

# Dedham

Parish Council

## Minutes of meeting held on 8 December 2010

### DEDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2010 in the

Assembly Rooms, Dedham.

**Present: In the Chair: Cllr. R. Laverick**

Councillors: R. Appleby, R. Cannon, M. Dempsey, B. Hindley,

Mrs. K. Spencer, A. Stock, S. White

Parish Clerk: Mrs. J. Flewin

P.C.S.O. Mark Hibben

Electors 3

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE received from Cllr. Garnett and Cllr. Mrs. Cannon.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING having been circulated were approved subject to the following amendment. Item 3 (e) line 5. delete "with the exception of the 5 p.m. bus which will continue its old route."

3. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Meeting with Sports Club The Finance sub-Committee and other councillors attended a useful meeting with the Sports Club to discuss the financing of the grass cutting of the sports field. It was explained that financial cutbacks were necessary in view of a significant loss of revenue from CBC and as the grass cutting was one of the biggest items of expenditure savings had to be made. The Parish Council appreciated that the Sports Club was also affected by the current financial situation and the need to look to members for extra support and various ways of making savings were discussed. The Cricket Club was particularly concerned that the outfield should not suffer in view of the outreach programme now running with Dedham Primary School and other organisations involving youngsters. Having considered all the arguments and the fact that the sports field provided a social amenity for

the village as a whole the Parish Council was prepared to pay £1,400 per annum towards the cost of grass cutting, a reduction of £653. There was no scope within the Parish Council budget to increase this sum for the foreseeable future. The number of cuts required for this amount was not specified and the Sports Club itself should be responsible for financing any extra cuts deemed necessary by the individual users and which are over and above the programme planned by the Sports Club within the sum of £1,400. Mr. Goldsbrough, Hon. Secretary of the Sports Club, agreed to put this offer before his committee and report back.

(b) Highway Maintenance items As reported in last month's Minutes Princl Lane in particular, and other areas in general, still had not received the promised attention from Highways. As requested Cllr. White had written officially to C.Cllr. Mrs. Brown who in turn had taken matters up with Highways. Whilst appreciating the urgency of the situation Highways response is that severe financial restraints mean a delay in carrying out the necessary repairs. We shall continue to press Highways to have this work done.

(c) Salt Bins The Chairman had written a letter to residents in Monks Lane advising them of the situation in respect of salt distribution as proposed by CBC. New salt bins were not available and those existing will only be filled once. A scheme for the provision of salt and grit in one tonne bags for volunteer distribution was outlined and as a result Mr. Kevin Taylor has received delivery of a bag of salt and grit for use by the public as required.

(d) Swearing on the football pitch As promised Cllr. Laverick attended a recent football match and was happy to report that there was no swearing whilst he was there. Cllr. Mrs. Cannon had attended another match and again found behaviour was satisfactory. It appears that the problem lies with certain clubs which if identified can be targeted. The Chairman suggested he kept a log and asked that members made a point of monitoring matches advising him of those clubs giving offence.

(e) Bad smells in the High Street Following the presentation last meeting the weather conditions have kept odour levels at a minimum although it is obvious that the problem has not been eradicated. Cllr. White will discuss proposed dates for a site meeting with Veolia in January. Other members are welcome to attend.

4. PARISH PLAN Responses to the questionnaire are coming in steadily and residents should be encouraged to complete and return the form.

5. CORRESPONDENCE None.

6. REPORT OF PCSO The icy conditions recently had brought about a spate of "racing" in the Mill Lane car park. Culprits had been identified

and PCSO Mark Hibben had issued warnings to those concerned. Essex Police has taken over the Community Speedwatch training in order to have a level of standardization. Each participating parish will be charged £200 to cover the costs of administration, etc.

Dedham is the first village to be involved. It was suggested that during the bad weather the elderly and infirm in the village needed special contact and Cllr. Laverick agreed to discuss the matter in more detail with the PCSO. Meanwhile residents should be reminded to contact vulnerable neighbours to ensure that all was well.

7. FOOTPATHS/PLAY AREA Cllr. Laverick reported that ECC was tightening its control over the cutting of footpaths and the keeping of records of work done. This needed to be looked at carefully before the start of the new season.

8. FINANCE/ACCOUNTS CBC have indicated that the revenue grant funding for Dedham will be cut by 50% to £2,992. subject to the Council's scrutiny process. Once this is confirmed the Parish Council can estimate its precept requirements for the forthcoming year. In view of the necessary cutbacks it was proposed by Cllr. Hindley, seconded by Cllr. Cannon, with all in favour, that a reduced grant of £1,000 be allocated towards the maintenance of the churchyard.

