

DRAFT

Dedham Parish Council (PC)
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**Minutes of the meeting of Dedham Parish Council on
Monday 6th March 2023 at 6:30pm
at the Duchy Barn.**

Present: Cllr Smith, Cllr Mole, Cllr Harrison, Cllr Beeton, Cllr Williams
Cllr Thorkildsen

Attendees: Clerk – Carol Harbach
4 Members of the public

22/152 Welcome by the Chairman and apologies for absence received.
Cllr Smith welcomed Councillors and members of the public to the meeting.
Apologies from Cllr Neville

22/153 Declaration of Interests.
Councillors to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests relevant to this agenda. Note; Interests may also be declared at any point in the meeting where they become apparent.
Cllr Harrison declared an interest in a planning application

22/154 Minutes
Acceptance of the minutes of the meetings of 9th January 2023.
These were agreed to be an accurate and a true copy.
Proposed Cllr Mole seconded Cllr Harrison All agreed.

22/155 Matters arising from these minutes.
Letter to resident of Hill House regarding hedging has been completed and now discharged.
Fun Run – information to come back from Group All agreed for them to have permission to run the event. Clerk to inform club of permission given.
Other items are on the agenda.

22/156 Have Your Say and visitors reports (Colchester City Councillor (CCC) and County Councillors)
Questions may not be answered at this meeting but may go on to the next agenda.
Maximum of 3 minutes per person/group to make representations to the Parish Council, to a total of 15 minutes.

No Ward or Council councillors present.

A resident has an issue with electric scooters racing on the pavements particularly in Crown Street and was worried about blind exit points for drives and people possibly getting hurt.

This was discussed by the council and it was agreed these can cause a problem.

It was suggested to talk to Cllr Barber about what rules exist on this as there are a few residents having problems with this. Ongoing.

It appears that these scooters are treated as something that should be used on the roads and not the pavements. An article will be put in the Parish magazine and there will be a link to the police website for the information of the legislation.

A resident had concerns about a property in Boxhouse Lane and the permission they have applied for. This is being covered in the planning application later on the agenda.

22/157

Finance, Standards and Procedures Report

157.1 To approve expenditure for this month.

Village Warden Invoice	£790.50
Clerk Salary – Feb including back pay	699.72
HMRC NI Payment	10.92
DPCC Invoice 54 – Hall hire	120.00
The Malborough Dedham – Business breakfast	232.40
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	Total £1,142.54

90343633 Current account	£ 1,000.00
90365149 Savings Account	£266,398.75
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Total	£267,398.75

Income: £66,794.95

Expenditure: £47,550.49

157.2 Report on last finance and standards group meeting

Copy of finance papers had been circulated previously and have been reconciled.

These sheets show the budget and the other 3 columns show the income and expenditure to date. There is a variance of £118,000 in the budget but the capital projects have not gone through. Year end is being worked on and the PC are finishing working on the queries of the last report. There has been a compliance report produced which is being worked on and then when it is approved by the group, it will then be brought to the council. It was confirmed that the internal auditor this will be Jan Stobart.

Reserves are still being looked at for moving funds with 2 signatures to other banks.

157.3 Propose to adopt policies for Equality & Diversity and Health & Safety.

These have been circulated to councillors before the meeting and amendments made. There is now no equal opportunities policy to consider as this has been included under the equality and diversity policy.

Proposed Cllr Smith seconded Cllr Harrison all agreed.

These will now be placed on the website and the final policies sent to the councillors for their records. These were proposed by Cllr Mole seconded Cllr Harrison all agreed.

22/158

Infrastructure and Asset management

158.1 Approval of quotes for Jubilee tree guards and plaques for £2,832

The quotes for these guards and plaques have been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. There has been some research on some more quotes. This was discussed by the council. It was agreed it was difficult to get quotes for bespoke work. One councillor was happy to have the quote suggested and what the quote provided. Another councillor will get another two quotes and bring these back to the council. It was agreed that this will be brought back to the next meeting with extra quotes to consider as an agenda item.

158.2 CCC Bin contract

This will start again from April and the amount for the forthcoming year is £1,942.50. Proposed to have the same contract with CCC. Proposed Cllr Mole seconded Cllr Harrison All agreed.

158.3 Blue plaque update

The previous suggested location for the plaque for Alice Lee was not successful. Alice Lee actually lived in the Essex Rose building and went to school in Ivy House this will be followed up by one of the councillors. Ongoing The Clerk reminded the council that if this went ahead planning permission would be needed as it is a listed building.

158.4 Approval of replacement/additional salt bins

The group proposed to replace the existing salt bins around the village and add some new ones, these new ones would be on the Drift and on Shoebridge Hill.

This would be at a cost of approximately £1,075 excluding VAT.

Proposed Cllr Mole seconded Cllr Thorkildsen all agreed to go ahead with this.

