

Duffield Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council, held in the Committee Room, Hazelwood Road, Duffield on Tuesday 14th September 2004 at 7.15pm

Present: Chairman: Councillor N G Storer
Councillors: Carmichael-Smith, Buckle, England, Fletcher, Rowlands, A Woodings and B Woodings

Also in attendance: Mr D R Bostock – Parish Clerk & R F O
Mrs S Bygraves – Assistant Parish Clerk & Treasurer
County Councillor P Clark
Mr Wayne Lenton – Risk Assessor

Prior to the meeting the Reverend P D Frymann of the Duffield Evangelical Baptist Church, led those assembled in prayer.

Apologies for absence were received from: Councillors Knibbs, Sartin and Rice.

101/04 Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council

The Clerk had no matters arising from the minutes to report.

Resolved: that the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 13 July 2004, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

102/04 Planning and Licensing Matters

Members noted the Planning and Licensing Matters circulated and agreed the following representations on current applications:

AVA/2004/1034 – Two storey and single storey extensions to dwelling at 26 Granville Close, Duffield for Mr & Mrs Swan of the same address (no representations).

AVA/2004/1047 – Installation of ATM Cash Machine to shop front at 42 Town Street, Duffield for the Co-operative Bank (no representations).

AVA/2004/1069 – First floor extension to side of property at 54 Hall Farm Road, Duffield for A Parker of the same address (no representations).

TPO/2004/0313 – Provisional Tree Preservation Order on a Copper Beech Tree growing adjacent to the front boundary of 50 Broadway, Duffield (no representations).

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103/04 Clerk's Report

Correspondence was tabled and received in accordance with Appendix “B”

Further to item 1, the Clerk reported that there had been 25 crimes reported during June & July, six for theft from vehicles, two for criminal damage, eight for burglary, four for vehicle damage, one for theft of a vehicle and four for theft. He also confirmed that the crime figures for both Belper and Kilburn, were 111 and 21 respectively, in the same period.

Further to item 2, the Clerk read out the four categories for determining the use of speed cameras.

Further to item 3, the Clerk reported that the Parish Councils Evening 2004 at the Police Headquarters was to take place at 7.00pm on Thursday 23 September 2004.

Further to item 4, the Clerk circulated a copy letter from Mr H Walker of 45 Hazelwood Road, Duffield, which requested the Parish Council to consider the release of land in the Cemetery Spinney to allow him to create a new and safer access drive to his property. (NB: at this point the Chairman suspended the meeting to allow members to visit the above site and consider the proposal).

Further to item 5, the Clerk activated the circulation system in order to allow members to consider any response they wished to make arising from the Model Code of Conduct for Local Government Employees & Review of Regulatory Framework Governing the Political Activities of Local Government Employees.

Further to item 6, the Clerk advised members that arising from the Parish Council’s request the Borough Council had erected two new Litter Bins on Wirksworth Road, one on the lamp column opposite the Library and another one outside Abbeydale Court.

Further to item 10, the Clerk circulated the County Council reply regarding the proposed new Church Drive Car Park to all members.

Further to item 11, the Clerk advised members that the County Council would consider Church Drive for a Reconstruction and Resurfacing scheme in the 2005/06 financial year, subject however to it having to compete with schemes throughout the County for the necessary funding.

Further to item 12, the Clerk circulated a copy of a letter from the County Council, which intimated that there was little chance of Duffield Library being re-painted in the near future.

Further to item 13, the Clerk reported on the detail of the County Council’s Annual Speed Campaign this year, none of which will take place in Duffield, as they are focusing on locations in the County that have the largest number of collisions and casualties recorded.

Resolved:

a) that further to item three above, the Clerk arranges to attend the Police Annual Parish Councils meeting along with the Chairman Councillor N Storer at Police Headquarters.

