

**Dethick Lea and Holloway Parish Council**

Chair 2014-15

Councillor Ian Hooker

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Minutes of Dethick, Lea and Holloway Parish Council Meeting held in the Florence Nightingale Hall, Holloway, on the 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2015

**Present:**     *Chairman:*     Councillor Ian Hooker  
  
                  *Councillors:*     Steve Chambers, Pete  
                                  Robinson, Maggie Shields,  
                                  Mike Taafe-Finn, Joan  
                                  Ward, Mike Wisser and  
                                  Barbara Wright

**Also Present:**                     No members of the public  
  present

**In Attendance:**                 Simon Oldham                     Clerk

**2263 Apologies for absence** – Councillor Bert Sheppard.

**2264 Variation of Order of business** – None.

**2265 Declaration of member’s interests** – Councillors Steve Chambers and Mike Wisser declared non pecuniary interests in relation to agenda item 11 “Lea Primary School – request for provision of a grit bin”.

**2266 Public speaking**

Councillor Maggie Shields referring to discussion at the December meeting in which she had undertaken to investigate options regarding village signs in respect of traffic speed control, reported that unfortunately she had drawn a blank in her research. The Council took note and agreed that Members should keep an open eye elsewhere for anything they see and report back in due course if they come across anything that might be of interest.

Councillor Peter Robinson referred to discussions at the last meeting regarding

a local resident raising the prospect of the Village shop/Post Office being run on a community/voluntary basis and outlined that he had observed the operation of the Winsters Village shop which was a well-used viable concern and had been run on that basis for several years. He had spoken with the Manager who advised that in addition to himself, there were 5 other paid staff members and also 50 extra support volunteers that could be called upon. He was accountable to a board of trustees who were elected annually and who met monthly. Monthly accounts were prepared and the entity was a VAT registered concern and ran as a business enterprise. The premises were originally purchased via a "Venture Capitalist" body, and also involved personal loans. Local goods were sourced by the volunteers and the post office itself was run as a separate entity, but formed part of the premises and had suitable security measures in place. Newspapers were sold and delivered, tobacco sales, wines and spirits were also provided. In conclusion, he reported that there was an inspection of the operation every 2 years by Venture Capital.

The Council thanked Councillor Robinson for his informative presentation but felt that it was early yet to say if this sort of venture would be required here. It would be necessary for such an arrangement to be set up as a trust.

**2267 To approve & sign the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2015**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2015 be approved as a correct record subject to minute number 2245 "Public Speaking" item, second paragraph, penultimate sentence last word "premises" being deleted and replaced with "offices" to now read "The prospect of sandbags being supplied locally was raised although it was acknowledged that DCC can only supply empty sandbags and they needed to be stored at some appropriate location which was not particularly practicable as the Parish Council was a small Parish without its own offices".

**2268 To determine which items, if any of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded.**

**RESOLVED** that the press and public be excluded from item 22 "To consider correspondence from Amber Valley Borough Council regarding complaint made against the Council, a former Clerk and individual Members of the Council" which was an ongoing complaint and therefore prejudicial to the public interest.

**2269 Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman said that he had no announcements to make.

**2270 To receive the recommendations of the Finance Committee and determine the Parish Precept for 2015/16 and in so doing, determine whether the current scale of Cemetery Fees remain appropriate**

**RESOLVED** (1) that the draft budget prepared by the Clerk and recommended by the Finance Committee, be supported and the Parish Precept for 2015/16 be set at £21068 (which would result in an unchanged Band D charge for local taxpayers of £48.36 at the existing 2014/15 level); (2) there be no increase to the existing level of Cemetery fees and charges and (3) the Clerk be thanked

for the work he had undertaken in preparing this draft precept for Council consideration..

**2271 Further consideration of potential projects/costings for utilisation of monies in reserves:-**

**(a) New Goal Post for Lea Play Area**

**RESOLVED** that the oral quotes from various Play equipment providers reported by Councillor Mike Taafe-Finn, be noted and approval be given to proceed with the quote from Proludic for the supply of a goal post at £680 + VAT and £321 + VAT to install complete with netting and the Clerk be authorised to place the order subject to receipt of a formal written quotation.

