

Duffield Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council, held in the Committee Room, Hazelwood Road, Duffield, on Tuesday 10^h June 2008 at 7.30pm

Present: Vice Chairman: Councillor P Greenwood
Councillors: Buckle, England, Garner, Greenwood,
Hibbert, Knibbs, Rowlands, Short, Storer

Also in Attendance: Clerk: Mrs S Bygraves

Prior to the meeting Tim Paisley led those assembled in prayer.

Public Participation

1160 One member of the public attended the meeting but chose not to speak.

Apologies for Absence

1161 Apologies were received from Councillors Rice, A Woodings and B Woodings

Declaration of Members Interest

1162 Councillor Storer declared an interest in the proposed development of the Ecclesbourne School Fields located at Meadow Primary School.

Items for Exclusion

1163 No items were identified for exclusion.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

1164 Resolved: that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 13th May 2008 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to the amendment that minutes received from the subcommittees under minute reference 1143 and 1144 be received and their recommendations be adopted as Parish Council Policy.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

1165 Resolved: that the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on the 13th May 2008 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Grays Recreational Ground

Further to a site completion and handover certificate received from HAGS play limited, the Clerk noted that there remained snagging items on the playground to be resolved. A full ROSPA inspection of the playground had been completed and a copy of this had been passed to the contractor.

- 1166 Resolved:** that payment for the playground be released to HAGS upon the resolution of snagging items identified to the contractor in the ROSPA report and following consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman. It was noted that the withholding payment in this way was confirmed as acceptable on the completion and handover certificate supplied by the contractor.

Annual Audit

Further to the internal audit of the Parish Accounts for the year to 31st March 2008 by Mr Brian Wood the Clerk reported the outcome of this process to members as follows:

“Further to the Internal Audit of Accounts I carried out on 14th May 2008 I confirm that the audit was carried out in accordance with the suggested approach contained in the 2003 edition of the “Governance and Accountability of Local Councils in England and Wales- A Practitioners Guide”

I would recommend to your Council to increase your Fidelity Guarantee on the Council’s Insurance Policy on the basis of 50% reserves plus the precept figure and that this should apply to Officers and Members”

- 1167 Resolved:** that the Council accept the Internal Audit Report presented by Mr Brian Wood and that the Chairman and Clerk sign the Statement of Assurances as detailed in the Annual Governance Statement in the Annual Report and to be submitted to the external auditor.

Approval of Procedure for Public Speaking at Parish Meetings

Further to a draft procedure previously circulated, it was

- 1168 Resolved:** that the procedure be adopted subject to the following amendments:

Bullet point 2: remove “a” after “there are”

Bullet point 3 should include: “may be sent to the Clerk 5 days prior to the meeting

Bullet point 12 should be reworded to read “After public participation the Parish Council will continue with items as listed in the agenda. You will not be able to speak during this part of the meeting but may stay and observe Parish Council business. If the item you have raised is not on the agenda, members will not be able to debate or vote on the item.

Bullet point 13: be removed.

Proposed Development at Meadow Primary School and Ecclesbourne School

Members noted that some outline information regarding the development of the Ecclesbourne School playing fields, located at Meadow School, by Radleigh Homes had now been received. An outline proposal for the sports hall and swimming pool at Ecclesbourne School had also been received.

Councillor Short confirmed that no direct consultation or planning applications had been submitted to Amber Valley Borough Council. He also confirmed that the information given to members and the public during the open event held on 13th and 14th June 2008 did not constitute consultation as required under planning rules, and that once a planning applications had been received a public meeting to discuss the proposals would be called by Amber Valley Borough Council.

The Clerk had received a verbal invitation from Mrs Underhill at Ecclesbourne School for the Parish Council's Associate Governor to be appointed to the Governing body overseeing the development process

- 1169 Resolved:** That a letter be sent to Ecclesbourne School asking for details of the proposed inclusion of the Parish Councils' representative Associate Governor.

