

**Minutes of the Meeting of Doddinghurst Parish Council General Purpose Committee
held at 20.00 on the 21st March 2012, Parish Room (adjacent the Village Hall),
Doddinghurst Road, Doddinghurst.**

Present: Cllrs: Alan Farrow (Chairman), Mrs Diane Rogers-Harrison, Mrs A Richards, Graham W Bateson.

1. **Apologies for absence.** Cllrs. Gerry Smith and Mrs Julia Le Page.
2. **Declaration of Interests relating to items on the agenda.** None declared.
3. **👏 Resolved:** Approved, the minutes of the GP meeting held on the 15th February 2012.
4. **Information:** Update on action since prior meeting including Footpaths. Damaged bridges on Footpath 10 are currently being repaired. Church Wood footpath walkway worsening by sinking. Other footpath issues still awaiting repair. Quotes for Peartree sign obtained.
5. **👏 Resolved:** Approved with effect from the 1st April 2012: (a) To increase the burial ground fees by 5% (rounded up to nearest £5). It was also agreed to add an additional fee for Burial Ground grant transfer fee, currently free, but from the 1st April 2012 this would be added to the chargeable fees at a rate equal to the headstone administration fee. (b) To increase the Parish Room rental fee from £8 per session to £9 per session.
6. **Information:** Jubilee Tree and Plaque. A young Oak tree has been purchased and the plan is to locate it on Peartree Green where it could have a life span of 300 years. A suitable Plaque and post is to be procured. The wording on the plaque is to be similar to that used on the Silver Jubilee Planters. The tree is to be protected from grass strimmers and mower damage by sleeving.
7. **👏 Resolved:** Approved the procurement of a "No parking" Notice for Peartree as previously commented upon, at £55 including fixings.
8. **👏 Resolved:** Agreed a recommendation to the full council that, whilst the Parish Council fully supports safety measures relating to hazards to schoolchildren, the outcome from an Essex County Council trial of a 20mph voluntary speed limit at four school sites in the County is awaited. It was noted that the Clerk had written to Highways raising the matter and asking how the Council could help facilitate such a move but the matter was the responsibility of Essex County Council and no other authority could implement such a change.
9. **👏 Resolved:** Approved, the 2 yearly Parish Room carpet cleaning at £132.
10. **Any Other Urgent Business** strictly for information only:
 - How to promote improved Broadband service in the village? - suggested letter in Link on lobby campaign/ expressions of interests.
 - Discharge of white water waste into Church Wood area noted - Water authority referral required.
 - RoW Footpath repair volunteers - how to access their services? Question for Debbie Poskitt.
 - Consistency of Planning - approaches made to BBC new head of planning? - planning committee matter.
 - Nature Trail - Report back on maintenance/ repairs/ safety issues recommended.

The meeting closed at 21.30

Signed:

Dated: 3rd April 2012