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b) that arising from item four above, the Clerk advises Mr H Walker that the Council do not wish to release any of the Cemetery Spinney land to him, for the purpose of providing a new access to his property. That the Clerk also suggests to Mr Walker that his present visibility

problems could be significantly improved by lowering or removing the front boundary hedge on the western side of his plot and removing the lone Laurel bush in the centre of his front garden.

c) that arising from item six above, the Clerk ensures that both new and existing Litter Bins in the vicinity of the Library are emptied by the Borough Council on a regular basis.

d) that arising from item ten above, the Clerk places the County Council reply regarding the proposed new Church Drive car park on the next Open Spaces Committee agenda.

e) that arising from item twelve above, the Clerk replies to the County Library Service offering to re-paint the Library for them with Parish Council resources, subject to them providing the paint.

104/04 Reports from Outside Bodies

Hawley's Development Liaison Group

Councillor Rowlands reported that 14 dwellings were now occupied and that no meetings had taken place recently.

The Millennium Meadow Conservation Trust

Councillor England reported that the AGM was to take place on 5 October 2004.

The Parish Plan

Councillor Buckle – reported that 1,850 questionnaires had been sent out and that 800 replies had been received so far. Analysis of the responses was now taking place, with the main comments highlighting leisure requirements, Sports Centre provision, lack of Community Spirit, allowing skate boarding etc at the Medical Centre, traffic calming requirements, pavement repair requirements on New Zealand Lane and Broadway and improvements to Gray Recreation Ground.

Ecclesbourne School

Councillor Carmichael-Smith – reported that she had a meeting next week and that the Facilities Committee continued to have serious problems with the new buildings being erected.

The Meadows School

Councillor Fletcher – reported that the next meeting would be held on 30 September 2004.

105/04 DALC Circulars

Circulars and correspondence received from DALC were tabled and received in accordance with Appendix "C".

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Circular No. 39/2004 – the Clerk circulated a copy of this circular to all members, as it gives full detail of the recent three year pay award for Local Government employees, included with this document was the Clerk's working paper showing the effect of this award for all employees.

Circular No. 40/2004 – the Clerk drew members attention to a Ten Point Guide to the Safety Inspection of Cemetery Memorials produced by a Derbyshire parish council.

Circular No. 42/2004 – the Clerk advised members of the DALC Training Days arranged for Clerks and Councillors on 26 October 2004 and 27 November 2004, in Ripley and Hulland Ward respectively.

Resolved:

a) that arising from Circ. 39/2004 above, the Parish Council accept the Clerk's Report and recommendations, in relation to the effect of the 2004 national pay award for all the employees of Duffield Parish Council, effective from 1 April 2004, as follows:

D R Bostock, Parish Clerk & R F O : Salary (Point 21) = £16,968 x 20/37 = £9,171.89 / annum

Additional Allowance for 2-5 employees = £1,632 /

annum

Casual User Car Allowance (1200–1450cc car) =

50.5p/mile

S Bygraves, Treasurer & Asst Clerk : Salary (Point 16) = £14,586 x 10/37 = £3,942.16 / annum

Casual User Car Allowance (1200-1450cc car) =

50.5p/mile

D Guy, Cemetery Sup & Caretaker: Salary (Point 4) = £10,560 + (£10,560 x 11.2%) = £11,742.72

/ annum

Casual User Car Allowance (1200-1450cc car) =

50.5p/mile

M Forkin, Tidyman : Wage (Point 6) = £5.68 / hour.

Casual User Car Allowance (1200-1450cc car) = 50.5p/mile

Football Supervisors: Wage (Point 4) = £5.47 / hour.

b) that the Clerk obtains a copy of the Job Specification for a Parish Warden from the Borough Council.

c) that arising from Circ. 40/2004 above, the Clerk obtains a copy of the Ten Point Guide to the Safety Inspection of Cemetery Memorials.

106/04 Financial Matters

The Treasurer circulated details of the monthly payments and income to the 10 August and 14 September 2004 respectively.