Planning applications

230191 - Shelley Glebe Barn, Grove Hill, Dedham Colchester CO7 6DT
External and Internal Alterations to a listed structure as well as an additional detached single storey home office building and new boundary fencing
Extension received from CCC planning officer for this meeting.

No objection

230184 Hawthorn House, Long Road West, Dedham Colchester CO7 6ES
Proposed single and two storey extension to the rear of the existing house plus a single storey extension to side of the existing garage.

No objection

223183 - Anglian Water Pipeline, Dedham to Great Horkesley,
Proposed hybrid planning application for section of the proposed Bury St Edmunds to Colchester Pipeline Scheme with full planning consent sought for a pipeline and associated above ground infrastructure; and outline consent for above ground infrastructure

It does not appear to come near to Dedham. Seems to be located around Langham and Boxted and great Horkesley when it passes through this area so no comments proposed. Essex County and Colchester have advised to reject this.

230210 Hallfields, Crown Street, Dedham Colchester CO7 6AG
Removal of Lombardy Poplar, Fir tree and hedges to be replaced with new hedges and ornamental trees

No comment

230284 - Berryfields, Coggeshall Road, Dedham Colchester CO7 6ET
Demolish existing single storey outbuildings (store and garage) and rear extension of kitchen and replace with new single storey extension and detached single garage. Erection of proposed 2 bay carports.

Cllr Harrison withdrew at this item and returned after the discussion had taken place.

There was a need to check the street scene and wait for comments before responding. This had been completed. A similar application was not approved on Crown Street recently, and similar reasons might be appropriate.

Neighbours either side of property have completed similar development and there are no reasons to object on this. This was discussed further and no objection will be raised

Cllr Harrison returned to the meeting.

230289 - Petalo Lodge, Boxhouse Lane, Dedham Essex CO7 6HZ

Erection of a horse walker and 2 No. field shelters

To stress all this development has been for domestic use which given the extent of everything constructed or planned seems surprising. Strict enforcement must be implemented for the benefit of the community and neighbours in particular. This will be discussed in more detail with the

planning officer when the meeting takes place. Application does not look domestic. This will be formally objected to and a letter will be sent with this to the planning officer. Target date 6/4/23.

230315 - Great Birchwood Cottage, Birchwood Road, Dedham Essex CO7 6HX automated wooden sliding gate. 6m wide x 2m high.

No objection.

230261 - 5 Frog Meadow, Brook Street, Dedham Colchester CO7 6AD Internal and External Alterations - see design and access statement description. Visually acceptable and new doors and windows in keeping.

No objection.

230331 - Linton, Coggeshall Road, Dedham Essex CO7 6ET

Addition of upper floor to existing single storey part of building

No objection

230242 - Land at, Boxhouse Lane, Dedham Colchester

Installation of a shed, drainage and hardcore track (retrospective)

To be discussed following further investigations.

This is a neighbour of Petalo Lodge.

159.2 Update on Green Project

The email which had been received from Langham was discussed and the council requested to see the email from David Burns the clerk will circulate this before a date is set.

159.3 Village Gateways

Photos of the options available have been circulated previously to councillors and were discussed. The preferred gateways were of the ones that came in at an angle and gave the illusion of the space getting smaller.

New gateways are being proposed in new areas around the village and to replace the plastic ones that are in the car park which are already there. It was agreed to replace the plastic gateways and add new ones to encourage people to slow down and also to consider adding a Dedham name sign.

This will be discussed further at the groups and brought back to the main meeting for final approval and cost.

22/160

Group 3 Community relations group

160.1 Report of Business Breakfast

Cllr Williams reported back to the council the success for the business breakfast meeting that was held on the 1st March. It was attended by 19 local businesses and councillors including Cllr Barber and Cllr Chapman who had both attended. This was an informal meeting and enabled other businesses to meet each other. There has been positive feedback from those who attended.

Professor Douglas Bourne gave a short talk on sustainability and general discussions had taken place between all parties. This was thought to be good to run this event every 6 months to a year.

Cllr Williams was thanked for all her hard work.

160.2 Royal Square update

A group meeting took place on this and in conclusion it was thought to keep the ideas open as to a car park or pedestrianisation area and there will be a survey for the villagers to take part in to gain their views. Printing can be completed by the council and proposals will be agreed at the next meeting when this group meets again. The next meeting for this group will be Tuesday 28th March 6:30pm

160.3 Sports club update

There had been constructive discussions with the Sports club and there are ongoing talks with the group to diversify both financially and socially and be more inclusive of the local community. A new document will be produced by the club and sent to the council. A social membership will be set up and preferential rates for residents etc. for hirers of the club, one of the problems that the club have is that a lot of residents do not know it is sports club. Lettings have gone up by 60% and the private lettings is also on the up. This will then be discussed jointly again between the PC and the club so then things can move on. The Club are aware that marketing and refurbishments need to be improved for repeat bookings. Andy Bell will try to get something to the council by the end of the week for consideration.

