

Dethick Lea & Holloway Parish Council

Chair 2015-16

Councillor Ian Hooker
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Clerk to the Parish Council

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MINUTES – 7 October 2015

Minutes of Dethick, Lea and Holloway Parish Council Meeting held in the in the Florence Nightingale Memorial Hall, Yew Tree Hill, Holloway on Wednesday 7 October 2015.

Councillors: Ian Hooker
Helen Aldred
Bert Sheppard
Joan Ward

Also present: T Walker (Parish Clerk)
Steve Hannath (Co-optee applicant)
3 members of the public

2423. Apologies for absence

Patricia Ward
Barbara Wright
Mike Taaffe-Finn

2424. To consider motions for variation business - None

2425. Declaration of member's interests at meeting – None.

The Chair explained that he and the Clerk had noticed that the standard agenda text covering Declarations of Interest could be ambiguous and could give the impression that no action is needed if a member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest.

RESOLVED: Clerk to remove the words 'other than' from items 3(a) and 3(c) of template agenda.

2426. Councillor obligations in relation to declaration of interests

The Chair asked if members had received the information circulated by the Clerk in relation to this matter and whether anyone had any questions. No queries were raised but a discussion followed regarding the DLHPC Code of Conduct and whether we should make reference to the Nolan principles. The question was also asked as to whether we should be adopting the AVBC code of conduct.

RESOLVED: Clerk to find out from DALC whether we are using the most up to date NALC Code of Conduct template. Also, find out whether AVBC have any guidance regarding parish council code of conduct documents.

2427. Public Speaking

A member of the public raised a concern that at the last meeting the recording of the outcome of votes was discussed, but this was not mentioned in the September minutes.

RESOLVED: (1) Clerk to amend Standing Orders to reflect the recording of the outcome of votes (for example how many for, against and abstentions). (2) To add this item to the November agenda so that formal approval can be given to the proposal. (3) Outcome of votes to be recorded for the remainder of the meeting.

A member of the public asked the Chair about the gratuity payment mentioned in the Annual Return for 2014/15 from Grant Thornton, the external auditor.

The Chair explained the background in relation to this matter and that the payment related to a pension provision. The title 'gratuity' was the term used in the contract then in use for a parish clerk, though it was really a contractual right to a pension payment.

2428. To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 September 2015

RESOLVED: (1) In view of the matter raised under 'Public Speaking' it was agreed to make the following amendment to minute 2409:- It having been resolved that all resolutions should be recorded so as to show the number voting for, against and abstentions. (2) To approve the remaining minutes as a correct record (Vote: Unanimous).

2429. To determine which items, if any of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded - None

2430. Chairman's Announcements

Planning Inspectorate Public Inquiry – Footpath No 38 – 8th September 2015

The inquiry lasted one day only. The landowner was not present and had no representation. Nine witnesses gave evidence. A decision will be made in due course, but hopefully before Christmas.

Cutting of cemetery hedge

The Chair explained that the Parish Council normally arrange for the cutting of the holly hedge in the cemetery at this time of year. The work is normally undertaken by Peter Robinson, a landscape contractor and he is willing to undertake the work this year for the same price as last (£220.00) following a tendering procedure. Peter has confirmed that he has the necessary public liability insurance and is equipped to carry out the work. The Chair asked for approval for this work to be undertaken.

RESOLVED: Clerk to place an order with Peter Robinson for the cutting of the holly hedge in the cemetery (Vote: Unanimous).

Parish Council Notice Board repair

The Chair informed the group that both he and the Clerk had noticed that one of the posts supporting the Parish Council notice board has some movement in it. He

explained that the Clerk had already alerted the memorial hall representatives to the problem so that they can warn hall users.

Councillor Aldred suggested that the notice board is hard to read due to its height and if it is being repaired this is an ideal time to consider modification.

At this time, a member of the public who was in attendance at the meeting offered to get a member of the Hall committee who usually deals with maintenance items to contact the clerk.

RESOLVED: Clerk to place an order with that person upon receipt of a quotation if it seemed appropriate to do so.

