

Minutes of the Meeting of Doddinghurst Parish Council held at 20.00 on Thursday 7th April 2011, Parish Room, Church Lane, Doddinghurst.

Present: Clrs: Mrs D Dicker (Chairman), Mrs J Le Page, Mr G Smith, A Farrow, Mrs A Richards, Mrs D Rogers-Harrison, P Davenport, Mr A Oliver, Mr C Enderby, Mr A Farrow, Mr A Smith: Borough Clrs: Roger McCheyne, Keith Sparling and Keith Parker; County Councillor Ann Naylor.

1. **Apologies for Absence.** Received from: Clrs G W Bateson.
2.  **Resolved.** Minutes of the Meeting held on the 3rd March 2011 approved and signed.
3. **Declaration of Interests from Members.** None declared on agenda items. Councillor G Smith declared a personal interest in an item contained in Planning minutes.
4. **Noted: Clerk's report back on progress for the month of March 2011:**
 - i. Parish Council Office window broken and repairs put in hand for replacement @ £100.
 - ii. Scout Path lights: Cost of protective cage for lamp being obtained for small car park light.
 - iii. Children's Play Area. Self closing gate repaired.
 - iv. Written to Essex CC Highways about the provision of wooden bollards at Peartree Field but no response received.
 - v. Internal Audit rescheduled to the end of April 2011.
 - vi. "MUGA" study in Cumbria circulated to members for information.
 - vii. Swallows Cross roadwork improvements started. Signs and white lining to complete.
 - viii. National Network (Gas) has written to say the gas main along the Doddinghurst Road that is subject to numerous leaks is scheduled to be replaced in the 2011/12 financial year.
 - ix. All but seven allotment renewals have been completed with a fair crop of "leavers" and some new starts such that the waiting list is effectively empty - excluding those existing plot holders expressing an interest in specific plots they wish to lease.
 - x. One Burial and one ashes re-opening undertaken in March 2011.
 - xi. A "Noticeboard" facility has been established on the PC website.
 - xii. P3 grant application for 2011/12 submitted.
5. **Noted: Schedule of Correspondence received up to the 30th March 2011.**
6. **Financial Reports and Minutes and Feedback from Committees.**
 - a.  **Resolved:** Financial Reports for March 2011 approved.
 - b.  **Resolved:** Schedule of Payments for March 2011 approved and signed.
 - c. **Information:** Noted: Planning Committee Meetings of the 8th March 2011 and 5th April 2011.
 - d. **Information:** Noted: General Purposes Committee Meeting of the 16th March 2011.
 - e. **Information:** Noted: F&R Committee Meeting of the 16th March 2011.
 - f. **Information:** Feedback from Members relating to Committees attended in March 2011. On Bus Transport Clr Enderby noted that the bus timetable listed school buses as scheduled services which made it look as though Doddinghurst was awash with Bus services when the reverse is true since the only regular Bus service available to the general public is the 261 which doesn't run on a Sunday. Brentwood Community Transport is considering operating a Sunday service to which Council en route would need to contribute. More details are awaited.
7. **Discussion: Multi Use Games Area (MUGA). Proposals from the Chairman of the DOFC.** See separate summary of this discussion which concluded that the council would keep an open mind despite serious practical problems such as the need to obtain planning permission for such a facility on Green Belt land.
8. **Resolved: Agreed** the revised Burial Ground fees as recommended by the GP committee.
9. **Information:** Grangewater event update – event to be cancelled due to lack of interest.
10. **Discussion:** Shadow Healthwatch and NHS changes in Essex. A separate ad hoc meeting is to be convened to discuss the issues in depth.
11. **Resolved: Agreed** a revised date for the Annual Parish Council meeting as the 12th May 2011, due to local elections and referendum on the voting system on the 5th May 2011.
12. **Information:** To note that the Annual Parish meeting will be held at 19.30 on 14th April 2011.
13. **Other urgent information (No council actions/letters/undertakings permissible on this item).** None raised

The meeting was closed at 22.00

Comments during the "Public Session".

Clr Mrs Naylor spoke about the changes in NHS PCT's and the measure being taken to monitor these and it was suggested that the Surgery practice manager be asked to come to the meeting and explain how the changes impacted the local community. Councillors felt that Brentwood and hence Doddinghurst was in a no man's Land between Essex and Greater London.

Clr McCheyne advised that Brentwood Council would be establishing a "cover" scheme whereby people could report suspected breaches of planning over the forthcoming bank holidays and that protection action was being taken to obstruct access to vulnerable areas. Work on the new surgery still hadn't commenced and there were no explanations forthcoming as to why there were continuing delays.

Clr Parker advised that Funds for the new church path to All Saints had been put in place and there was to be a meeting of the relevant parties to decide the exact nature of the path to be provided.

Clr Sparling announced that he was standing down from the Doddinghurst and Brizes Ward this year.

Bill Read advised the Council that the Doddinghurst Neighbourhood Watch team had been awarded a citation for their community work by the High Sheriff of Essex and £200 had been granted to the Junior section. A number of events were planned including a cohesion day in May at the Junior School, Digital Switchover informatory talks about scams and miss selling to watch out for are being held and that new "Speedwatch" volunteers were needed.

The meeting was attended by 2 members of the public.

Minutes signed:

Date: 12h May 2011