

DAWLEY HAMLETS PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
held on Wednesday 18th October 2006 at Horsehay Village Hall at 7.15 p.m.

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

Also present:

Approximately twenty members of the public.

Mr. Michael Barker (Officer - Borough of Telford & Wrekin)

PUBLIC SESSION

The Chairman welcomed the members of the public in attendance and stated that the public session was available to them to make representations to Council or to provide any information which they felt might assist Council.

The meeting heard representation from those present in regard to the recent installation of a youth shelter at the Spring Village playground. There was a general call for the removal of the facility and those members of the public who spoke presented a view of general dissatisfaction over the perceived rise in antisocial behaviour attributable to the recent siting of the youth shelter. A number of those present stated that the disruption caused by the youths who use the facility late at night was unacceptable; some of those present stated that they had reported various incidents to the police but felt that they had received little satisfaction. One member of the public stated that the root cause of all these problems was the playground itself and many expressed concerns that there had been no consultation.

7.18 pm Cllr. Hickie joined the meeting.

The Chairman outlined the process which the Parish Council had instigated stating that in the first instance Council had been made aware that the young people of Horsehay felt ostracised and had practically no youth provisions available. Borough Youth Services had been commissioned by the parish to investigate methods of improving youth provision in the parish and had consulted widely with the youth of the area. The result of the consultation was impressive; the officers and local young people had produced a documentary style presentation on DVD, the nub of which was to request a Youth Shelter. The Parish Council took the advice of the Borough Officers and, provided a suitable place could be found, agreed to fund the provision of such a shelter.

Council was asked why no consultation had taken place and why the public had seen no planning or conservation area consent sought. The Chairman explained that once the funding of the shelter had been agreed, the parish council left the logistics of the provision entirely to the Borough Officers. The final siting of the facility was not

within the remit of the Parish Council as it owns no land within the Horsehay area but the playground was in fact owned by the Borough and they were free to place the shelter of their own land if they wished. The Parish Council could not say why there had been no consultation with the public but the parish council believed that youth shelters most likely fell within what was “permitted development” and therefore required no planning or conservation consents.

Cllr. Walker advised those present how to contact their Borough Councillors.

Cllr. Hickie agreed that such concerns should be taken to the Borough Council.

Members of the public expressed further concerns over the behaviour of youths in the general area of Spring Village and the Green.

The Chairman stated that he regretted that there was no police or Borough representation present at the meeting - this was most unusual as to date there had been regular attendance at meetings by the police (or CSO representation) and Cllrs. Dixon and Hope.

The Chairman assured all present that the matter would be debated when Council was in session and those who wished to be informed of any resolution could contact the Clerk.

7.50 pm all but one of the public (Mr. Barker) left the meeting.

POLICE SESSION

There were no police officers present.

06/55 APOLOGIES

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

The Meeting asked the Clerk to send their best wishes to Cllr. Onions who had recently undergone surgery.

06/56 Minutes of the previous meeting

Members noted that Cllr. Miss King had been incorrectly recorded as Mrs. King. Cllr. Haire reminded the meeting that it was he, and not Cllr. Hickie, who had reported the incidents of antisocial behaviour in Aqueduct, Cllr. Hickie confirmed that such incidents were taking place. The Clerk was asked by the meeting to alter the minutes to reflect the two amendments.

Subject to the amendments:

The **Minutes of the Meeting held on 27th September 2006** were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

06/57 Senior Citizens Christmas Meal

Members discussed the arrangements for the Christmas Meal. It was confirmed that the catering arrangements were in place. Members agreed that there should be a sub-committee meeting called to allow the volunteers to discuss the arrangements - it was agreed that a Monday evening 7.00pm in the Britannia Inn Aqueduct could be arranged with a provisional date being 13th November.

06/58 Budget 2007/8

It was RESOLVED to set the budget for the forthcoming year as the same for the present year.

06/59 Local Development Plan

The meeting received the Borough Local Development Plan. Cllr. Chetwood agreed to study the plan and bring to the attention of council any matters where it was felt there should be a concern or comment.

