

Dedham

Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held on 8 October 2012

DEDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of meeting held in The Duchy Barn

on Monday, 8th October, 2012.

Present: In the Chair: Cllr. Mrs. S. Beeton

Councillors: C.Clark, J. Flack, P. Gibbins, Mrs. J.Hughes,

A. Regan, K. Taylor, S. Vinter.

Parish Clerk: Mrs. J. Flewin

Public: 19

Cllr. Mrs. Beeton welcomed all present and members of the new Parish Council were asked to introduce themselves around the table. She gave a brief explanation for the change of venue, day and time which was for a trial period of three months. Should this prove unpopular the matter will be given further thought at the end of the year.

The format of the meeting had also changed, giving members of the public an early opportunity to express an interest on an agenda item before it was discussed in council. "Have your say" was a further opportunity towards the end of the meeting to give a view or bring up items not on the agenda. Although this was a new Parish Council all members were ready to work together and with residents to seek the best outcome of issues for the benefit of our village.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE received from Mrs.Katie Williamson, Governor of Dedham Primary School representing the Parish Council.

2. COUNCILLORS DECLARATION OF INTEREST Cllr. Clark declared his role of Chairman of the Sports Club. There were no other declarations.

3. DECLARATION OF PUBLIC INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS
Several residents registered an interest in items covering Planning (Sunnyside, Long Road West), query on use and knowledge of Village Design Statement, condition of pavements/footpaths, update of building

project in Manningtree Road, speeding, swearing on football pitch, finance. These items would in the main be covered in the various reports to follow.

4. CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR – CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

CBC advised that co-option of a new member to fill the existing vacancy could go ahead. The Chairman asked Councillors how they wished to deal with this matter and after some discussion of possible methods there was a majority vote for an open list to be placed on the notice boards calling for anyone wishing to fill the vacancy to put themselves forward for consideration.. Cllr. Mrs. Beeton will put this in hand.

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING The Minutes of the meeting held on 16th September, 2012, having been circulated were approved.

6. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Appointment of Parish Clerk This post is being advertised through the Parish Magazine and EALC with a closing date of 31st October. Applications will initially be considered by a small selection committee whose recommendations will go forward to the full council.

(b) Membership of EALC At the last meeting the Parish Council agreed to affiliate to EALC and members had recently attended a training session with Joy Darby, Chief Executive of EALC. The guidance and advice given had been very useful and further training would be available if required. Cllr. Mrs. Beeton had already attended a training day covering Chairmanship and EALC had given Dedham Parish Council a grant of £500 to defray the cost of training and development.

7. REPORT OF BOROUGH COUNCILLOR Cllr. Mark Cable introduced himself and gave a run down on his various responsibilities as Borough Councillor. Although a relatively new Borough Councillor he intended to work closely with residents and the Parish Council for the good of the village and there had also been an offer of help from the Langham Parish Council chairman, Mrs. Schofield. Cllr. Mrs. Beeton was grateful for the offer and will make contact.

Cllr. Cable covered several of the items raised under item 3. some of which could be undertaken by the Essex Rangers . He asked residents to contact him about anything involving the roads, overgrown hedges, trees, dog fouling, litter, signage, etc. which needed attention. He advised that a piece of land adjacent to the Mill Lane car/coach park had been earmarked by a charity which gave underprivileged children access to animals – horses and goats in the first instance, It was hoped that a short presentation about this will be available at a future meeting. The on-going issue of the land to the rear of Brook Street owned by the

Pryke family has now been resolved. The last Appeal has been turned down and they must vacate the land by early November. The winter salt left from last year is located with Roy Laverick (Long Road West), Steve White (High Street) and Kevin Taylor (Monks Lane). Salt bins will be filled once by CBC.

All indications point to the fact that CBC are proposing to charge for use of the Mill Lane car park. This would be a huge blow to the village where parking generally is cause for concern. Cllr. Mrs. Beeton has spoken with CBC who will be sending information about this proposal and it was agreed that a strong campaign against ticketing will be mounted by the village once these details are to hand.

Cllr. Cable advised that the sum of £1,000, being Dedham's half-share with Langham, is available for the village under the CBC's Diamond Jubilee Commemorative Fund. He would welcome suggestions as to how this money should be used.

8. REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR Ann Brown gave a brief description of her role as Essex County Councillor for Dedham and 18 other parishes. Her responsibilities included, amongst other headings, Highways, Parking Partnership, Essex Rangers, Rights of Way, Care of the Elderly, Libraries, Police Liaison, Bus Stops and Education. She echoed Cllr. Cable's request for information in order to involve the Essex Rangers and pointed out that any member of the public could report serious potholes on-line. Some pavements were becoming quite dangerous, particularly in Mill Lane, and she is asking the Local Highways Panel to give consideration to a 20 mph speed limit both in Mill Lane and the High Street. As time was short it was agreed that this item should be discussed at the next meeting together with information on the "walking bus".

9. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

CALC (JH) Contact made with Colchester Association of Local Councils. Next meeting is in December.

Neighbourhood Action Panel (SV).. This group is a local forum at which parishes can identify and discuss local problems in all fields. The yellow lines around the war memorial will be in place shortly but the request for yellow lines at the junction of Southfields with Crown /Street has been put on file. Items to be taken forward to the next meeting will include dog bins and swearing on the football pitch.

Dedham Primary School representative (JF). Has spoken with Chair of Governing Body and agreed that Mrs. Williamson, the current governor representing the Parish Council, should continue in that role for the next two years. She is happy to liaise with JF who will report back to the Parish Council.

Parish Emergency Plan. (CC) Now in receipt of information

Communications/Transport. (KT/JF) KT reported on a meeting with

Roy Laverick to transfer over responsibility for the Parish Council website. In the short-term he proposed that we maintain the existing site, which he would administer, and to this end he proposed that we subscribe to the necessary licences to facilitate this. It was, however, proposed to investigate other options for the future. In respect of a Logo for Dedham Parish Council, JF agreed to circulate details of a logo he had produced from the Dedham village sign with suggested text content. Councillors were asked to respond back to JF with comments in order that he can make appropriate recommendations to the next meeting.

Play Area (PG)/Sports field (JH) Both Councillors had attended the recent Sports Club Committee meeting. JH reported that the bad language on the football pitch was a major problem causing anger and annoyance to residents and other users of the playing fields. Many efforts had been made in the past to curb this with little effect. JH tabled possible ideas for consideration and these were discussed at length. Although it was realised it was almost impossible to control something which was endemic within the sport further action would be taken and the matter will continue to be closely monitored. However, new measures agreed with the previous Council were in place and it was hoped that Councillors would try to attend matches particularly on Saturdays to see for themselves how matters progressed

PG reported a number of areas on the sports field which needed general attention but felt that these, once identified, could be managed, particularly if the Essex Rangers were prepared to help.. Permission to deal with the trees in The Drift had to be obtained from CBC and is a matter for consideration particularly in respect of the tree which is blocking the CCTV camera. The bark in the play area needed attention and so far as the ROSPA report is concerned he agreed to bring his recommendations regarding the play equipment and outdoor gym to the next meeting.

Footpaths SB reported that she had met with Jason Botello, PPP representative for Colchester, who had explained the service level arrangements with DCP for maintaining Parish footpaths. It was agreed by the Council that DPC should retain responsibility, through its footpath representative, for this function and that we should explore with Dedham Footpath Group and other interested residents, as appropriate, the contribution that might be made towards monitoring and maintenance of paths on a voluntary basis.

8. PLANNING The following applications had been received and responded to whilst the Parish Council was inoperative because the 21 day limit was due to expire, but in each case it was clearly stated that the recommendations had not been ratified by the Parish Council.

1579 Spring Cottage, Bargate Lane, Dedham.

Two storey extension and kitchen extension.

Comment: No objection

1581 Access and driveway alteration and extension of listed wall

1582

Comment: No objection.

1564 Sunnyside, Long Road West, Dedham.

Replacement house and garage.

Comment: No objection.

1591 6 Dedham Meade, Dedham.

Extension and alterations.

Comments: Recommend refusal because the size of the extended house would be too large for the plot and would be detrimental to the amenities of the neighbouring properties.