2431. To consider procedure put forward for Co-optee vacancies

RESOLVED: It was agreed that we should adopt the procedure put forward by the clerk and approved by the Monitoring Officer at Amber Valley Borough Council.

2432. To consider applicant Mr Steve Hannath for one of the Co-optee vacancies on the Council

Steve Hannath spoke in support of his application.

RESOLVED: To co-opt Steve Hannath to the Parish Council (Vote: Unanimous). Steve Hannath signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Clerk and was invited to participate in the remainder of the meeting.

2433. To note the installation of grit bin at the right hand side of the entrance to Lea Primary School – Noted

2434. To note that the new Parish Council landline number - 01629 706222 – Noted

2435. To consider whether to renew the licence for Scribe 2000 accounting package

The Clerk gave some background to this topic. He reported that the council's internal auditor had agreed that the financial management could be done through an Excel Spreadsheet that would be prepared by the clerk. It was agreed that no formal resolution was needed and everyone agreed that the Clerk should transfer the Parish Council accounts to an Excel Spreadsheet which would mean that the Scribe 2000 licence would not be renewed.

2436. Update on the final home of the old rocking horse –

Councillor Joan Ward informed the group that the old rocking horse had now been installed at Lea Gardens.

RESOLVED: Clerk to write letters of appreciation to Gordon Thorpe, Jonathan Maycock and Mr J Tye of Lea Gardens thanking them for their help with the project.

2437. Progress on clearing the Memorial Gardens

Councillor Joan Ward gave an update on the clearing of the Memorial Gardens. Following the appeal for volunteers, only one person had turned up which was disappointing. Despite this, progress has been made in the lower half but this is a huge site. The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) in Nottingham has been contacted and they have confirmed they would be interested in receiving a funding application for the

cost of tidying the site. The Clerk suggested that a funding application would be more credible if it was supported by a quotation.

RESOLVED: (1) To give Councillor Joan Ward approval to pursue the HLF funding application. (2) For a site meeting to take place on Saturday 10 October 2015 at 10am so that the extent of work required could be established. (3) Clerk to obtain a quotation from a landscape contractor for use with the funding application (Vote: Unanimous).

2438. Highway issues:

Vehicle parking on Church Street -

Councillor Joan Ward highlighted problems with vehicular access along Church Street, Holloway due to parking on both side of the road. This was a particular problem for buses and large vehicles. Parking issues on Nightingale Close were also raised and the question was asked whether changes could be made to the road / verge layout to provide increased parking capacity.

RESOLVED: Clerk to write to Derbyshire Council Highways highlighting the issues and to ask whether anything could be done to improve the situation.

Footway obstructions on Leashaw –

Councillor Helen Aldred described problems being encountered on Leashaw due to nettles and other vegetation growing over the footway. The condition of the footway was also raised. Councillor Aldred offered to provide photos to the Clerk to support correspondence with Derbyshire County Council.

RESOLVED: Clerk to write to Derbyshire Council Highways highlighting the issues and to ask for maintenance work to be carried out to deal with the problems.

2439. Update – Awards for all lottery funding for procurement of an IT solution

Councillor Bert Sheppard gave an update on the Awards for all lottery funding application. Wish Computers have provided information on Lenovo Tablets, mobile internet and cloud storage. The Clerk suggested that the Parish Council may have limited use for mobile internet and cloud storage, but tablets for Councillors was a good idea, although some consideration should be given to screen size as it may be beneficial to go for a large screen size such as 10” upwards to make the viewing of documents easier.

RESOLVED: To give Councillor Bert Sheppard approval to pursue Awards for all lottery funding application for nine tablets devices.

2440. To consider new Councillor / Clerk training requests and note bookings made

RESOLVED: To defer this item until the next meeting. In the meantime the Clerk was asked to contact DALC to find out which courses are free and which are chargeable.

2441. Review of Working Group memberships

RESOLVED: To defer this item until the next meeting.

2442. To consider whether to go ahead with the annual play area inspection offered by AVBC

RESOLVED: Clerk to ask Amber Valley Borough Council to undertake the annual play area inspection as per the quotation for £35.

2443. To consider grit bin condition report (September 2015) from Warden

RESOLVED: Clerk to contact Derbyshire County Council to inform them of the maintenance items that need attention.