06/60 Youth Initiatives

Members discussed the representations made by the public earlier in the evening.

Following discussion it was RESOLVED that DHPC should support in principle the views of the public as represented at the meeting and that Council should seek further guidance from Officers of the Borough Council and the Police before asking for removal of the Youth Shelter.

Cllr. Hickie requested that a bench at Aqueduct be moved to a more appropriate position to alleviate the concerns of residents over the behaviour of young people. The Clerk was asked to liaise with Cllr. Hickie to facilitate the re-siting of the bench.

06/61 Planning & Environmental Committee

a) The minutes of the meeting held on 4th September 2006 were received.

b) Telephone Masts

The Clerk reported that having written to all parish councils in the Borough as instructed by the Planning & Environmental Committee asking for support to request that the Borough 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, he had received to date seven replies:

Newport Town Council	Supported the request.
Wrockwardine Parish Council	Supported the request.
Great Dawley Parish Council	Supported the request.
St. George's & Priorslee PC	Supported the request.
Oakengates Town Council	Supported the request.

Lilleshall & Donnington PC Requested that the minutes of the meeting at which the resolution was made be forwarded for their perusal - the Clerk confirmed that he had complied with the request.

Hadley & Leegomery PC Declined to support the request.

The Clerk informed the meeting that a number of Parishes had yet to meet. Members felt that the results were positive; it was **RESOLVED** to hold over any decision until the remaining parishes had had time to comment.

8.21 pm Mr Barker (public) left the meeting.

06/62 Accounts

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

STATEMENT 175 was tabled along with the reconciliation and was approved.

Audit

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

06/63 Correspondence

BT&W	Scrutiny of the Strategic Service Plan for Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin - noted.
Central Networks	Notice of available grants for Christmas Lighting - Resolved to take no action.
Salop CC	Local Gvt Pension Scheme - Flexible retirement rule change - noted.
BT&W	Bus User Group - next meeting 15 th November.
BT&W	John Gregory Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator confirmation that he would attend next meeting of Council 22 nd November 06.
Salop Scout Council	Thanks for Grant.
Resident of Sceptre Close	Request for a bus shelter. The Clerk was asked to investigate the possibility and viability of providing a shelter near to Sceptre Close.

06/64 Newsletter

Cllr. Hickie asked why the Newsletter was not delivered to the Aqueduct area. The Clerk stated that the Newsletter was delivered via the Telford Journal by post code area and that there were two areas of the parish which did not receive newsletters; the first was Gravel Leasowes which had no Journal deliveries and the second was Aqueduct Village and this was because the vast majority of houses within the relevant post code area were outside the parish boundary and the only way in would be possible to ensure that the 300 or so houses within the parish received a newsletter would be to print an extra 2000 copies - most of which would be delivered to houses which had nothing to do with the Parish Council. The Clerk asked members to suggest an alternative.

The Chairman asked if it could be ascertained if the landlord of the Britannia Inn would be willing to hold sufficient copies of the Newsletter so that they could be collected by residents from his premises. Cllr. Haire agreed to ask the landlord.

Cllr. Carpenter stated that if this was not a viable alternative then he would volunteer to deliver the newsletters to the houses concerned. The meeting thanked Cllr. Carpenter for his offer - it was agreed that the landlord should be approached as a first resort.

Cllr. Haire reported that he and the Britannia Historical Society had been pleased to assist with the provision of information to Crawford Davies, co-ordinator for the South Telford Heritage Trail. Members discussed the Society's production of a leaflet for the Parish Council and were content that there was a sufficient overlap of projects not to cause any conflict for Cllr. Haire in his assisting the Heritage Trail. Cllr. Haire was thanked for his support of the project and asked to convey Council's thanks to the Historical Society for their assistance also.

06/65 Date of next meeting Wednesday 22nd November 2006 at Horsehay Village Hall at 7. 15 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.42 p.m.

**Signed.....
Chairman**

Date.....