**(b) Cemetery Committee feedback following site visit to consider potential works**

**RESOLVED** (1) to note the feedback from the Cemetery Committee following its site visit ;(2) that it was impractical to support a local parishioners request for the installation of additional steps/handrail up the right hand perimeter wall of the Cemetery, especially given the limited remaining capacity in the cemetery and plans to place 2 more rows of graves adjacent to the wall in question and given the likely costs that the Council would incur. The Clerk therefore be requested to respond to the parishioner accordingly and (3) support be given to the proposal of the Cemetery Committee to clear overhanging brambles and rhododendrons either side of the path and for Councillor Robinson to liaise with the Alfreton Group with a view to them to undertaking this work and provide a quote for further consideration by the Council.

**(c) Prospective Barrier installation outside Florence Nightingale Memorial Hall to guard against risk of young children straying on to the road**

**RESOLVED** that this matter be deferred to enable further consideration in the presence of Councillor Sheppard.

**2272 Feedback on research in to available Investment opportunities for medium/long term investment earmarked for future Cemetery land acquisition**

**RESOLVED**(1) to note the report of the Clerk on the limited investment bond opportunities available in the market place for community organisations and approval be given to invest a sum of £10k in the Cambridge Building Society Easy Access Saver Account and the Clerk be asked to request the appropriate application forms for completion and determination of authorised signatories at the next meeting and (2) this investment be made to signify the Council's intent to invest these earmarked funds with a view to the medium term purchase of land for future cemetery provision once appropriate land becomes available.

**2273 Lea Primary School request for the Council to purchase a grit bit for use on the pavement outside the School - Update**

**RESOLVED** (1) approval be given to request a free Parish Council grit Bin in accordance with the terms of the County Council's Winter Service Allocation

subject to remaining availability with a request for its siting to the right hand side of the School metal gates where the ground was level; (2) in the event that the free grit bin supplies have been exhausted, approval be given to the purchase of a large DCC grit bin complete with fill of salt at a cost of £267.66 and (3) approval be given to refill the empty grit bin at Bakers Lane , to be supplied by DCC at a cost of £100.20.

**2274 Provision of a litter/dog bin for use at Chapel Street, Holloway – request to AVBC/Update**

**RESOLVED** to note that no response had yet been received from AVBC further to the request for a siting of a bin at this location at the last meeting and this matter be pursued by the Clerk and an update be provided at the next meeting.

**2275 PLANNING –RESOLVED** to note the following consents:-

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| TRE/2014/0178<br>– <b>Granted</b> | Various tree works adjacent to car park – John Smedley Ltd, Lea Road, Lea Bridge                                     |
| TRE/2014/0171-<br><b>Granted</b>  | Remove Leylandi and Norway Spruce, Pollard 2 apple trees – Lea Brook House unnamed Road, from Lea Bridge to Lea Wood |

**2276 FINANCIAL MATTERS - Approve and sign the following cheques**

**RESOLVED** that approval be given to the following payments:-

|                              |   |          |
|------------------------------|---|----------|
| Cheque No 2094               | Florence Nightingale Memorial Hall Fund –Room Hire for Parish Council Meetings (Invoice 137 £66.00 & 155 £44.00 dated 31/12/14 re meeting room hire Jul/Sept/Oct/Nov & Dec) | £110.00  |
| Cheque No 2095               | KeptKleen – Toilet cleaning wk's 49, 50, 51 & 52  | £96.00   |
| Cheque No 2096               | Peter Robinson – Urgent work to make fallen tree safe   | £20.00   |
| Cheque No's 2097,2100 & 2101 | Employee Costs including HMRC   | £1126.44 |
| <b>Clerks Expenses</b>       | Attend Council meeting 7/1/15 – 50 miles & Finance Committee Meeting 23/1/15 – 50 miles @ 0.45p per mile (Sheffield – Holloway & return) £45.00                             |          |
|                              | <b>Total £45.00</b>   |          |
| <b>Wardens Expenses</b>      |   |          |
| Mileage                      | 15.75 @ 0.469 = £7.39   |          |
| Texts                        | 9 @ 10p = £0.90   |          |
|                              | <b>Total £8.29</b>  |          |
| DD                           | BT Phone Bill 15/1/15   | £92.80   |
| DD                           | AVBC Rates for toilets (Jan)  | £40.00   |

