division would come out and look at this. They were grateful for the PC's contribution of £7,000 and had confirmed that they would not be asking for anything further.

(d). **Crossing at Library.** Approval for this had been confirmed. It was noted that there would not be any noise on the crossing between the library and the Holcomb Hotel, but that it would be suitable for use by partially sighted people. It was anticipated that the crossing would be installed in November; Cllr Jelf promised to confirm this.

(e). **Hempton Road Crossing.** It had been confirmed that this installed in January '06 and that OCC had noted the PC's concerns regarding noise and lighting. Once this was installed, the possibility of a build out could be further explored.

(f) **Better Ways to School.** Cllr Rollason expressed concerns regarding the speed at which cars travelled along Earls Lane and the lack of adequate signage about the school. Cllr Alton reported that there would be a question about Earls Lane in the Village Plan. Cllr Spencer also expressed concern regarding the new path in the Bullring which was often impassable because of lorries overhanging the edge. **It was agreed that a letter should be sent to OCC about this.**

(g). **Parking.** The initial project had been a success but had recently tailed off and more people were again parking long term in the square. Cllr Haslam had not yet received back the stats from the trial but would have these for the next meeting. Meanwhile he had spoken to the owners of Orchard House who would be prepared to rent up to 20 parking spaces for £10,000 a year. It was felt that it would be up to local businesses to fund this, but that every avenue should be explored. **It was agreed that this would be discussed at the next meeting.**

(h). **B4031.** Concerns had been raised in recent local newspaper reports regarding the re-routing of lorries away from South Newington. Co Cllr Jelf said that the main problem came not from local traffic but from lorries from overseas heading towards Wales using this route as a cut through. He was in favour of a 7.5 tonne limit in South Newington, but not at the expense of local villages, which should also be protected by a 7.5 tonne limit. He believed that lorries should be re-routed down the M40 and through Woodstock. **Cllr Todd proposed that the Parish Council should support the implementation of a 7.5 tonne limit on the B4031 in the Parish of Deddington and beyond. This was agreed.**

(i). **Charter Housing Grant.** It was suggested that some money could be used from Charter Housing to assist the Town Hall in complying with the requirements of the DDA. However, it was recognized that the stairs on the Town Hall could not be adapted as they were not wide enough. Cllr Wood reported that he was still in discussions with the Feoffees of the Town Hall over its future.

58/05

Planning Working Group.

Cllr Todd reported as follows:

(a). **05/01557/F Castle Farm, Clifton Road, Deddington.** Change of use of Black Barn from agricultural storage to B1/B8 use (business storage). **No objection.**

(b). **05/013325/F 2 Philcote St, Deddington.** Raising the roof with second floor extension/loft conversion (as plans received 17/8/05). Although some more plans had been received there was still concern that they were not accurate. In any event it was also felt that the light to neighbouring properties would still be too restricted. Letters from both sets of neighbours had been received expressing concern and **it was agreed that an objection should be made to this proposal.**

(c). **05/01602/LB Clifton Mill, Clifton.** Revision to planning consent 04/02380/LB – change of proposed roofing to outbuildings from oak shakes to thatch. **No objection.**

(d). **05/01584/TCA The Manse, Bullring, Deddington.** Fell one Pyrus tree. **No objection.**

(e). **05/01555/F Home Farm Cottage, Clifton.** Two storey extension and attached double garage with studio over, erection of porch to front (modifications to 04/02622/F). **No objection.**

(f). **05/01659/F Russett Cottage, The Stile Deddington.** Single storey rear extension. Amendments to permission 04/01907/F. **No objection**

(g). **05/01570/TCA Castle End, Castle Street, Deddington.** Thin crown of one yew tree by 10/15% including partial crown reduction. **No objection.**

(h). **05/01724/F 35 St John's Way, Hempton.** Conservatory to rear. **No objection.**

(i). **05/01786/F Bengal Spice, New Street, Deddington.** Resubmission of 05/00201/F – Variation of conditions 2 and 3 of 03/01528/F to allow take away and extend Sunday/Bank Holiday opening to

22.00 hours. It was noted that these plans had only just been received and had not yet been considered by the Working Group. The Chairman reminded councillors that when this application had been made previously, objections had been made because a number of existing planning conditions had not been met. It now appeared that all of these had been complied with; the PC could lodge further objections only on planning grounds, and not on any other criteria. Cllr Spencer felt it was important that the neighbours' concerns were taken into account and Cllr O'Sullivan confirmed that they would have been informed independently by CDC and that they had been in correspondence directly with the Council. Concerns were also expressed about a likely increase in traffic and noise. After some discussion **it was proposed that the application be approved on the condition that all previous planning conditions had been met. This was approved by 5 votes to 3. It was therefore agreed that a letter be sent to the Council accordingly but that it should stress that the PC was split and list the concerns raised about the neighbours, noise, and traffic.**

(i). A list of approvals was circulated.

59/05

Finance & General Purposes Working Group

Cllr Wood reported as follows:

(a). **Accounts to 31 March 2005.** BDO Stoy Hayward had now completed the audit for the year ended March 2005. Two queries had been raised and resolved. The Annual Return was available for inspection from the Clerk.

(b). Cashflow to the end of August. A report was tabled; there was nothing significant to report this month. It was noted that Gary Rose was on sick leave but might be able to come back to work at the end of the year.

(c). **Chairman's Allowances.** Cllr Todd proposed a grant of £300. This was seconded by Cllr Wood and approved unanimously.

(d). It was agreed that the CPRE subscription of £25 should be renewed.

(e). **Deddington Market Group.** Following the early repayment of its loan, it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the DMMG congratulating it on the successful way it was being run.

60/05

Invoices for Payment

A schedule of invoices totaling £7594.58 was tabled, a copy of which is filed with these minutes, and was approved for payment.

61/05

Investment of Councils Funds

At the close of business on 21 September 2005 the balances were as follows:

Account Number

It was noted that interest rates had dropped.

Account No	Balance	Interest	Notice
70708526	1373.15	0.1%	Imprest
70708542	16207.62	0.1%	Current
W Bromwich BS	297221.39	4.45%	Overnight

Alliance & Leicester	252537.67	4.2%	30 Day Notice
TOTAL	567339.83		

62/05 **Correspondence**

(a) A list of correspondence since the last meeting was circulated.

63/05 **Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 19th October 2005 at the Town Hall commencing at 7.45pm.

The Chairman reported that the Clerk would not be present at that meeting as he would be on holiday but that Pamela Ward would be attending instead.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm