

Duffield Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council, held in the Committee Room, Hazelwood Road, Duffield, on Tuesday 18th May 2010 at 7.00pm

Present: Chairman: P Greenwood
Councillors: Buckle, Knibbs, Rice, Storer, Short, A Woodings and B Woodings.

Also in Attendance: Clerk: Mrs Sally Bygraves

Apologies for Absence

- 2051** Apologies were received from Councillors England and Rowlands due to holiday and Councillor Garner due to illness.

Variation of Order of Business

- 2052** No variation to order of business was deemed necessary.

Declaration of Members Interest

- 2053** No declarations were made

Public Participation

Mr Matt Doran from the National Trust addressed the meeting. He gave an update on works taking place at Duffield Castle on Milford Road.

The steps leading off of Milford Road, up to the castle, have been extensively repaired as has the adjacent railings. These are now open for use. An information board had been placed at the base of the steps to give visitors site information.

Trees on the slopes of the castle mound have been removed to open up the view across to Derwent. This restoration involved the removal of some preserved trees; however the outcome has led to spectacular views being restored. In the future work with the Community Payback team will it is hoped lead to the slopes being returned to grassy banks making them an attractive feature for residents and visitors alike.

The archaeological dig on the site did reveal that the ideas of the positioning of the keep were relatively accurate; however more archaeological works are anticipated in the future. The trust is currently in consultation with English Heritage to remove the tarmac capping and make the footprint of the structure clearer.

To give more information to the public about the site a web page dedicated to the castle will be placed on the national trust website. This will include a graphic artist impression of how the Keep would have originally looked. The site will also be included in the National Trust's handbook.