|  |              |                 |
|--|--------------|-----------------|
|  | <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>£1485.24</b> |
|--|--------------|-----------------|

**2277 Income - Cemetery Fees (i) Interment Application 1 @ £350  
– Noted.**

**2278 Monthly bank reconciliation for December, 2014 – Noted.**

**2279 Derbyshire Association of Local Council’s Circulars (previously circulated by E-mail)- Noted.**

|   |             |   |
|---|-------------|---|
| 1 | DALC 1/2015 | Index of most important elements of DALC 2014 Circulars   |
| 2 | DALC 2/2015 | DALC Banking Details<br>Abolition of the Public Works Loan Board<br>Local Council Award Scheme<br>DALC Spring Seminar |

**2280 Completion of revised Nat West Bank Mandate to add the Clerk for correspondence purposes and in order to change the address for future statements**

**RESOLVED** to note the reporting by the Clerk of the revised mandate to replace the former Clerk and add the new Clerk as a party to the Nat West bank account in order that the correspondence address can be updated and approval be given for the authorised signatories to sign the mandate to effect these changes.

**2281 Confirmation of action taken in consultation with Chairman to transfer the BT Landline/Broadband connection from the former to the new Clerk’s home address and cancellation of the PO Box number, for the administration of Parish Council business**

**RESOLVED** to note the actions reported and arrangements put in place with regard to the home working arrangements for the Clerk in support of the performance of his duties.

**2282 Information Items/Correspondence (previously circulated by E-mail)**

**RESOLVED** to note that the Clerk had previously circulated:-

|   |                                |   |
|---|--------------------------------|---|
| 1 | DCC                            | Rights of Way Maintenance Agreement – Claim for 2014/15   |
| 2 | DCC                            | Reply to representations made following Parish Council meeting 7/1/15 re Gritting and Tree Branches |
| 3 | Derwent Valley Line - CRP      | Annual Report 2014 & Minutes of meeting 11/12/14  |
| 4 | Friends of Derwent Valley Line | Notification of Meeting 20/1/15   |
| 5 | Planning Progress.co.uk        | Canvass for business to develop a Neighbourhood Development Plan                                    |

|   |                        |  |
|---|------------------------|--|
| 6 | RuralAction Derbyshire | Campaign against risk of loss of DEFRA Funding |
| 7 | Cubit Electronics      | Lamp Post Testing                              |

**2283 Agenda Items for the meeting on the 4th March, 2015**

Emergency Situations/Volunteers/Provision of Sandbags;  
 What to do with the redundant Rocking Horse at Lea Play area;  
 Prospective Barrier installation outside Florence Nightingale Memorial Hall;  
 Provision of a litter/dog bin for use at Chapel Street, Holloway;  
 10K Investment – Cambridge Building Society Easy Access Saver.

**2284 Confidential Item - To consider correspondence from Amber Valley Borough Council regarding complaint made against the Council, a former Clerk and individual Members of the Council**

**RESOLVED** (1) that public and press be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of this item in view of its prejudicial nature as a consequence of an ongoing complaint/investigation being conducted by AVBC and (2) approval be given to the draft response that had been circulated, subject to the Chairman being authorised to make further minor adjustments to reflect matters discussed at the meeting and for the response to be forwarded to AVBC.

**2285 Date of next Parish Council meeting – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 at 7.00pm in the Florence Nightingale Memorial Hall**

The meeting closed at 9.03pm

