

COLLINGBOURNE DUCIS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT COLLINGBOURNE DUCIS VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2008

Present: Cllr M Cox (Chairman), Cllrs P Risborough, G Chandler, J Dowsett, S Gilford, K Pickis, K Rossiter, N Williams & N Whinton.

In Attendance: P Gill Clerk, County Cllr R Hall, Dist Cllr C Howard, PC Mark Randle & PCSO C Davidson.

Absent: Cllr Bale.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr A Jones.

2. **Chairman's announcements:**

Orders and Regulations for Standards in Public Life are available for reading.

Rights of Way improvement Plan for Wiltshire is available for reading.

The information gathered to support the objection to the Roxana appeal are held by the Chairman. The results of the traffic survey in Cadley Road make interesting reading and may have further utility.

The Chairman who was challenged by a member of the public regarding the validity of comments made by the Chairman while representing this Council during the appeal hearing is content that his comments were valid.

The Chairman asked the Clerk to apply a double filter to items for circulation and to make best use of scanning.

The Chairman welcomed Cllr Williams to her first meeting as fully fledged Councillor.

3. **Minutes of last meeting:**

The minutes of meeting held on 3rd January 2007 having been previously circulated were agreed as a true record.

Proposed by Cllr Whinton seconded by Cllr Dowsett.

Agreed one Abstention.

05.08 Matters arising – for information only: None

4. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Dowsett declared a general interest in that he is a member of the Village Hall Trust management committee.

5. **06.08 Policing Issues:** PC Randle reported that there had been 17 calls since his last report to the Members. Some were double hits however significant others related to a sudden death, a biting dog, and identification of a possible distraction gang operating in the local area. As a result of the number of incidents and minor crimes in and around the Village Hall it is recommended that the Hall Trustees invest in a more capable hard drive for the hall's security system. To improve Police communication with the public a trial of sending information out by email will take place.

A Member reported that at least one 4x4 was regularly being driven on the pavement in an attempt to avoid being slowed down by the easterly speed hump in Cadley Road. **PC Randle agreed to follow this up and report back.**

6. **Adjournment for public comments/questions: 7.47pm.**

WCC Cllr Hall reported the following:

Council Tax - WCC is likely to set tax at 4.8% which is 0.07% above the September 2007 figure which is used to set inflation increases to pensions ect.

Unitary Authority - The Judicial Review of the Government's Bill continues.

KDC Cllr Howard reported the following:

Unitary Authority - If the review finds in favour of the Government in appeal against the unitary authority bid in Shropshire then KDC will accept that finding and withdraw their own appeal.

KDC Capital Grant - Collingbourne Ducis Village organisations have been granted most of what was asked for.

The meeting reconvened at **8.03pm**

7. **07.08. Highway matters.** The Members decided to deal with agenda item 10.08 as this point. A338 –

Drop Curb - The Chairman explained the underlying issues regarding the new drop curb at the A338 Chicks Lane crossing which is considered to be dangerous by a member of the public who is a wheel chair user. Cllr Hall took note of this and asked that the Clerk send him a copy of the letter written by the wheel chair user.

Ground Reinstatement – Cllr Gilford explained that he had complained about the poor reinstatement of the ground in the area of the road works near Chick’s Lane and the extremely poor response that he had received from WCC Officers.

Cllr Hall agreed to look into both of these starting with a site visit and report back.

Action: Clerk and WCC Cllr Hall

WCC Parish Steward Scheme – Note the next visit dates as 11 March 2008. Cllr Bale to be notified as soon as possible of any work needed in the parish.

Action: Clerk

8. **08.08 Finance Report:**

The Clerk presented the Income and Expenditure report for January along with Bank Reconciliations produced from the accounts package and the latest bank statements (Copy attached). He then answered questions from the Members. The Clerk is to contact Collingbourne Ducis Primary School regarding the £250 due to the Council.

Action: Clerk

The Members agreed to not renew the SLCC subscription.

The following cheques were presented for authorisation:

NTT Europe on Line – Internet services - £128.60

KDC – Grounds Maintenance - £747.88

Tidworth Trust – Litter Patrol - £429.00

Proposed by Cllr Dowsett and seconded by Cllr Rossiter that the report as presented be accepted and the cheques as presented be authorized. Agreed Nem Com

After considering the amendments set out in the Clerk’s letter circulated with the agenda the Members agreed to amendment Financial Standing Orders as follows:

Insert new paragraph after paragraph 6.3

“6.4 The Council authorises the Clerk to make payment on receipt of a proper invoice, in accordance with section 5 of Financial Standing Orders, for such goods and services that have previously been authorised by a full Council meeting, and that all such payments are reported at the next Council meeting”

Re-number existing paragraphs “6.4 & 6.5” as “6.5 & 6.6” respectively.