Resolved: that the Assistant Clerk/Treasurer's tabled monthly list of invoices and payments for August and September 2004, respectively in the sums of £8,847.55 and £9,922.47 be initialled and approved, with cheques due signed by members and the Clerk.

107/04 Parish Council Web Site

Councillor Buckle had no further report at this time, however she was aware that the Web Site continued to be regularly accessed and she hoped that Planning Issues could be addressed on the site in the future.

108/04 Complaints Procedure

The Clerk circulated members with copies of letters dated the 2 & 15 August 2004 from the Duffield Branch of the Labour Party and the responses made by the Clerk on the 10 & 19 August 2004, regarding the Parish Council's Complaints Procedure.

Resolved:

- a) that the Clerk seeks the advice of NALC regarding the criticism and suggested amendments to their recommended Code of Practice for Local Councils in Handling Complaints, which was adopted by the Parish Council on 2 December 2003.
- b) that the Chairman advises the complainant, the Duffield Branch of the Labour Party of the above course of action.

109/04 New Football Pitch, Eyes Meadow

The Clerk circulated members with copies of letters dated the 2, 15 & 24 August 2004 from the Duffield Branch of the Labour Party and the responses made by the Clerk on the 10 & 19 August 2004 and the 6 September 2004, regarding the recent provision of a new Football Pitch on Eyes Meadow for Allestree Football Club.

Resolved:

- a) that the Chairman advises the Duffield Branch of the Labour Party that the elected members of Duffield Parish Council make their decisions on behalf of the Parishioners of Duffield and do not have to explain their decisions to individual Political Groups. Furthermore, he should advise them, that all the Council's Meetings are open to the public and interested individuals or groups should attend these meetings if they wish to keep totally abreast of current Council business and their decision making processes.
- b) that it be noted that all the meetings of the Parish Council and its Committees are advertised and open to the public, that copies of the minutes of all the meetings are available for public scrutiny in Duffield Library and on the Council's Web Site. Details of all the Council's financial activities and accounts for any year are available for public inspection for several weeks during the annual audit. They are also separately interrogated by our own Internal Auditor and District Audit, on an annual basis.

110/04 Complaint from Mr & Mrs Gibson of 41 Hazelwood Road, Duffield

The Assistant Clerk circulated members with copies of her letter of the 28 June 2004 to Mrs C Gibson and letters from Mr & Mrs Gibson of 9 August and 3 September 2004, together with

letters from Mr K Wharam the Secretary of the Duffield Branch of the Labour Party dated 15 and 24 August 2004, regarding complaints against the Parish Clerk and the procedures for letting of the Cemetery Pasture for Grazing purposes.

Resolved:

a) that the Assistant Clerk advises Mr & Mrs Gibson that the Parish Council have noted their complaints, but have concluded that it would be inequitable to enact the Complaints Procedure in this case, given the time lapse between the original complaint of 6 April 2004 and their letter of 9 August 2004. This decision has been taken in the light of the fact that Mr & Mrs Gibson were offered the Complaints Procedure on two separate occasions, both of which were refused. The Council also noted that timescales regarding this procedure had been given to their advisor Mr K Wharam, on a previous occasion.

b) that the Assistant Clerk also advises Mr & Mrs Gibson, that arising from advice from the legal department of our insurers, the Parish Council will be making repairs to their boundary hedge and fence in the Cemetery Pasture in the near future and recharging them with the costs involved.

111/04 Outstanding Matters

Councillor England requested that the poor state of the roads and drainage systems in Duffield be placed on Appendix "D" and particularly referred to problems in Castle Hill and Avenue Road.

County Councillor Clark advised members that he was actively seeking an improvement to the highway infrastructure in the New Zealand Lane area.

Resolved: that the Clerk places Highway Maintenance Matters on Appendix "D" of future Agendas.

112/04 Date of Next Meeting

Resolved: that the next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday 12 October 2004 at **7.15pm**, in the Meeting Room on Hazelwood Road, Duffield.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05pm.

Signed _____ Date _____

