

Clerk to the Council:
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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at The Duchy Barn on Monday 10th March 2014

Meeting open at 19.30

Present:

Chair: Cllr S Beeton

Councillors: Cllr N Baker, Cllr J Hughes, Cllr K Taylor, Cllr T Regan, Cllr S Vinter, Cllr C Clark, Cllr Ann Follows

Clerk: Mrs Emma Cansdale

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Peter Gibbins

2. Declaration of interest

Cllr Clark as Chair of Dedham Sports Club

3. Minutes

IT WAS RESOLVED that Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 10th January 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Update on items from last meeting

The clerk reported a number of the hedges and ditches raised at the last meeting had since been dealt with, or are in the process of being dealt with. This includes the blocked ditch and fly tipping on Birchwood Road.

5. Have Your Say part 1

None

6. Car Parking Strategy for Dedham(*)

- a) *To receive the reports and hear recommendations from the DPC car parking working party, on the Dedham Car Parks strategy (from CBC) and the Royal Square strategy, and to receive questions from the council.*

Cllr Beeton gave a brief rundown of the parking situation, picking out the sticking points from CBC, such as : paid parking would happen regardless, there would only be one hour free parking in the car parks. DPC were put in the position where they either negotiated with CBC or left the village vulnerable to whatever CBC wanted to do.

Cllr Vinter asked if it could be guaranteed that CBC would not change the free time limit on the High St. This cannot be guaranteed, but is unlikely.

- b) *Public session- to make comment or representation to the council*

How will increased parking on the High St be prevented? Increased monitoring would be taking place by DPC and CBC.

Do High St permit holders (limited waiting exemption) have to pay to park in the car park if they cannot get a space on the High St? DPC to confirm with CBC.

Was the land gifted to CBC? No, it was sold to them.

Are the business permits transferable within the business, or assigned to a car reg number? DPC to confirm with CBC.

Will [my daughter] have to pay to park when she is back from Uni (High St resident). Yes, however, she could purchase a permit at £50 for the year.

Will there be any extra security at the car park? No more than any other car park, although CBC are putting in another light.

Parking is free on the High St on a Sunday, but not in the car park. Will put extra strain on the High St parking.

CBC should have had a financial model to work from.

Concerns raised over the change of use of the coach park at weekends and bank holidays. CBC are contacting coach companies regarding the charging. DPC to ask CBC to ask the bus companies when they visit the village most.

Colchester Borough Councillor attending the meeting expressed the view that DPC could not have negotiated any harder. It was a job well done by the working group.

- c) *DPC to resolve to accept the final Car Parking for Dedham Strategy, and service level agreement from CBC.* Cllr Taylor proposed acceptance, seconded by Cllr Regan, agreed unanimously.
IT WAS RESOLVED THAT DPC accepts the final Car Parking for Dedham Strategy, and service level agreement from CBC.
- d) *DPC to resolve to accept the Royal Square strategy.* Cllr Taylor gave a brief rundown of the report. Cllr Vinter stated she had been advised that there may be a Royal Square Charter in existence, which could impact on what DPC can do on Royal Square. Cllr Baker proposed that DPC accept the Royal Square strategy, subject to the outcome of the Charter. Seconded by Cllr Vinter, agreed unanimously.
IT WAS RESOLVED THAT DPC accept the Royal Square strategy, subject to the outcome of the Charter. Action: clerk to investigate.

7. Accounts

Cheques approved and then signed by Cllr Regan and Cllr Beeton

Clerks Salary March
Dedham PCC- Duchy Barn hire February £15.00
Accent stationers-
I Hindley- litter picking £

8. Crime report

5th – Birchwood Road – Shed burglary. Ifor Williams trailer stolen. Angle grinder used to cut locks.
5th – Birchwood Road. Theft of pig food. Gates removed from posts to enable bagged pig food to be removed.
25th – Crown Street – Burglary. Entry via kitchen window. All rooms searched. Cash and jewellery taken.

9. Report from County Councillor

No report.

10. Reports from representatives *For full reports, please see appendix (a)

Sports field -Cllr Hughes

Cllr Hughes reported the following: Jubilee tree sign has fallen down. Awaiting repair.
Daffodils on the Playing field are blooming. Once again, thanks to Iris Hindley. The hedge from the Old Grammar School had been encroaching on the play area. This has now been cut back, but owners refusing to pay. DPC will take a formal approach when dealing with the residents for future cutting. No further update on the roundabout move. Cllr Gibbins to report at next meeting.
Email received from the cricket club regarding the summer sports event. The clerk to respond saying DPC are happy with the proposals but will ratify it at the next meeting.

Communications Group - Cllr Taylor

Broadband report *

Actions- Clerk has written to Annette Thorpe to establish the proposed rollout for Dedham.
Clerk to write to ECC to express their concern over the lack of information available to Parish Councils.

Media and Public Relations - Cllr Hughes

Cllr Hughes asked if feedback on the new Parish Magazine page could be sent to her.

