

Dedham

Parish Council

Minutes of Assembly meeting held on 12th May 2005

DEDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of DEDHAM PARISH ASSEMBLY
HELD IN THE Assembly Rooms on Wednesday, 12th May, 2005.

Present: In the Chair Cllr. Mrs. V. Guglielmi

Councillors D. Bradbrook, R. Cannon, R. Cort, R. Laverick,
P. Moorhouse, J. Osbom, Mrs. L. West.

Ward Councillor C. Garnett

Parish Clerk Mrs. J. Flewin

Electors 16

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE received from Cllr. Clover. ECC Cllr.

Clover. and Mr. D. Bower.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING The Minutes of the meeting held on 12th May, 2004, were read to the meeting and approved.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Car park lighting had finally been changed from low level to standard lighting. It was disappointing that neither the design nor the colour of the lighting was what had been requested and were out of keeping with the conservation area. What had been put up was what CBC provided within the constraints of their finances and it was unfortunate that CBC had not fully consulted the Parish Council before erecting the present lights. They had since put in timers which meant that the lights went out at approximately 9 p.m. Residents and some members were still unhappy with the lights although some felt that the amount of light provided was essential to safety in the car park at night. Members were asked to look at the lights in the car park once more and give an opinion at the next Parish Council meeting.

The question of extra public toilets for Dedham had slipped from the agenda

so far as CBC was concerned and, in fact, the Parish Council had hired extra toilets for the August Bank Holiday to which CBC had contributed half the cost. However, in view of the fact that over 60,000 people were recorded as having visited the church in Dedham it was felt that CBC should again be asked to consider the matter. It was suggested that a letter to this effect be sent to CBC with a request for extra toilets for this year's August Bank Holiday event.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT Having now completed my first year as Chair I would like to thank all my fellow Councillors and the public for being so supportive, thus making my job easier. We lost one of our Councillors this year when Alan Drummond left due to a change of job and location and I would like to thank Robert Cort for stepping in when co-opted and filling the gap.

This year has been a very busy one for our Planning Committee with many controversial issues including the redevelopment of the Anchor Inn site which is still ongoing. They have worked extremely hard in the interests of the village.

The provision of the Medical Centre is still progressing but at the moment funding is a big problem and any ideas to raise money will be very welcome. We have seen the village pump restored and back in place in the High Street. We have also, with the help of two grants, had the roundabout restored. Following an unfortunate accident the roundabout has been inspected by ROSPA and will shortly be reopened for all to enjoy.

The Village Design Statement is still in its early stages but is progressing very well in the right direction. A workshop in the Assembly Rooms is to take place which it is hoped will be well attended. We have also had a very informative talk about Neighbourhood Watch which we would like to revive. A public meeting is to be held in June when we hope to move forward with this project.

The problem with HGV lorries and speeding in the village is constant and Cllr. Garnett and ECC Cllr. Clover continue to do battle on this front.

Finally I would like to thank our Clerk without whom we would be lost and Cllr. Garnett for all the very hard work he has done, and is still doing, for the benefit of our village.

5. ACCOUNTS The Income and Expenditure Accounts for 2004/2005 were presented to the meeting. These were approved subject to audit.

6. REPORT OF BOROUGH COUNCILLOR Following a visit to the village in company with Cllr. Garnett, Sergeant Middleton had promised that there would be police spot speeding checks on an irregular basis in different parts of the village. Cllr. Garnett suggested that perhaps local villages could combine their efforts in respect of SIDS and this will be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting. The school parking problems were ongoing and the situation in Crown Street during certain hours was impossible. The Parish Council has invited Essex C.C. Schools Service to a site meeting to discuss with all interested parties the possibilities of using a piece of land beside the primary school as a drop off and pick up point.

Street Services were now under the auspices of Essex County Council and operated out of Colchester Business Park. So far as Council housing was concerned there was a new choice system which hopefully meant that urban people could be housed in urban areas, etc., which should make life a great deal easier by placing residents where they want to be.

The Planning team has worked hard. So far as the Anchor Inn is concerned there is every reason to assume that the recommendation will be that the present planning application be refused as it is a listed building. The

containers being housed on land behind Sundowne on The Heath will be

inspected,

Cllr. Garnett said that the residents were his eyes and ears and he hoped this would continue. The visit of the Chief Executive, Adrian Pritchard, had gone well and he had enjoyed meeting several residents over coffee in The Duchy Barn, taking on board the points made about lorries, speeding and several other problems. Grass verges will in future only be cut twice a year.

7. DEDHAM SURGERY Cllr. Osborn gave a resume of the present situation in respect of the proposed new medical centre. The shortfall in funding was

worrying particularly as every other hurdle had seemed to be overcome.

There were still some avenues to be explored and all was not lost, but funding

through charities is not available for projects considered to be the

responsibility of a statutory authority, in this case Suffolk PCT. Colchester

PCT cannot provide funding but have agreed to meet half the cost of the rent

for the next ten years. Cllr. Garnett said the situation would be helped if the

Parish Council, as a recognised body, was prepared to sign applications, etc.

It was unanimously agreed that this was quite acceptable. Other suggestions

included a fund raising appeal through the magazine, further discussion with

Colne Housing and the possibilities of having a surgery without flats.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS Cllr. Moorhouse asked if a letter of sympathy on

behalf of all the Parish Council could be sent to the Milsom family and this

was

agreed.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

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