

Minutes of the Meeting of Doddinghurst Parish Council General Purpose Committee held at 20.00 on the 15th April 2015, Parish Room (adjacent the Village Hall), Doddinghurst Road, Doddinghurst.

Present: Cllrs: Alan Farrow, Phil Arnell, Colin Enderby, Gerry Smith, Julia Le Page, and Diane Rogers Harrison.

1. Apologies for absence. Cllrs: David Potter and Graham W Bateson.

2. Declaration of Interests relating to items on the agenda - None declared.

3. 🖐️Resolved: Approved the minutes of the prior GP meeting (18th Feb 2015).

4. Information: Update on actions from prior meeting:

- Basket Ball wall repainted and hoop backboard bolt replaced.
- Graffiti removal - All Saints linking lane to The Gardens - Residents contacted and graffiti removed where permission granted.
- 261 Bus - commercial basis of operation introduced by ECC. Noted 46% increase in fare since commercial operation introduced - no notification or consultation of action taken by ECC on the matter.
- Roadworks in the Village. Ringway Jacobs/ECC (patch repairs), Affinity (Water Mains replacement) and National Power (replacement power poles) all undertaking repairs during the past month.
- Village email address list - compilation started
- Country Code published in Newsletter
- 2014/5 External Audit - initial figures circulated
- Insurance quotes being obtained.
- Tree Management. Tree Surgeon failed to respond to several requests to quote.
- Openness of local government regulations 2014 - website and standing order updates
- Allotment shed door smashed in an attempted burglary on 9th April 2015.
- Brentwood BC Planning portal is now operational for any member of the public to register an interest in receiving notifications by email of planning activity in their area.

5. Information: MDL management of grass cutting etc., commenced wef 1st April 2015. MDL have now taken over the management of the recreational fields for grass and hedge cutting with their first work completed satisfactorily on the 10th April 2015. Brentwood BC had failed to respond to requests for work in March 2015 despite them still being our contractor at the time.

6. Resolved: Request for reduction in new Burial administration fees - request reviewed and rejected.

7. Information: CPA Stage 2 refurbishment - update and responses to Link Newsletter. Requests to be added to an email address list for PC information had started to arrive and a number of suggestions for CPA improvements had been received but the most common request was for seating. A quote has been received and circulated, which included provision of 3 bench seats. Following discussion the committee moved, seconded and unanimously approved a motion to accept this quotation's element for bench seating at £2250, for supply and installation of three backed metal bench seats to a colour of choice onto existing concrete plinths. The Clerk was authorised to proceed with this as an order for the supplier. Two other quotes for play surface replacement are awaited.

8. Information: CPA Stage 2 grants: CIF, Dagwood Trust, Awards for All etc. An application to the Dagwood Trust has been submitted. Grants from the Brentwood Community Fund and "Awards for All" are to be pursued. The ECC Community Initiatives Fund scheme for 2015/16 has been announced with a qualification round to be followed by an application round. CIF awards are expected to be judged and announced in November 2015. A 2014/15 grant of £1350 from Brentwood BC, and sponsored by Cllr Roger McCheyne towards the Play Area refurbishment, had been received.

9. Information: Brentwood Borough Council LDP newsletter and future programme. Following the January 2015 consultations on the strategic growth options for the Local Development Plan Brentwood BC Planning have released a newsletter update of the consultation feedback and discussed the matter at their full council meeting. The planned date for the consultation on the draft LDP is September 2015.

10. Any Other Urgent Business strictly for information only.

- It was noted that the repairs to the highway in Mountnessing Lane had left steep edges to the road where the asphalt ended leaving a dangerous 250mm, or more, drop off the road surface in places down into the soft verge. Moreover, no repairs had been done to the Mountnessing Lane /Pettits Lane bridge pedestrian "safety" barrier over the Wid. The "scaffolding" type poles of the safety barrier had been severely damaged some time ago leaving a "tangle" of steel poles with some jutting dangerously towards the roadway.
- A cheque from the war memorial committee for the Parish Council was voted for by the committee but has not been received by the Parish Council.
- Cllr G Smith proposed nominating the Nature Trail (around the Football Fields) as an area for improvement under the "Social Action Project" scheme.
- The requirement to declare a Post Office a village asset is to be studied.

The meeting was attended by no members of the public

The meeting closed at 21.45

Signed:

Dated: 24th June 2015