

DAWLEY HAMLETS PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
held on Wednesday 21st April 2004 at Horsehay Village Hall at 7.48 p.m.
[Immediately following the Annual Parish Meeting]

PRESENT Cllr. A. Chetwood (Chairman)
Cllrs. G. Onions, D. Gibson, R. Haire, A. Hickie and Mrs. D. Wallis.
Mr M. Goldstraw (Clerk)

In attendance.

There were no members of the public present.

PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public were present.

POLICE SESSION

Apologies were received from WPC Nichols.

04/42 APOLOGIES

Apologies along with the reason for absence were received and accepted from Cllr. Mrs. L. Robinson, Cllr. R. Pritchard and Cllr. J. Lees.

04/43 Minutes of the previous meeting

The **Minutes of the meeting held on 24th March 2004** were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

04/44 Youth Shelter

The meeting heard that the footings had been laid for the shelter and completion was imminent. Members discussed the “official” opening of the youth shelter and were disappointed to learn that the Borough Youth Services Officers had informed Mr. Owen and the Clerk that they would be unable to assist in the opening.

Members also heard that the advice of the Borough concerning any imminent Press Release was that it should make no mention of any Councillors because of the holding of European Parliamentary Elections due in June. Although members could see no logic in the Chairman not being mentioned in the press release (it being made clear by all present that none had any intention of standing for election) it was agreed that the Clerk only should be mentioned in any press release.

04/45 NALC Conference

It was RESOLVED to authorise Cllr. Lees' attendance at the forthcoming NALC Conference and to pay the reasonable expenses of his attendance.

04/46 Parish Security and Safety/Policing

The Chairman brought to the attention of the meeting the fact that there had been no request in the year 2003/4 from the police for sponsorship of their police vehicle (from the £700 set aside in the budget 2003/4).

Members RESOLVED that in the absence of any request for sponsorship funding of a police vehicle the money budgeted for the year 2003/4 should be vired back into the general funds of Council.

The Chairman asked Members to give some thought to where the budget for the year 2004/5 now under the broader heading of Parish Security and Safety/Policing should be most effectively used.

04/47 Risk Assessment

The Chairman summarised the findings of the working group stating that areas where it was thought a Risk assessment would be necessary had been discussed and the Clerk had agreed to obtain the necessary guidance leaflets which had recently been made available from Council's insurers specifically for the purpose.

Members agreed that regular checks should take place and be recorded on the bus shelters and benches belonging to Council along with periodic checks of the war memorial/wild flower meadow and canal basin site. It was agreed that a formal schedule of inspections could be drawn up as soon as practicable after the Clerk had received the guidance notes from the insurers.

04/48 Community Project

The Chairman reminded the meeting that in the past it had proved to be impracticable to provide a "senior citizens Christmas Party" due to lack of response but it was felt by many that there should be discussion to attempt to find suitable community project or projects which would benefit the whole community and not just one section or age group. He asked members if they had any such projects in mind.

Members expressed a wish to be given time to consider and also to consult with the residents of the parish.

It was RESOLVED to take no action at the meeting and to defer the matter until the next meeting to allow Members to consider suitable projects and to consult with residents of the parish.

The Clerk agreed to keep the item on the agenda.

04/49 Aqueduct Primary School -Liaison with Members of the Junior Council

The Chairman informed the Meeting that there was nothing to report.

04/50 Planning & Environmental Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st March 2004 were received.

04/51 Countryside Officer's Report

Cllr. Hickie reported that the benches in Aqueduct had been scorched by vandals but that they were cleanable. Cllr. Hickie volunteered to sand down the scorch marks and was thanked by the meeting.

The Clerk confirmed that he had reported the concerns over the sand stone degeneration/removal at the Aqueduct to Cllr. Davis (Borough Ward Member) but had yet to receive a reply. Members expressed concern at the lack of action and asked the Clerk to continue to press Cllr. Davis for some action.

04/52 Accounts

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS - It was **RESOLVED** that these be approved and paid as tabled.

STATEMENT 144 was tabled along with the reconciliation's and was approved.

04/53 Correspondence

- a) Winross Hacker Young
- b) BT&W
- c) Secretary of State

Notice of Annual Audit (30th June)
Agenda meeting 28/4/04
Members noted that the decision to restrict payment of Members' Basic allowances to elected Members only was a deliberate policy decision. The situation will however, be reviewed later in the year. In the mean time, travel and subsistence can be paid to co-opted Members from December 2003 since the decision to restrict these payments to elected Members only was an administrative error.

- d) SALC
- e) Transport Committee
- f) BT&W

Parish Pump
Have your say meeting 21/4/04
Invitation to Mayors Charity Ball

- g) Home Office
- h) BT&W
- i) SALC

Leaflet – prevention of illegal working.
Summer Play Scheme Training.
Council and Clerks Training. The Clerk informed the meeting that he would be attending and would be part funded by Wrockwardine Parish Council. It was resolved that DHPC would pay half of the training fees incurred by the Clerk (£20). No Members expressed a wish to attend.

04/54 Any Other Items of Information

The Chairman asked Cllr. Hickie to look at the new road at Horsehay Flats servicing Lightmoor and Johnstones Pipes as it had been reported that there was no provision for pedestrians to cross it safely. Cllr. Hickie agreed to take a look and report back to the next meeting.

Members discussed the provision of public transport from the new Lightmoor Estate. The Clerk reminded the meeting that one of the partners involved in the construction of the estate (Bournville) had promised Council that there would be subsidised public transport right from day one.

04/55 Date of next meeting Wednesday 26th May 2004 at Horsehay Village Hall at 7. 15 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.17 p.m.

Signed.....
Chairman

Date.....