

Dedham Parish Council
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Minutes of the Parish Council on Monday 5th October 2020 at 7.00pm

20.096. Apologies for absence
Cllr Christine Frost

20.097. Declaration of Interest. Councillors to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests, other pecuniary interests, and non-pecuniary interests not already declared.

20.098. Minutes

The minutes of meeting 07.09.2020 were accepted as a correct record subject to an amendment/addition from Cllr Beeton.

20.099. Have Your Say.

Report from Cllr Nigel Chapman. Ward Councillor.

Report from Cllr Anne Brown. Essex County Councillor.

Cllr Brown reported that she has a scheduled telephone meeting with Kevin Bentley tomorrow. The main issue is the developments in Manningtree, Mistley, Lawford putting strain on Long Road East and West. Cllr Brown asked for any further evidence of the issues.

Cllr Herbert advised that we need the speed and volume check carried out.

20.100. Update on items from last meeting, not reported separately and other updates and reports.

- The Drift Improvement Project- Cllr Smith appendix 1
- B1029 and river issues- Cllr Taylor appendix 2 additionally, to note the appalling signage regarding the bridge closure and diversion.
- Gigaclear- Cllr Taylor/Clerk appendix 3 Nicola Baker- Rubbish left behind is appalling.
Cllr Beeton- what is the parish council doing in terms of ensuring covering across the village, and tying in with BT's service. Cllr Taylor advised that the Superfast Essex Programme was aimed at getting an acceptable speed of access for as many as possible within the Government funded budget available, 60% of residents in Dedham were covered by the first phase of the project of fibre to the cabinet (FTTC), in partnership with BT. Outlying areas were not covered by that. As part of the ongoing programme, they needed to improve speeds in the remaining areas. As such, they have partnered with Gigaclear. There will be no government funded provision to places that have a commercial offering available.
Therefore, when complete, 99.7% of the village will covered to meet the required standard. With 561, 60%, of properties already completed in phase 1. A further 266 covered by the current fibre to the premises, partnering with Gigaclear. The remaining 109 are covered by commercial offerings. The interactive map on the Superfast Essex website shows the service available by post code. Scanning across the map enables the whole of Dedham to be viewed.
- Highways issues. Cllr Follows/Clerk. Pothole, where The Drift becomes highway. Clerk to report again.
- To note the safety work carried out on the sycamore at the top of the Duchy Field, and approve any additional expenditure if necessary.

20.101. Accounts/Finance.

- a) **To receive accounts and agree payments ****

Proposed: Cllr Baker
Seconded: Cllr Meakin
Agreed by all

b) Grant requests

- i) Churchyard maintenance £1500
- ii) COVID support £200 -This Grant was agreed by Cllr Beeton during the pandemic, prior to being shared with councillors, with a view to being funded from the chairman's allowance. Councillors raised this issue at the meeting, and agreed that all such funding requests should come to council for approval, and not be agreed via emergency or other protocols.

Proposed: Cllr Herbert
Seconded: Cllr Meakin
Agreed by all

20.102. Planning Advisory Group. Cllr Jonathan Smith.

- a) To receive and agree recommendations on the following planning applications:

202050/ 202049 Duntons Almshouses, Crown Street, Dedham Colchester CO7 6AJ

Listed building application for the erection of boiler house within the curtilage of Duntons Almshouses
Recommendation: DPC have no objection in principle but wish to highlight the need for exhaust pipes to be designed and positioned so as not to be a nuisance to neighbouring properties from noise and fumes.

201908 Brooklands, Long Road West, Dedham Colchester CO7 6ES

Demolition of existing conservatory and construction of two storey side and single storey rear extension
Recommendation: DPC have no objection to this proposal.

201842 The Nurseries, Long Road West, Dedham CO7 6ES

Demolition of existing garage and erection of studio cartlodge with external staircase.

201889 Hall Cottage, formerly, Hewitt Hall Cottage, High Street, Dedham Colchester CO7 6HJ

Proposed orangery and first floor bedroom.

Recommendation: DPC do not object to this building in principle but have concerns that the external staircase and roof-lights could overlook neighbours and result in a loss of privacy.

We would also suggest that it is only used for purposes ancillary to the residence and not as overnight accommodation.

201862 St Marys Church, St Mary Church, High Street, Dedham CO7 6DE

T7 Yew, T28 Lime remove deadwood, T33 Fastigiata, Yew Trim to shape arch and trim subsiding branch, G38 Yew, Holly, Sycamore cut back to clear building by 1m FOR INFO ONLY

201902/201815 Old School House, School Lane, Dedham CO7 6HF

Application to discharge conditions 5 & 7 of approved planning application 200798 FOR INFO ONLY

201809 Duchy Cottage, Royal Square, Dedham Colchester CO7 6AA

Greengage tree to be reduce by 2m and small magnolia tree removed altogether FOR INFO ONLY

201660 Loke End, High Street, Dedham CO7 6HJ

T1 Sweet Chestnut Reduce crown and over extended laterals by maximum of 25% to reduce shading and assist longevity of old tree. FOR INFO ONLY

201889 Hall Cottage, formerly, Hewitt Hall Cottage, High Street, Dedham Colchester CO7 6HJ

Proposed orangery and first floor bedroom.

Recommendation: DPC have no objection to this proposal

- b) Notable Planning Decisions issued by CBC this month.