Policy for Memorial Seats

Further to a number of requests received for the placement of memorial seats at sites owned by the Parish Council, the Clerk requested members consider developing a policy on seats to be placed in these areas

- 1170 Resolved:** that the Clerk contacts Amber Valley Borough Council to determine their policy and produce a report with recommendations for consideration by members at their meeting in July.

Clerks Report and Correspondence

- 1171 Further to Item 1,** members noted Duffield Squash Club's request to use of Eyes Meadow for their annual outside sports event.
- 1172 Further to Item 2,** members noted Derwent Valley Mills Partnership's request for funding for 2008.
- 1173 Resolved:** that Duffield Squash Club's request to undertake an annual sports event on Eyes Meadow be accepted and that future events be booked through the Clerk.
- 1174 Resolved:** that the request for funding from Derwent Valley Mills Partnership be referred to the Finance and General Purpose Committee for consideration.

Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

- 1175 Councillor Garner, reporting on the Millennium Meadow** advised members that a to deviate from the terms of the lease should be expected as members now felt that the Parish Council should cover the cost of cutting the paths in the Millennium Meadow. A request for action to improve access for disabled users approaching Eyes Meadow from Cockpit lane had been made, and had been passed on to Derbyshire County Council by the Clerk. Naturescape Limited had made a request for payment of old bills dating back several years. The committee were unable to verify if the supply had been made and as such unable to authorise them for payment by the Parish Council. Councillor Garner was pleased to report that The Millennium Meadow had been recognised as a “wildlife site” by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust.
- 1176 Councillor Storer, representative Governor at Meadow Primary School** informed members that Alan Wisdish had been appointed as the new Chair of Governors. Meadows School Governors remained concerned about the proposed development of the Ecclesbourne playing fields adjacent to the Meadows School, however plans for the development remained outstanding. The Meadows School Governors acknowledged the importance of the Parish Plan in it negotiations for a positive outcome to the proposed development.
- 1177 Councillor Greenwood Associate Governor to the Facilities Committee at Ecclesbourne School** had attended a meeting which included a tour of the school buildings. Whilst at the meeting he expressed his concern and embarrassment over the lack of consultation and information given to himself and the Parish Council concerning the proposed sale of school playing fields adjacent to Meadow School.

Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

All circulars were distributed to Councillors prior to the meeting.

Further to circular 20/08, regarding revised mileage rates payable for business travel, it was:

- 1178 Resolved:** that the revised mileage rates as recommended be adopted as Council policy.

Planning and Licensing Matters

- 1179** Members noted the Planning and Licensing Matters as detailed in Appendix 'C' information on which had previously circulated by the clerk.

No representations were made on any of the applications

Financial Matters

Details of the monthly payments and income to June 10th 2008, having been circulated prior to the meeting, it was:

- 1180 Resolved:** that the Clerk's tabled monthly schedule of accounts for the month to 10th June 2008, in the sum of £116,509.25, be initialled and approved, with cheques due signed by the members and the Clerk.

Risk Management

Following the receipt of quotations for the renewal of the Parish Councils insurance, the quotation from Came and Company for £3001.00 including £100,000 cover for damage to the new play area was identified as providing increased cover at a lower cost compared to other providers who had quoted. Following a review of documentation it was:

- 1181 Resolved:** that the insurance quotation from Came and Company be accepted for one year including cover to the playground as specified.

Outstanding Matters

- 1182** Quality Parish Council. The Clerk has re submitted her portfolio and the outcome of this is expected shortly.
- 1183** 2) S106 Church Car Park. The reference to specific areas would be removed from this item as new information from Amber Valley would be forthcoming on the completion of their database for this funding.

Date and Time of next meeting

- 1184 Resolved:** that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 8th April 2008 in the Committee Room, Hazelwood Road, Duffield at 7.00pm.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 8.58pm.

Signed _____ **Dated** _____