It was agreed that the following accounts be paid:

	£
Mr. A. Hodson – Hours worked in November	150.00
Mrs. O. Ruff – Litter	168.00
Mrs. J. Flewin – Clerk's Qtrly.Account	886.52
Web Hosting	140.76
St. Mary's Church	1,000.00
<b>Income:</b> EEC CIF Grant	£1,915
CBC CIF Grant	1,085
106 Agreement	1,850

9. PLANNING The Planning sub-Committee has dealt with the following applications:

COL/2229 Dedham Vale Business Centre, Manningtree Road, Dedham.

Further four single storey units

Comments: Recommend refusal.

COL/2272 46 Dedham Meade, Dedham.

Rear extension after removal of existing conservatory.

Comments: Recommend approval

COL/2301 24 Dedham Meade, Dedham.

Extension and alterations

Comments: Recommend approval but windows should all be the same.

COL/2268 Lecture House, Colchester Road, Dedham.

Amendment to already approved dwelling.

Comments: Recommend approval.

COL/2263 Gothic Cottage, Grove Hill, Lamb Corner, Dedham.

Alterations to garage to form further bedroom.

Comments: Recommend approval.

COL/2341 Gardeners Cottage, Gun Hill, Dedham.

Remove sheds and out buildings and replace with garden room.

Comments: Recommend approval if conditions are met.

COL/2361 The Grove, Grove Hill, Dedham.

Extension to existing garage for further two cars.

Comments: Recommend approval.

CBC has **approved** the following applications:

COL/1866 Wyvern & Maytree, Crown Street, Dedham.

Minor alterations to approved scheme.

COL/1270 The Gables. Coles Oak Lane, Dedham.

Single and two storey rear extensions.

COL/1512 Blackthorn, Ardleigh Road, Dedham.

Demolish existing dwelling and erect new dwelling.

COL?1127 The Alfred Munnings Museum, Castle Hill, Dedham.

3 non- illuminated signs.

COL/1174 Gun Hill Place, Gun Hill, Dedham.

Conservatory extension, pool enclosure and two dormer windows.

COL/2008 Langleigh, Long Road West, Dedham.

Extension and alterations.

Rusty Tiles Application 072229 Following Cllr. Dempsey's enquiries made at the previous meeting, Cllr. Cannon outlined the current status of this application. In response to Cllr. Cannon's letter of 23<sup>rd</sup> October CBC confirmed that work on the site had been carried out after the consent had expired and that concern about the reversing of cars onto the street remained. A fresh application has been received and this was discussed at the recent planning sub-committee meeting.

Minutes. There has been some delay in the completion of work in some Council properties as crews have been engaged elsewhere as a result of the very bad weather.

11. PUBLIC REPRESENTATION A resident was concerned at the dangerous state of the High Street pavements during the recent snow and ice. These had not been cleared by CBC and it had been extremely hazardous for all, particularly the elderly. He felt it would be appropriate to try to generate community spirit involving the shopkeepers and members of the public in clearing snow and ice. It was agreed that this would be welcomed and that Mr. Hodson should be approached to see if he would clear The Drift and if necessary head up an “emergency force” for High Street pavements. It was also felt that although disproved the fear of liability should a person slip following clearance remained. Cllr. White will contact Cllr. Garnett for the Council’s views on this matter and will also ensure that the shopkeepers are put in the picture regarding legalities of snow clearing.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS Cllr. White raised an earlier request for funding for the new Film Club, possibly in the form of a grant towards the rental of the Assembly Rooms. After some discussion it was generally agreed that this was a worthwhile cause but the Council would be more favourably inclined towards providing a piece of equipment which might qualify for 106 money. Cllr. Cannon agreed to contact Mr. Bob Penny about the possibilities of using this money for such a scheme. Meanwhile it was suggested that some funding might be available from Awards for All. Cllr. White will report back to the Film Club Committee.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS The **Village Quiz** will take place in February 2011 and several members expressed their willingness to join the Parish Council team. There has been an approach from the Stour Trust for permission to erect a jetty in the vicinity of The Boathouse to enable a **river bus to operate from Flatford to Dedham**. Cllr. Cannon had informed them that the land did not belong to the Parish Council and had given them advice and direction. Members felt that this would be an excellent tourist attraction, particularly if the Hopper Bus operates again next summer. Cllr. Dempsey had spoken with the Tennis Club regarding their letter re the **Fitness Trail** and had pointed out that the positioning of the various pieces of equipment had been decided in conjunction with a representative of the Sports Club. The Chairman felt that a “wait and see” policy should be adopted and the matter re-visited if necessary. The question of the positioning of the goal posts in relation to the tennis courts it was felt was an internal Sports Club matter and the clerk will respond to the Tennis Club accordingly.

14, DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING The next meeting will be on **Wednesday,**

**12<sup>th</sup> January, 2011, at 7.30 p.m. in the Assembly Rooms.**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

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