1. 201267 Coggeshall Road - 6 Pods.

Decision issued and refused generally for the same reasons we highlighted in our strong objection.

2. 201088 5-6 Kiln Cottages , Crown Street.

Although approved as previously reported the conditions are now published and they have picked up on the privacy matter and require details of Juliet balcony or frosted glass. Interestingly no mention of porches being in style with existing so they have accepted the modern timber clad porches proposed.

3. 200342 Hedgerows .

Still valid and undecided .

20.103. Street Traders Policy **

IT WAS RESOLVED TO adopt the Street Traders Policy, which will be used to assess street trading applications. DPC can make comment and issue a recommendation to CBC, however, all Street Trading DECISIONS WILL BE TAKEN BY CBC.

The policy has been developed by the members of the strategy group - Kevin Taylor, Nicola Baker, Christine Frost, Ann Follows, Jonathan Smith and Jeffrey Herbert.

Proposed: Cllr Kevin Taylor

Seconded: Cllr Jeffrey Herbert

Agreed by all

20.104. The Old Bakery Street Trade application

To receive an application from The Old Bakery Café for permission to trade from their coffee van, alongside the bicycle racks next to Royal Square. To resolve to make a recommendation to CBC. Please note, CBC will make the final decision.

Cllr Baker- process. How does this work, do we go through it line by line? It was agreed that for an unknown case, that would be the best method, but given this case has been discussed and is a renewal, councillors could make the decision based on their knowledge of the application and recent reading of the policy.

Following a discussion, it was agreed any approval should not be open-ended, and should have a review date. Three months was agreed.

IT WAS RESOLVED TO recommend **approval** for The Old Bakery Barista van, subject to a three-month review/re-application. This would only stand whilst The Old Bakery has the existing business within the village, in order to comply with the Street Trading Policy.

The recommendation will be sent to Colchester Borough Council

Proposed: Cllr Taylor

6 in favour,1 abstain.

Carried

20.105. Assembly Rooms Trustee

The Church has created a new single Trust for managing the Assembly rooms: this has its own constitution and is separate from the Church. There will be a management group to oversee the running of the Trust and it is proposed that this will be formed by the Vicar, two Church wardens and a representative from the Parish Council and a representative of the users supported by the Clerk. There is a full management system developed

To note the invitation to join the Trust, and to resolve to appoint a councillor as representative for the DPC.

Following a discussion, it was resolved to appoint Jonathan Smith as the PC representative.

Proposed: Cllr Smith

Seconded: Cllr Follows

Agreed by all

20.106. Graveyard extension

To receive a request below from the Church, to increase the grant for Churchyard Maintenance to £2500 (for 2021)

In the past there have been conversations with your predecessor as Chairman of the Parish Council regarding future capacity in the cemetery. It may now be possible for the church to purchase part of the vicarage garden for an extension to the cemetery and we are looking at the means of financing the purchase. If the church does this it will increase the annual maintenance costs which the church cannot afford. The council currently gives a grant of £1500 per year

towards the upkeep of the existing cemetery and I am asking if you can increase this to £2500 if we are able to secure the additional land. I believe this is a cost effective measure for the council in the longer term and addresses future needs.

Cllr Baker raised a concern that this is expressly a church responsibility, and it seems to imply that the Parish Council would be responsible if the Churchyard closes, to maintain it, and find an alternative burial site. The parish council contribute to the maintenance of the churchyard currently, as it is part of the local community and visited by many, outside of the church.

It is the case that the Parish Council would be asked to maintain a closed churchyard, but it can refuse this.

Cllr Beeton felt if the PCC can find the additional burial space it would be beneficial to the village, and agreeing to increase the grant for maintenance is no different to the existing arrangement.

Cllr Herbert was concerned about the wording but sympathetic to the cause. However, there is a need to understand what the extra £1000 is for. It was suggested that if the grant was increased, some additional maintenance should be included on the existing areas around the church and churchyard, such as the regular maintenance of the trees overhanging the footway, and sweeping of the leaves on the footway outside the church. Most Councillors agreed with this approach.

It WAS RESOLVED TO increase the grant for 2021/22 to £2500, subject to clear wording attached to it, clarification of responsibilities, and an agreement from the church to undertake the additional maintenance mentioned above.

Proposed: Cllr Beeton
Seconded: Cllr Follows
1 objection, 6 in favour
Carried

20.107. Remembrance Sunday Arrangements

It was resolved to give permission for the use of Royal Square for the Remembrance Sunday service, and note request from the Church for volunteers to assist with stewarding. Sunday 8th November. SB AF volunteered

Proposed: Cllr Baker
Seconded: Cllr Follows
Agreed by all

20.108. Flower tub planting

To resolve to set a budget of £200 for the planting of the flower tubs either side of the pump, and the war memorial planters. To store the remaining 5 tubs in the Duchy Barn shed, until the Spring.

Proposed: Cllr Ann Follows
Seconded: Cllr Nicola Baker
Agreed by all

20.109. CALC Representative

To resolve to appoint a representative. Cllr Baker was appointed as the representative for DPC

20.110. Correspondence. Clerk

20.111 Matters of continuing reference

Long road West/East/Ardleigh Rd traffic issues.

Date and Time of the next meeting. Monday 2nd November

Forthcoming events

N/A

** reports available from the clerk

Meeting closed at 8.30