

DAWLEY HAMLETS PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
held on Wednesday 22nd November 2006 at Horsehay Village Hall at 7.15 p.m.

PRESENT Cllr. A. Chetwood (Chairman)
Cllrs. L. Carpenter, R. Haire, G. King and B. Walker.
Mr M. Goldstraw (Clerk)

Also present:
PC Claire Walker-Shale and CSO Sarah Robinson
Cllr. T. Dixon (Borough Councillor)
Mr. John Gregory (Officer - Borough of Telford & Wrekin)

PUBLIC SESSION

There were no members of the public present.

The Chairman informed the meeting that there was a meeting of Youth Project workers from the Borough with local young people taking place, simultaneously, in the next room. Members heard that the discussion was to find a suggestions for a new site for the recently removed youth shelter; it was proposed that when the youth meeting concludes, they would make representation to the Parish Council at a convenient point in the meeting.

POLICE SESSION

PC Walker-Shale spoke of her dismay that due to antisocial behaviour, caused by youths from outside the area, the youth shelter had had to be removed.

Crime figures which showed a pleasing downward trend were presented to the meeting.

The meeting discussed general antisocial behaviour and it became apparent that since the advent of the youth shelter the residents of Spring Village had in fact been experiencing antisocial behaviour prior to the arrival of the shelter but had not reported one incident to the police. Members agreed that had they been aware of such antisocial behaviour in the area (there being no details of it known at the time of the consultation between Borough Officers and the Police) the site decided upon by the Borough Officers would perhaps not have been considered to be as ideal as thought.

PC Walker-Shale stressed that it was essential that all incidents of crime and antisocial behaviour are reported to the police so that patterns of behaviour can be recorded and, where necessary, acted upon.

Members discussed the problems of illegal alcohol sales to underage drinkers.

Cllr. Dixon stated that he had been present when the original youth presentation requesting a shelter was made and he had been very impressed by the young people concerned; he stated that there was a duty to protect the local youth from those who

come from elsewhere and behave in such a way.

7.31 pm Cllr. Hope (Borough Councillor) joined the meeting.

06/66 APOLOGIES

Apologies along with the reason for absence were received and accepted from Cllr. Mrs Chetwood, Cllr. Gibson and Cllr. Onions.

06/67 Minutes of the previous meeting

The **Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th October 2006** were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

06/68 Youth Initiatives

a) Community Safety - John Gregory (Antisocial Behaviour Coordinator)

The chairman introduced Mr. Gregory who gave a report on trends in antisocial behaviour and ways in which the Borough in partnership with other agencies were tackling it. He spoke of environmental crime such as fly tipping, litter, abandoned vehicles and dog fouling. Members were urged to get in touch with Environmental Services who were empowered through legislation to deal with offenders.

The meeting was appraised of diversionary and intervention tactics for youth crime and enforcement tools such as acceptable behaviour contracts for young people and their parents.

Mr. Gregory outlined the RESPECT action plan and members heard that many concerns were not just police issues but could be tackled by multi agencies. He addressed the new powers which were devolving to local councils.

Members discussed the youth shelter. Concern was once more raised that residents of Spring Village were aware of problems prior to the installation but had failed to report it. Mr. Gregory reinforced the message that all incidents should be reported.

8.02 pm after leaving leaflets and promotional material, Mr. Gregory was thanked and left the meeting.

b) Youth Shelter Horsehay (Spring Village)

Borough Youth Officers and a number of young people joined the meeting. It was conveyed to Council that the youth of the area were “gutted” that the shelter had been removed but, to their credit, they had taken a positive view and had chosen to cooperate fully in the re-siting of the facility.

Members were reminded by the Borough Officers of the research process which had led to the selection of the site and it was again noted that there was no indication that the area was already suffering from antisocial behaviour.

The Chairman apologised to the young people present for the fact that, with the best of intentions, the siting of the shelter had not worked. He stated that he

would make every effort to find an alternative location.

Following discussion it was agreed that Council was pleased that the local youth had decided to accept the knock back and move on in a positive way and that they had agreed to continue to work with the youth workers to find an alternative location. It was agreed that the Parish Council would do all it could to support the search for an alternative location and a promise was made that if there was a viable site it would be found as soon as possible and every effort would be made to do so.

Cllr. Haire asked the Borough to ensure that when an alternative site is located everyone in the vicinity be consulted.

Cllr. Dixon stated that he (and Cllr. Mrs Hope) would volunteer to undertake a door to door consultation of those residents nearest to any proposed site. The meeting thanked Cllrs. Dixon and Hope.

8.16 p.m. having been thanked by the meeting the youth workers, young people and the police officers left the meeting.

06/69 Senior Citizens Christmas Meal

Members finalised the arrangements for the Christmas Meal.

06/70 Precept 2007/8

It was RESOLVED to set a NIL precept. The warrant for a NIL Precept was signed by the Chairman and two Councillors and countersigned by the Clerk.

06/71 Local Development Plan - Minerals Consultation

The meeting asked Cllr. Haire to study the report and comment. The Clerk agreed to hand the whole report to Cllr. Haire at the next Planning & Environmental Committee meeting.

06/72 Local Government White Paper (Strong & Prosperous Communities)

Council noted the paper and further noted that there was to be appropriate training in the new year by SALC it was agreed to take no action at present.

06/73 Planning & Environmental Committee

a) The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd October 2006 were received.

b) Telephone Masts

The Clerk reported that there had been no further replies to the letter written to all parish councils in the Borough.

It was RESOLVED that Council should now write to the Borough pointing out that this council and others (to be named) call upon them to hold a meeting with such councils as Milton Keynes and Wolverhampton to ascertain why those councils felt able to adopt a policy which the BT&W stated was not possible to adopt.

06/74 Accounts

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

STATEMENT 176 was tabled along with the reconciliation and was approved.

Audit

The Clerk informed the meeting that no comment had been received from the external auditors.

06/75 Correspondence

Holy Trinity Church Request for Grant application form - Clerk to send a grant application form.

BT&W Telephone number changes - noted.

Salop Pension Fund Updates - noted.

BT&W Scrutiny Review - Street Lighting - No action.

BT&W Capital Works - Resolved to request that for safety reasons the Borough consider making Lightmoor Road a 30 mph restricted road.

06/76 Newsletter

The Clerk informed the meeting that he was still awaiting content for the December Newsletter and could not produce it without such input. Cllr. Bev. Walker asked if more prominence could be given to the fact that Council awards grants to local organisations. Cllr. Dixon was asked to provide details of his Council Surgeries. The Chairman agreed to forward his contribution.

06/77 Date of next meeting Wednesday 20th December 2006 at Horsehay Village Hall at 7. 15 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.07 p.m.

**Signed.....
Chairman**

Date.....