

**Minutes of the Meeting of Doddinghurst Parish Council held at 20.00 on Thursday 3rd July 2014,
Parish Rooms, Adjacent Village Hall, Church Lane, Doddinghurst, Essex.**

Present: Cllrs. Mrs. D. Dicker (Chairman), Mrs. D Rogers Harrison, Mrs. Julia Le Page, Mr. G Smith, Mr. P Arnell, Mr. D Potter, Mr. C Enderby, Mr. A Oliver; County and Borough Cllr Mrs. Ann Naylor; Borough Councillors Mr. R McCheyne and Mr. Keith Parker.

1. **Apologies for absence.** Cllrs Alan Farrow, G W Bateson and Alan Smith.
2. **Resolved.** Minutes of the meeting held on the 5th June 2014 approved and signed.
3. **Declaration of Interests** from Members of any item(s) on this agenda. None declared.
4. **Information:** Clerk's report back on progress and from decisions taken at meetings from the 5th June 2014.
 - (i) Burial Ground: Ashes Plots: A few enquiries, one for a headstone and two for a new plot, but no additional plots sold or re-opened in June
 - (ii) Allotments: We now have 3 people on the waiting list (all Doddinghurst residents). Small plant swapping space has been created and is being utilised.
 - (iii) The external audit return has been submitted.
 - (iv) Children's Play equipment ITT for refurbishment has been issued for return by noon on 8th July 2014.
 - (v) Numerous problems with definitive footpaths have been reported and raised with ECC who have taken action on the following:

Footpath	Complaint	Action
11 & 13	Section that goes near Park Farm across the big field to Park Wood is impassable due to oilseed rape and weeds	Emailed the landowner to ask him to reinstate the cross-field sections of the footpath
11	Damaged gate at Days Lane end of route	Contacted landowner to ask them to remove or repair the gate
11	Sleepers that make up Bridge at Days Lane end of path is rotting	Raised as a job for contractors for the bridge to be replaced
11	Path through thicket near Park Farm is deeply grooved and slippery when muddy	Arranging for contractors to lay and compact some road "planings" where the path runs through the thicket to bring uneven path up to ground level and cover exposed tree roots
3	Near the doctors is disappearing under nettles	On the cutting schedule and will be visited in the summer
14 & 15	Deeply hidden way-marker	Vegetation is being cut around it
23,26, and 33	Damaged way-marker at the junction where the path meets	Due to budget restraints no repairs will be made to way-markers unless absolutely necessary. No action at this time

Despite investigations no replacement volunteer has been identified for Mat Coombs in Kelvedon Hatch as a P3 volunteer. Anyone local who would like to step forward would be warmly welcomed. There is training, tools and funding for people to help and reward people for clearing and maintaining the footpaths.

5. **Information:** Noted: Schedule of Correspondence received up to the 28th May 2014.

6. Financial Reports, Minutes and Feedback from Committees.

- a. Noted Financial Reports for June 2014
- b. 🖐️ **Resolved. Approved and signed** the Schedule of Payments for June 2014.
- c. Noted and approved comments re Planning Applications for June 2014
- d. Information: Feedback from Members relating to Committees attended since last meeting. None attended

7. 🖐️ **Resolved:** Approved a Chairman's allowance for 2014/15 of £500.

8. **Information;** CPA contract negotiation. The arrangements for taking forward the adjudication of the competitive tender for the Children's Play Area were agreed. The aim is to agree the successful tender by the 4th September 2014. Prior to this the tenders are to be evaluated and the contractors invited to present their offer to Councillors during July/ August 2014

9. **Other urgent information** (No council actions/letters/undertakings permissible on this item). Noted: Cllr Diane Rogers Harrison to include Village Bus and driver shortage in Gazette Village News section.

The meeting closed at 22.00

Minutes signed:

Date: 4th September 2014

Comments in public session:

The quality of the repairs to the Doddinghurst Road between America Farm and Hall Lane were criticised as potholes remained after the work had been completed. The area is scheduled to be surface dressed in early August. Borough Councillors advised that a "Blitz" on Highway and pavement repairs was underway across the Borough.

Local Development Plan completion by December 2014 is a high priority with the Borough Council and the recent change of leadership following the elections has changed the Borough committees' representatives.

The stream past the Outings Lane Quadrant development had been maintained last month. It was overgrown and blocked and the maintenance is supposed to be done twice a year but the schedule is not being kept by the contractor.

Kim Shenton is the new Highways officer for the area and Inspector Walsh has been appointed to Brentwood Police with PC Lee Johnston being responsible for Brentwood North Neighbourhood policing.

The meeting was attended by three members of the public.