

DEBDEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DEBDEN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 4th JANUARY, 2017 AT 8.00PM IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, DEBDEN

Present:

Cllr R. Forster	(RF)	Chairman
Cllr E. Blackie	(EB)	
Cllr S. Luck	(SL)	(from 17/133-135)
Cllr A. Roper	(AR)	
Cllr S. Watson	(SW)	

In attendance:

Dist Cllr T. Knight

Mrs. C. Griffin, Clerk. (CG)

18 members of the public

17/133 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Alicia Tetlow (on holiday), Cllr Andrew Tetlow (private commitment) and Cty Cllr Walsh.

17/134 Declarations of Interests**To receive disclosures of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in items on the agenda**

No interests were declared.

17/135 Public participation session (15 minutes available if required)

The main points raised by members of the public were:

- Are the PC going to reconsider discussing the decision on the Village Hall?
This is not a matter for the PC; this is a matter for the two Trusts.
- If the alternative plan proceeds the Post Office will close.
This is not a matter for the PC.
- At the last meeting you said you would forward some plans and get costings for piling.
Plans are available from English Heritage and were offered. Costings not confirmed but £10,000 estimated for additional piling costs.
- Could the Shop be left as a stand alone building if the Hall is taken down.
A Structural Engineer has advised this is possible.
- Do you stand by the cost of £10,000 for piling?
That was the estimated cost given for piling.

Further items were raised regarding the Village Hall. These are not matters for the PC and will be forwarded to the RG Trust and VH Trust.

SL said this Parish Council is unlawful.

Cllr Knight said she would raise a Code of Conduct complaint.

After a heated and abusive public participation session the Chairman closed the meeting. As has been customary in the past, the meeting was then reopened and continued in accordance with the agenda.

At this point SL left the meeting.

17/136 To receive reports from District and County Councillors

No report from Cty Cllr Walsh.

Dist Cllr Knight reported that:

- There has been a problem with hare coursing in four areas; one of them is Purton End. Members of the public are being warned not to approach the people involved.
- The No. 6 bus route will not be removed from the Debden. The DART service is now proving more popular.
- She received a letter regarding the safeguarding of children issue and asked if the PC have followed this up. The PC advised that the letter has been circulated to the RG Trustees and they have investigated and taken advice. The PC has also been in touch with their insurance company to check whether members of the PC, when acting as RG Trustees, are covered for indemnity and this has been confirmed. However, the insurance company has advised that if the Trustees did not follow the advice given by their solicitor and the Essex Playing Fields Association and agreed to the land exchange they would not be covered for indemnity.
- There is no reason why the new hall cannot be built on this current site.

17/137 To approve and authorise the Chairman to sign the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 7th December, 2016

It was resolved that the Chairman should sign the minutes as approved.

Proposed: AR

Seconded: EB

All agreed

17/138 Chairman's Report

The Chairman did not wish to report on any other matters.

17/139 To receive an update from the Parish Clerk

The Clerk reported that:

- To date, she has not heard from Cty Cllr Simon Walsh regarding an appointment at County Hall but has now received a public notice giving details of temporary road closures which come into effect on 3rd January. One is Ivy Todd Hill, the others are the High Street from Mill Road to Highfields and Rook End Lane. The notice will be in force for the next 18 months. Residents will be informed of dates and advance warning signs will be displayed on the road giving information on the closure dates and diversion routes.
- Letters were sent as requested following the last meeting. A reply was received from ECC regarding changes proposed by a Wimbish resident. ECC have no plans to change Service No. 6.

- The First Responders will organise another training session in March and providing notification arrives in time it will be advertised in the next Parish Pump. There are currently four people who are willing for their names to be included on a list which will go on the notice board, shop and defibrillator cabinet.
- Unfortunately the contact at Came & Co., for PC insurance has now left the company. However, her replacement is willing to attend a meeting at Debden. The Clerk will arrange and the Chairman will meet her.
- The Police & Crime Commissioners meeting will now be held on 2nd February in the Town Hall at Saffron Walden from 6.30 – 8.30pm.

17/140 To agree a date for the 2017 Annual Assembly and Annual Meeting

It was provisionally agreed that the Annual Assembly would be held on Wednesday 26th April and the Annual Meeting of the Council on Wednesday 3rd May. The Clerk will check the availability of the village hall and report back.

17/141 To review the CCTV equipment

Deferred until the next meeting.

17/142 To agree the Budget and set the Precept for 2017/18

The proposed Budget had been circulated to all Councillors in advance of the meeting. SW drew attention to the fact that there had been no provision for legal fees in the previous budget and in her opinion any increases in the Precept should be justified.

Following discussion it was agreed that the Budget should be approved and the Precept set at £17,315.00 (Precept £17,086 Grant £229).

Proposed: EB

Seconded: AR

All agreed

17/143 To discuss planning applications received

The following application has been received, no comments submitted:

UTT/16/3337/FUL Land at Ivy Todd Cottage, Ivy Todd Hill

Erection of one dwelling and detached garage, and new access to highway.

The following application has been conditionally approved:

UTT/16/3093/OP Land adjacent to Wash Cottages (Revised)

Outline application for one new 4 bedroom dwelling.

The following applications have been refused:

UTT/16/3058/OP The Old Barn, Slough Farm

Outline application for the erection of one dwelling

UTT/16/2673/FUL The Old Bakehouse, Debden Green

Proposed erection of detached 5 bedroom house with associated garage and access.

UTT/16/2676/FUL Old Mill House, Debden Green

Demolition of existing outbuilding and proposed erection of a detached 4 bedroom dwelling with associated access and parking.

17/144 To receive an update on the Transparency Code funding and approve the purchase of a laptop for the Parish Council

The Clerk reported that to date the costs involved on attending two courses in Dunmow, cost of course, and time involved in complying with the code has amounted to £396.92, leaving a balance of £601.58. Therefore, it may not be necessary for the PC to make a contribution to a laptop as agreed at the last meeting. It was agreed that payment would be made to the Clerk next month and, after consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman, a laptop will be purchased for the PC.

A further application will then be made to EALC for software.

17/145 To approve accounts for payment

It was proposed that the following payments should be approved for payment:

Proposed: EB		Seconded: AR	All agreed
C. Griffin	£399.78	Net salary + expenses (December)	
HMRC	£281.40	PAYE (Oct/Nov/Dec)	
The Sign and Graphics Co.	£96.00	Depth measure sign for Pond	
Debden Village Hall	£51.00	Hire of Hall (Oct/Nov/Dec)	
ELC	£118.40	Printing of Open Meeting Booklets	*
Debden Village Hall	£8.50	(Share of V.H. hire cost for meeting on * 20 th December)	

(* RGT expenditure)

17/146 To discuss any Urgent matters of interest to the Parish

146.1 Following a meeting to look at the most suitable location for the new sign for Church Lane, it has been suggested that a street sign (similar to the High Street) should be placed on the verge at the top of Church Lane, 2Ms from the grit bin and in front but lower than the Church board. The Clerk will submit a request to UDC.

17/147 Items for the next agenda

Review the CCTV equipment.
Review Standing Orders
Pavilion Insurance Policy
Review charges for Allotments.

17/148 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 1st February, at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 09.22pm.

Signed.....(Chairman)

Dated: 01.02.17.

