

**Minutes of the Meeting of Doddinghurst Parish Council General Purpose  
Committee held at 20.00 on the 15<sup>th</sup> February 2017, Parish Room (adjacent the  
Village Hall), Doddinghurst Road, Doddinghurst.**

**Present:** Cllrs: Alan Farrow (Chairman), Phil Arnell, Gerry Smith, Julia Le Page and Diane Rogers-Harrison

1. **Apologies for absence.** None received.
2. **Declaration of Interests relating to items on the agenda** - None declared.
3. **👏Resolved:** Approved the minutes of the prior GP meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> Oct 2016.
4. **Information:** Updates since last meeting. Burial ground plantings are slowly being scaled back after owners were contacted and the reaction has been one of co-operation. A Cisterniser automatic water flush control has been installed in the male toilet to ensure efficient cleansing.
5. **Information:** May Fair planning and preparation update - Thurrock Council have decommissioned their climbing wall so it will not be available on 1<sup>st</sup> May. As compensation Thurrock have offered 10 places at their Grangewater centre for village children and these have been accepted by the Scout Group who will arrange the visit for the children.
6. **Information:** Feedback from Planning training session with Brentwood Borough Council on 30<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017. This presentation was organised for Borough Councillors and run by Thurrock Planning managers. It turned out to be a high level review of the objectives of planning, an oversight of the Code of Conduct and Pecuniary Interests and two planning case studies. One key point emerged and that was an overhaul of the "call in" process is planned. As this gives Parish Councils an opportunity to make the "call in" and have a planning application scrutinised by the Borough Planning Committee together with a 3 minute statement on the application by a Parish Councillor.
7. **👏Resolved:** Approved a Parish Room rent freeze for 2017/18 at 2016/17 prices.
8. **👏Resolved:** Approved - the Burial Ground fees for 2017/18 to be increased by 2% over 2016/17 prices and rounded to the nearest £5.
9. **👏Resolution:** To confirm Parish Council Policy and Process for Grant management (from 2008). The document is to be amended and represented at a future meeting.
10. **Discussion:** Process for fulfilling Capital Works provision in 2017/18. It was agreed that each of the three new/replacement features planned would be provided as individual procurements, e.g. a Teen Shelter, An improved kicking goal and finally a Parcours facility. The priority would be the Teen Shelter with the new Kicking Goal as second. The Clerk would obtain quotes for all three facilities to assess the adequacy of available funds in 2017/18.
11. **👏Resolved:** Approved a grant application to Dagwood Trust for new Teenager facilities. The Chairman of the Dagwood Trust had requested a formal application from the Parish Council for a grant towards the new Teenager facilities. A grant request of £3000 was recommended.
12. **Any Other Urgent Business** strictly for information only. RCCE Essex Village of the Year completion has been received - a nil return was planned. A half marathon on the 19<sup>th</sup> March 2017 has been planned by the Becket a Becket Rotary Club. The route will bring runners down the Doddinghurst Road with it being closed from Mountnessing Lane to the Ongar Road. Access to the allotments on that day will likely be limited to pedestrian access only.

The meeting was attended by no members of the public

**The meeting closed at 21.45**

Signed:

Dated: 19<sup>th</sup> April 2017