





Minutes of the Meeting of Doddinghurst Parish Council held at 20.00 on Thursday 6th Sept 2012, Parish Room, (adj. Village Hall), Church Lane, Doddinghurst.

Present: Clrs. Mrs D Dicker (Chairman), Mrs J Le Page, Mrs D Rogers-Harrison, Mr A Oliver, Mr. G W Bateson, Mr A Smith, Mr C Enderby, Mr P Arnell, Mr A Farrow; County and Borough Councillor Ann Naylor; Borough Councillor R McChayne and Borough Councillor Mr K Parker.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Clrs. Mr. D Potter and Mr G Smith.
2.  **Resolved.** Minutes of the meeting held on the 5th July 2012 approved and signed.
3. **Declaration of Interests from Members.** None declared.
4. **Noted: Clerk's report back on progress** following the meeting of the 5th July 2012:
 - i. External Audit returned signed off with no comments. Closure notice of audit posted.
 - ii. Elevated Teen Village section has had roof section removed (vandalism) and front safety rail torn off. Damaged Items recovered and stored.
 - iii. Eileen Ehren's memorial bench reinstated.
 - iv. No Parking sign installed at Peartree Playing Field entrance.
 - v. Basket Ball boards removed for replacement
 - vi. Compost bin created at Burial Ground.
 - vii. Loft Boarding, additional insulation and shelving completed.
 - viii. Allotment gate combination lock broken by unknown user, repaired by the Clerk.
 - ix. Play area playchips ordered for delivery in September.
 - x. Response to request for a 20mph zone in area of village schools received from ECC.
 - xi. BBCPC Meeting with Steve Boyle hosted to discuss new Code of Conduct.
 - xii. One full interment held in August.
 - xiii. In correspondence with Ashes 1, Plot 4 relatives over grant assignment - J Staples legacy issue.
 - xiv. Kissing gate repaired on Footpath 5 at entrance to Church Wood off The Gardens.
 - xv. Crèche has closed down and cupboards cleared.
 - xvi. Arrangements made to host BBPCA meetings starting in September 2012.
 - xvii. Request received to put a memorial bench on Football Field (Budgens).
 - xviii. In dialogue with BBC over recent tendency to omit to empty full litter bins
 - xix. Asked for the Rectory hedge to be cut (for the second time this year).
 - xx. In addition, since the written report, the roof flashing had been stolen (for a second time) between the Parish Room and the Village Hall Table store room. A temporary repair had been made, the Police informed and insurance assessor visited. The Parish room kitchenette doors had been badly damaged by water and all the cabinets, electrics and carpet were saturated in the "Kitchenette" area. Photographs of the extensive roof damage were circulated. The thieves were clearly rank amateurs since the "lead" flashing wasn't lead at all but a thermo plastic with no value and which had been installed in May 2008 following the previous theft.
5. **Noted: Schedule of Correspondence received up to the 29th Aug 2012.**
6. **Financial Reports and Minutes and Feedback from Committees.**
 - a.  **Resolved:** Approved the Financial Reports for July and Aug 2012.
 - b.  **Resolved:** Approved the Schedule of Payments for July and Aug 2012.
 - c. **Information:** No Planning Committee meeting held - planning report submitted and noted.
 - d. **Information:** No GP meetings held since June 2012.
 - e. **Information:** Feedback from Members relating to Committees attended since last meeting. The Chairman advised that Doddinghurst was now hosting the BBPCA meetings and the first had been held on the 5th September 2012. Issues raised included the impact on parish precept from the changes to benefit support, Essex High Speed broadband and the BBC Partnership discretionary Grant payment.
7. **Information:** Code of Conduct and Register of Members' interests - update following meeting with Steve Boyle. A guide to the completion of the Register of Members' Interests had also been issued to help clear up members questions.
8.  **Resolved:** Approved, the adoption of a new code of conduct (the PLP code as recommended by Brentwood Borough Council) for Doddinghurst Parish Council, by paper ballot. The Code of Conduct and the Register of Members Interests are to be published on the Parish Council website www.doddinghurst-pc.gov.uk

9. **Information:** Noted the External Audit has been signed off with no comment and the notice of completion of audit has been posted.
10. 🖐️ **Resolved:** Approved action to scrap the damaged section of the Teen Village, leaving one undamaged section in place. Cllr Farrow wished to record his objection to the decision to scrap the damaged unit rather than repair it.
11. 🖐️ **Resolved:** Approved the autumn 2012 Newsletter and publication fee of £200.
12. **Information:** Noted, New councillor ID badges issued, valid to 2016.
13. **Information:** Meeting with Neighbourhood Police Team - No Police attended the meeting. The Clerk is to contact the Neighbourhood Police to discuss a revised meeting date.
14. **Information:** Sunday Bus Service, the 228. Noted: over the first 4 months of operation the service was not carrying sufficient passengers to justify its ongoing operation. A "use it or lose it" campaign is to be launched. Cllr Enderby also advised that it had been announced that the County did not have enough funds to raise the kerb at all the Bus Stops in Essex and Parish Councils would have to write to request that specific stops are improved.
15. **Information:** Neighbourhood Plan progress. Following the June Village meeting Brentwood Borough Council had been formally asked to establish Doddinghurst Parish as a neighbourhood Plan area and this had now been processed with the launch of a 6 week Consultation to run in September and October.
16. **Discussion:** Provision of additional car parking space. Cllr Le Page proposed that the small car park is expanded at the time of planning the replacement Children's Play Area. It was noted that this was Green Belt land and would require planning permission. The matter will be dealt with by the CPA working party.
17. **Other urgent information:** (No council actions/letters/undertakings permissible on this item).
The future of the Village Hall was discussed and the likelihood of the availability of funds for future development now that the National Lottery funds for the Olympics had concluded.

The meeting closed at 21.45

Minutes signed:

Date: 4th Oct 2012

Comments in public session:

- (i) Cllr Naylor advised that she needed to decide on a project for the funds made available in 2012/13 to Borough Councillors to support the Parishes in her ward. Her current thinking was a project to support the 20mph speed limit campaign outside schools. Cllr McCheyne is also seeking a project for the funds at his disposal. A suggestion to improve the condition of the Nature Trail which has suffered badly in the very wet months of July and August is to be considered.
- (ii) The new Doctors surgery - Deal Tree Health Centre - is now open and the old surgery in Outings Lane closed.
- (iii) Cllr Parker asked for information on the 228 service - timetable etc - to raise the profile of the issue at the BBC Transport committee.
- (iv) The funeral of Gladys Simpson, a veteran resident of the village, had been very well attended.

The meeting was attended by 4 members of the public.