

## DEBDEN PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held at 8.00pm on Wednesday, 18th May, 2016 at the Village Hall, Debden.

<b><u>Present:</u></b>	Cllr R. Forster	(RF)	Chairman
	Cllr E. Blackie	(EB)	
	Cllr Alicia Tetlow	(AliciaT)	
	Cllr Andrew Tetlow	(AT)	
	Cllr S. Watson	(SW)	

**In attendance:**

**Dist Cllr T. Knight**

**Mrs. C. Griffin**

**Clerk**

**21 residents**

The Chairman welcomed all residents to the meeting.

**16/003 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr S. Luck, Cllr A. Roper and Cty Cllr S. Walsh.

**16/004 Disclosure of Interests**

**To receive disclosures of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in items on the agenda**

No interests were disclosed

**16/005 Public participation session**

The following issues were raised:

- A statement, signed by five residents of the village who attended the Annual meeting, was read regarding issues relating to the Annual meeting of the Parish Council held on 5<sup>th</sup> May.  
*(SW said the minutes do not reflect what happened at the meeting, are incorrect and should not go into the records. SW said another AGM should be held before the end of May in order to keep within the PC rules, accepting that the result, i.e. the appointment of the same chair etc., could be the same. The Chairman requested advice from Dist Cllr Knight, who was present at the meeting. Dist Cllr Knight advised that the Vice Chairman automatically takes the Chair if the Chairman is not present; that is what a Vice Chairman is for. The Parish Clerk is the only legal representative and it is her job to advise and inform the Parish Council of procedures. When a PC Chairman is elected it has always been custom and practice to put forward nominations and if only one councillor is proposed and seconded there is no need for a vote to be taken; that person is the new Chairman and the meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> should have continued. This has been confirmed by the legal officer at UDC)*
- The Clerk advised that she has received a letter from a resident concerning the Village Hall Annual General Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> April.



(b) Special weed cutter, rake and baskets for pond, cost £250.

The above items were approved.

(c) Flame gun for use on weeds at the allotments and payment for rotavator for the allotments

The flame gun was approved at a cost of £90, subject to trial and insurance cover.

Rotavator approved at a cost of £40.

(d) Six letter picking sticks

The above items were approved, subject to a cost of approximately £20 each.

### **16/012 To approve Accounts for payment**

The above item was deferred as all the accounts records, including the cheque books, are still with the auditor.

### **16/013 To discuss any Urgent matters of interest to the Parish**

13.1 The Clerk reported a water leak at the Allotments which was repaired by the Chairman.

13.2 Planning application UTT/16/1064/FUL, Foxwood House, Thaxted Road, was available for comment (EB declared an interest by virtue of the fact that the applicants are neighbours). No comments received.

13.3 AliciaT proposed that the PC should hold an informal meeting with the Village Hall Trust to explore all possible options for a new village hall to move forward; it is important that the funding that has been offered by the Army does not disappear. The Chairman advised that this was a matter for discussion between the Recreation Ground Trust and the Village Hall Trust, not the Parish Council. EB pointed out that the situation can only be resolved with a meeting between the Recreation Ground Trust and Village Hall Trust.

This item will be included on the next agenda. The Chairman said a list of points for discussion should be drawn up.

13.4 The Chairman concluded by reading a statement.

### **16/014 Items for next agenda**

To approve the, Annual Return and Annual Governance Statement for 2015/16

Review Councillors' Roles and Responsibilities

Review Standing Orders including co-option procedures.

Appoint a PC representative for the Village Hall Trust

To consider organising a meeting between the PC and the VH Trust

To approve the purchase of a seat to commemorate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday

### **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> June at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.