Proposed by Cllr Dowsett and seconded by Cllr Cox that amendments as presented be accepted. Agreed Nem Com

Noted that as a result of the above amendment, recent invoices from Aster (Rent for Knapp Hill Playpark) and NTT Europe (computer backup service) can be processed by the Clerk without waiting until the next meeting.

9. **09.08 Property Report:**

Casual Play Area – The Chairman reported on the current status of this project and re-capped on the inclusive and constructive meetings that had been held over the previous two years at which the Village Teenagers and others had an opportunity to have their views heard. The Sect 106 monies have been enhanced by a KDC grant of £2K.

Members then discussed various locations for the siting of the “Teen Shelter” (Cllr Rossiter declared a personal interest regarding her use of land adjacent to one of the proposed locations for horses). Members agreed that the “Teen Shelter” should be sited in the area of the existing “Den” at the east side of the southern boundary and that the quote from SSE Power Distribution for £323 + VAT to provide an electrical power supply be accepted. They also agreed that Southern Electricity be requested to provide the actual electricity. Members then agreed that a Working Group be formed (Cllrs Cox & Risborough and PCSO Davidson to lead in the first instance) to address the following points and to report to the next PC meeting:

Maximum inclusion of the Villagers including the Youth in the project.
Best type and specification of the shelter.
Precise siting of the shelter.
Requirement for an area of tarmac.
Landscaping options.

Proposed by Cllr Cox and seconded Cllr Williams. Agreed with one Abstention

Action: Working Group

Cllr Cox agreed to write to KDC requesting the remaining £5k of 106 monies from Riverbourne Fields to assist with the general improvement of the Recreation Ground for formal sports provision – an exercise trail has been suggested as a possibility and would fit well with existing provision and have potential use by teenagers.

Action: Cllr Cox

Saunders Meadow - Still waiting for developer to confirm if they will do what the PC asked to be done. KDC Cllr. Howard has been chasing progress.

Grass cutting Tenders – A working group is to meet prior to a meeting of the F&P Committee who will then decide on the award of contracts before the end of February. Members delegated the authority to place the contract to that Committee. Once the F&P have made their decisions, the Clerk is to write to concerned parties by no later than 29 February.

Action: F&P Committee & Clerk

Litter Patrol Contract - After discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Dowsett should look at this and report back with a recommendation to the next meeting.

Action: Cllr Dowsett

Cricket Club disused storage container – Cllr Chandler confirmed that the Cricket Club Committee is planning to have it removed on or about the 8 March. Members asked that Cllr Chandler report on progress at the next meeting.

Action: Cllr Chandler

Recycling Skips – Recycling skips for plastic and cardboard waste will be at Everleigh Road on Wednesday 23rd April between 1000 & 1230.

Action: Clerk

10. **10.08 Planning Report.**

Cllr Whinton presented the planning report (copy attached, and displayed on the notice board). The Members directed the Clerk to reply to KDC with their comments, in line with Standing Orders, on applications K/58063/F & K/58092/F.

Action: Clerk

Proposed by Cllr Chandler Seconded by Cllr Gilford that the report as presented be accepted.
Agreed Nem Con

11. **11.08 General Matters:**

Bus Shelters - Cllr Chandler reported that there is likely to be a short delay due to utility searches. It is possible that work will start on 15 February but more realistically it will start nearer the end on the month. Cllr Chandler will arrange for the removal of the old shelter and the resulting residue.

Action Cllr Chandler

Great Mere - Cllr Pickis requested that the Clerk place a notice asking for bids for the remnants of the felled ash tree.

Action: Clerk

Village Design Statement – Having discussed the merits of the statement Members agreed the following:

The Statement is “owned” by the Villagers and not the Parish Council.

The Statement is in need of “refreshing” not rewriting.

The Members, through Cllr Pickis, are prepared to facilitate an initial meeting of those villagers interested in carrying out the “refreshing” of the statement.

The recent experience of Collingbourne Kingston & Everleigh PCs should be drawn on and the Clerk is to get the contact details of Mr Carel Bouwens and Mrs Helen May respectively.

The Clerk is to post a notice informing villagers of the need to refresh the statement and to ask interested villagers to contact Cllr Pickis.

Proposed by Cllr Cox and seconded by Cllr Gilford

Agreed Nem Con

Action Cllr Pickis/Clerk

12. **Date of Next Meeting:** Was confirmed as 6th March 2008 at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 21.25pm