160.3 Update to proposal of River bank

Peter Watson who is a representative of Babergh council has been in contact with the clerk and he has been brought up to speed with the river situation. Clerk to contact him to see if a new date for a meeting can be arranged.
Ongoing

160.4 proposal to approve up to £2000 for a river bank fencing and hedge sketch and plan by landscape architect to assist discussions with 3rd parties.

A discussion was had with Simon Amstutz and the Chairman and Simon would like to have a plan or visualisation of something so he could work with this. The cost of a plan is £600 and it is £1400 for a drone, this is going to be a more 3D plan for people to discuss in the future. Babergh council and ANOB will need to make a final discussion on this. A precedent has been set regarding a fence with a new fence on the other side of the river being erected. This plan would at least start a conversation in the village to try and sort out the problems in this area. A further discussion took place regarding using a drone to take photos of the river for a 3D visualisation of the area so people can see what it could possibly look like. More quotes will be obtained for this and will be discussed at the next meeting.

Clerk to contact Peter Watson to see if he can contact the Environment agency to police the river regarding licences for the paddleboards etc. Easter would be a good time to start this if possible.

- 22/161 River issues**
A new contact has been made at Babergh Council and is in regular contact with the Babergh councillors to see what can be achieved to control the activities at the river.
Extra Security at the river was discussed again and this may well be needed later in the year to have patrols on the river as last year.
Another meeting between all the stakeholders was suggested and dates will be agreed and another meeting will be held soon.
- 22/162 Agreement for a representative of DPC to attend Sports Club events**
This is for a councillor to attend meetings of the sports club and to be the PC representative and this needs to be agreed by the whole council. It was suggested that Cllr Smith took on this role and he was happy to do this. All agreed.
- 22/163 Meeting with CCC planners**
There is an opportunity for councillors to meet with the City Planning Department to discuss various planning issues. This is being offered as a quarterly meeting.
Cllr Mole and Councillor Beeton have already offered to meet with them. These meetings will be via zoom. Dates will be suggested to the planners by the clerk. It was suggested that Simon Cairns and the enforcement officer are present due to the discussions that we have. The date suggested was 15th March at 11:00am and request CCC to send round the link for the meeting.
- 22/164 Kings Coronation update**
There has been an advert put in in the parish magazine but nothing has come back to date. When/if applications are received, they will be considered by the council. The advert will be put in again in the next magazine. It was agreed to support community events of up to £1000 subject to meeting the criteria. Proposed Cllr Beeton seconded Cllr Thorkildsen all agreed.
- 22/165 Essex Wildlife Trust – wilder towns/wilder villages update**
Cllr Thorkildsen and Cllr Harrison have offered to attend the forthcoming meetings regarding this with Suffolk Council. Information will be brought back to the next meeting.
- 22/166 Parish Council support for the 2023 Dedham Christmas market update**
The council have agreed to financially support the fund raiser for the primary school and have offered an amount of money for infrastructure when more information and figures have been obtained from the school. This is thought to be a bigger Dickensian event as previously had in the past years. Date for this event is 2nd December. Dedham Hall have been approached for temporary car park for the evening. Stall holders are being charged and all profits are going to the school. This will be on the next agenda for the specific donation amount to be agreed.

22/167

CCC green waste collection

We are still waiting for information from the CCC on this.

From the 13th March appointments will need to be booked in advance at the tips to dispose of general household rubbish for items that are too big for the usual collections.

22/168

Clerks Correspondence and contact enquiry forms

Cllr Harrison has resigned and the monitoring officer has been informed the vacancy notification paperwork has still not been received.

The Council has received notification for Essex County Council regarding the Widening of the A12 carriage way from Chelmsford to the A120 from Lewis 20.2.23) and National Highways are holding a Public Information Exhibition on **Monday 13 March** from **10:30am to 4pm**, at Venture Centre 2000 in Lawford.

Notification of Planning Unilateral Undertakings contributions of £2,665.68 for community projects under application 230492 – “park Farm”, Coopers Lane have been received but as this has not yet been approved by the City Council the funding could be withdrawn if refused by the planners.

Planning Developer contribution of £ 1140.34 for community project under application The Heath, Dedham, Colchester, 210878 is available to be spent on a project.

The clerk has requested if there are any contributions due from Parks and Leisure. This has yet to be confirmed.

The Clerk has received a request from a resident to have the white lines for the parking spaces in the High Street to be repainted as they are now faded and people are not parking necessarily in the parking bays which is causing difficulties. This will be taken to NEPP at the next meeting.

Litter picking- there has been reports of dog waste bags being thrown in trees. The bins that are in the village and can also be used for dog waste bags.

22/169

Training events

Reports on attended events

Nominations for new events

Cllr Thorkildsen is going to contact EALC regarding a joint suitable date for the next councillor training session available that he can attend.

22/170

Items for next agenda

See above

22/171 **Time and date of next meeting**
3rd April 2023 6:30pm

22/172 **Chairmans closure of meeting**
Meeting closed at 7:35pm