2444. To consider the quotation for the repair of the Warden's strimmer

RESOLVED: To replace the strimmer as per the quotation received from Belmont's for £332.50 plus VAT (Vote: Unanimous).

2445. Suggestions for improved transparency on Parish website and FAQs

RESOLVED: (1) To defer this item to the next meeting. (2) To book a place on the Digital by default course on 25/11/15 if this is free.

2446. Due to the time a vote was taken to extend the meeting beyond 9pm

RESOLVED: To continue with meeting (Vote: Unanimous)

2447. Planning Matters – Planning applications for consideration

AVBC Ref	Address and Proposal
<u>AVA/2015/0832</u>	Lea Hurst, Leashaw, Holloway, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5AT Boundary Fence. Deadline extended to 9/10/15 Comment: Prefer dark green picket fence and screened with native hedging. Vote: Unanimous
AVA/2015/0859	Manor Farm, Dethick, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5GG Form new access. Comment: Concerned about damage to landscape that a full splay from the road would cause. Suggest keep gateway and sloping access. Limit access from north-east direction only. Vote: Unanimous
AVA/2015/0892	Land On East Side Of Leashaw Road, Holloway, Matlock Erection of Agricultural Building for Storage of Fodder and Bee Keeping Equipment Comment: Concerned that it is difficult to establish size of building from information provided. Also concerned about size of building.
<u>AVA/2015/0863</u> Decision made 24/9/15	The Farm Lea Main Road Lea Matlock Derbyshire DE4 5GR Prior Notification for steel framed agricultural building Agricultural Prior Notification, which is permitted development and no consultation is required to take place. Noted.

2448. Financial Matters - Noted

(a) Expenditure - Approve the following payments

Cheque	Payee & Details		Total
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100641	Thomas Greatorex & Sons - Interment	£500.00
100642	L Petts Stonemasons – Additional Inscription	£20.00

(c) **Bank reconciliation** – This cannot be provided at the present time due to a technical issue with Scribe 2000 financial software. – Noted.

2449. Derbyshire Association of Local Council's Circulars (previously circulated by E-mail) - Noted

DALC Ref	Details
21/2015	Annual General Meeting - Nominations for President and Vice Presidents 2015-2016 - Motion
22/2015	Allotments - Finance, Basics, Budgets & Precepts - Employment of the Clerk & Council Staff
23/2015	Employment update September 2015, Beware of Bogus Self-employment - Towards a Better Understanding of Planning Process Training - Transparency Fund - CiLCA 2015 Training - DALC direct banking detail

2450. Information Items/Correspondence (previously circulated by E-mail) - Noted

From	Details
Lea & Holloway Scout Group	Letter of thanks for £250 donation
AVBC	Amber Valley Borough Local Plan Part 1 The Core Strategy - Updated Sustainability Appraisal
AVBC	Committee Papers for Planning Board
DCC	Annual General Meeting of the Derwent Valley Line CRP
Rural Action Derbyshire	RURAL matters September 2015
AVBC	Committee Papers for Full Council
DCC	Grit Bins - Dethick, Lea and Holloway Parish
Derbyshire Records Office	First World War: Different Perspectives
DCC	New £13 million package of benefits for East Midlands Trains customer
AVBC	Belper & Duffield - 'Have Your Say' - 7 October 2015
AVBC	Whole Council Elections for AVBC – Further Representations Invited
AVBC	Funding/Grants Available
DCC	Best Station Awards for Derwent Valley Line
AVBC	Annual Civic Service - 1 November 2015
Parish Clerk	Disclosure of Interests and Councillor Obligations information
AVBC	Amended Plans - Reference: AVA/2015/0832
DALC	Error in date of training - Towards a Better Understanding of the Planning Process and the Role of Local Councils
AVBC	Committee Papers for Cabinet
AVBC	Committee Papers for Licensing Panel

2451. Agenda Items for the next meeting on Wednesday 4 November 2015 – 7.00pm
Remaining Council Vacancy
Amendment to Standing Orders regarding the recording of votes.

Meeting closed: 9:43pm.