1632 Gun Hill Garage site, Ipswich Road, Dedham.

Erection of vehicle dismantling building and ancillary works.

Comments: No objection.

Applications since received and dealt with.

1154 33 Dedham Meade, Dedham.

Single storey front extension

Comments: No objection.

1663 Stour House, Long Road East, Dedham.

Cartlodge and tennis court.

Comments: No objection.

The following applications have been approved by Colchester Borough Council.

1411 Lyndon, East Lane, Dedham.

Two storey extension.

1433 Maytree Bungalow, Crown, Street, Dedham.

Retention of garden shed.

In response to an enquiry under item 3. Cllr. Regan advised that the “Hallfields” proposals were on-going but there was nothing new to report at the present time. This was confirmed by Cllr. Cable.

The Planning Committee will be meeting with Mr. Andy Tyrrell of CBC on 16th October to agree working procedures.

9. FINANCE COMMITTEE The Finance Committee had met for a “general information “ meeting and new signatories for the two Council accounts had been obtained, i.e. Cllr. Mrs. Beeton, Cllr. Flack and Cllr. Regan. The Committee would be addressing the issue of income generation as had been requested by a resident. The next meeting will be on 5th November, 2012.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Dickensian Evening Dedham Primary School requested permission to use Royal Square for this event on the evening of Saturday, 1st December, 2012. There was no objection to this. Some dangerous areas were filled in with shingle prior to last year’s Fair and similar arrangements will need to be made this year. The request for a donation to help defray expenses will be discussed at the next meeting.

11. ROYAL SQUARE – RE-SURFACING Mr. Bob Penny has confirmed that 106 money is available to Dedham but no detailed information regarding the nature of the proposed work had been received to enable CBC to decide if it can be used for this project. Unfortunately the Parish Council will have to “start from scratch” in dealing with this urgent matter. The Chair was investigating these

issues with Cllr. Gibbins.

12. ACCOUNTS The following accounts had been approved for payment:

<u>September:</u>		£
Mr. A. Hodson –	Ground Maint.	202.50
	PPP	276.29
Mrs. I. Hindley – Litter		168.00
Clerk Qtrly Acc. July/September		856.36
Friends of Historic Essex		10.00
Duchy Barn – Hire		15.00
<u>October</u>		
Mr. A. Hodson	Ground Maint.	162.00
	PPP	331.10
Mrs. I Hindley – Litter		210.00
Election Fees		1,475.25
EALC Affiliation Fee (part)		239.50
Income – 2 nd half precept	£15,795	

13. REPORT OF PCSO In the absence of PCSO Hibben there was no report this month.

14. HAVE YOUR SAY Several residents questioned the “No objection” comments regarding the Planning Committee’s decision in respect of Sunnyside, Long Road West which, it was felt, was directly opposed to the guide lines in the Village Design Statement. Cllr. Flack will investigate a complaint regarding Microlite noise and report back at the next meeting. Other complaints involved dog fouling on the playing field and footpaths. This had already been discussed and it was hoped that the Essex Rangers could deal with this matter. The on-going problem of bad odours in the High Street still existed and resident Mr. Fabig called for an updated review with Anglian Water. Cllr. Mrs. Beeton will look into this matter. In view of the general financial situation and the loss of revenue grants from CBC a suggestion was put

forward that consideration be given to fund raising within the village.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr. Mrs. Hughes was happy to report that Marc Everett, Horizon Landscapes (East Anglia) Ltd. had kindly agreed to sponsor the flower tubs beside the village pump and that these had already been planted up. A letter of thanks will be sent to Mr. Everett.

Cllr. Mrs. Hughes has volunteered to keep the tubs watered and the area tidy.

Congratulations were due to the Sports Club who had held a very successful BBQ at Le Talbooth which, together with a contribution from the Bowls Club. had raised £6,000. It was proposed to put this towards the purchase of a defibrillator for the Sports Club.

The meeting also wished to record a vote of thanks to all those responsible for two very successful events held recently – The Dedham Film Festival and Dedham Run –both of which had been well attended and enjoyed by all.

16. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING The next meeting will be on Monday, 12th November, 2012, at 8 p.m. in the Duchy Barn.

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