Community Safety and Infrastructure Group-Cllr Vinter

Cllr Vinter gave a report on NAP, which included an issue regarding bike theft in Colchester. Please be aware. She also reported on the Church proposal to remove the metasequoia tree in the churchyard; further investigations are being carried out in respect of the chestnut tree. It was noted that DPC could not comment on this without full details of the works proposed and investigations. There may be an item on the next agenda with full details for DPC to comment on.

Footpath and Tree Group- Cllr Beeton:

Nothing to report

Tree Warden- Cllr Baker:

Nothing to report.

Dedham Primary School- Cllr Regan

Cllr Regan reported that the school were working on ways to improve the parking issues, and the school council (children) had come up with some good ideas.

Emergency Co-ordinator- Cllr Clark

The clerk attended an Emergency Planning workshop, and is updating the plan in accordance with the findings from the workshop.

Bus Review and Environmental Work- Cllr Follows

Cllr Follows reported that ECC are still collating the information that will form the strategy.

11. Planning Group

Cllr Regan reported on the following:

- a) The following planning applications have been received:

140504: Cathay, Coopers Lane. Replace driveway gate with automated sliding gate
Dedham Parish Council comments that the proposed design for the gate is more suited to an urban environment than for a narrow, quiet country lane and would request a barred gate in natural materials.

140528: Princel Green Cottage, Princel Lane. Extensions and alterations to form new kitchen and bedroom over plus lean-to open cartlodge
Dedham Parish Council has no objection.

140584: Bargate Lane Farm, Bargate Lane Internal and external alterations
Dedham Parish Council has no objection.

140588: Stour Coach House, Jupes Hill. Application for a lawful development certificate for a possible breach of a planning condition (withdrawn)

140538: Trevalor, Long Road West. Replacement dwelling
Dedham Parish Council has no objection.

142135: Marylee, Crown Street. Demolition of existing 3 bedroom dwelling and replacement by two 2 bedroom dwellings.

The construction of two 2 bedroom properties in accordance with the policies of the Village Design Statement would normally be welcomed. However, in this case the destruction of the street scene and the resulting impact on the integrity of the conservation area are more important. There would be a significant increase in demand for on-street parking in Crown Street which is already under pressure from residents and parents twice daily during school terms. We believe that the existing property can be sympathetically renovated and restored with space for off-street parking to the side. Therefore we recommend refusal of the application.

All recommendations were approved unanimously.

- b) To note that DPC have received a complaint about the recommendation DPC made on planning application 140360. Complaint and response circulated to all councillors.
- c) The clerk reported that she had spoken to Jonathan Hills about the potential Hallfields development. The developer will be meeting with CBC planning to iron out issues with the previous application, before meeting with DPC and submitting new plans.

12. Report from Borough Councillor

Cllr Mark Cable gave his report.

13. Update on War Memorial- Cllr Baker

Cllr Baker reported that Cllr Gibbins would be making the planters at cost, and that the school would be interested in helping with the planting. Cllr Baker to arrange the cleaning party.

14. Rubbish clearance on footpath 34.

Cllr Follows reported that the clear up had gone ahead, and that Steve's Rubbish Removals had kindly donated the use of his rubbish van and would not be charging DPC on this occasion.. There is still some outstanding work that involves clearing rubble. A possible solution would be to create a French drain using the rubble. This would incur the cost of labour and potentially a digger. To be added to April's agenda.

15. Ground works contractor

Proposal to seek contractor(s) for ground maintenance and P3 work on behalf of DPC. Proposed by Cllr Taylor, seconded by Cllr Vinter. Agreed unanimously.

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT DPC seeks a contractor(s) to carry out the above work.

16. Royal Square Car Park sign and no dumping sign

- a) Proposal to purchase a 'no dumping sign' for footpath 34. (from CBC x2)
- b) Proposal to purchase a limited waiting sign for Royal Square. (from CBC x2 to match the High St signs)
- c) Proposal to purchase 'tickets' for car park over stay in Royal Square. Approx. cost £22 + p&p

All proposed by Cllr Beeton, agreed unanimously. Clerk to action

17. Correspondence

- a) CBC recycling sundries point - update. Clerk to forward details to businesses and the Duchy Barn
- b) DPC have received a request to allow a bench with a plaque in memory to Les and Peggy Brooks to be placed on the playing field.
DPC to resolve to allow the placement, subject to appropriate site being agreed.
Following a discussion from the people donating the bench and councillors, Cllr Clerk proposed DPC allow the new bench and plaque, and replace one of the existing 'tired' benches. Cllr Regan seconded, agreed unanimously. Donators to liaise with the Playing Field group regarding style and placement.

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT DPC allows the placement of a bench on the playing field in memory of Les and Peggy Brooks.

18. Have your say part 2

None

19. Matters for information

Thoughts on format for this year's Parish Assembly – views to Cllr Beeton to contribute to report at next meeting.

Accessing CBC's services on line - clerk to email an update.

The clerk reported that the request for a mirror at the junction on Princel Lane had been turned down by ECC, as it is now against DfT policy. The request for a new footway along Crown St to Manningtree Road, is with the LHP. Any evidence of its need should be forwarded to the clerk.

20. Date and Time of next meeting

14th April 2014, 7.30pm

Appendix a

To be added