

DAWLEY HAMLETS PARISH COUNCIL  
PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE  
Minutes of a meeting of the above committee held on Monday 4th June 2001  
at Aqueduct Community Centre at 7.45 p.m.

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PRESENT Cllr. A.M. Jeffs Chairman  
A. Chetwood, D. Gibson, G. Onions,  
R. Pritchard, T. Swain, and S. Woodvine.  
Mr M. Goldstraw (Clerk)

In attendance: No members of the public.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

There were no members of the public present.

**01/43 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman called for nominations. Cllr. Onions proposed Cllr. Jeffs, seconded by Cllr. Gibson. There being no other nominations, it was resolved that Cllr. Jeffs be the Committee Chairman for the coming year.

**01/44 APOLOGIES**

No apologies were received.

**01/45 STROWP**

There were no STROWP officers present.

01/46 Minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2001 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**01/47 Items Pending**

a) Pelican Crossing Castlefields Road

The meeting was informed that the work was had commenced but was not yet completed. Members agreed that the Council Chairman should present the cheque to T&WC as a publicity opportunity.

b) Memorial to the late Cllr. Morton

Cllr. Chetwood informed the meeting that he had spoken with the minister who had apologised for not replying to the council's offer. Cllr. Chetwood gave details of the chapel's attempts to obtain quotes for work and expected costs. Following discussion, Members agreed to leave the matter in abeyance for now but bring the matter to the attention of full council.

c) Lightmoor development

The Chairman reported that the services for the Johnstons Pipes development were being put into place.

#### 01/48 Aqueduct Community Centre

The Chairman invited Cllr. Chetwood to give an outline of the recent Working Group Meeting:

Cllr. Chetwood gave an outline of the centre's income and expenditure and the current position with T&WC who, he explained, wished to divest themselves of the centre. Cllr. Chetwood explained that the main income at present was from the Educational Support Unit which could be shortly relocating leaving a shortfall of £5k. The group had discussed the possibility of employing the services of a community development officer to promote the use of the centre. Details were given of other parish councils who had taken on centres along with some of the terms they negotiated. Cllr. Chetwood stated that it was hoped that the matter could be properly debated at this meeting and that the Planning and Environmental Committee then make a recommendation to put before the main council.

Members discussed the various leasing possibilities. Cllr. Jeffs advocated a 99 year lease with a 3 year get out clause on the basis that grants would be more favourably considered, and any expenditure on the centre could be spread over a greater number of years without fear of having to hand back the centre. To all intents and purposes, it would be almost the same as free hold.

Cllr. Woodvine cautioned that a get out clause would be of paramount importance. Some of the possible shortcomings were highlighted to members.

Members discussed all aspects relating to the responsibilities which would occur, including income and expenditure, regulations, usage and community development, with Cllr. Woodvine expressing concerns over the centres apparent lack of use. Cllr. Jeffs compared the centre with the provision of a post box, stating that the council had a duty to ensure that it continued as a community facility not just for those who regularly use it, but also for those who may wish to do so. It was the duty of the council to encourage and promote community facilities, not to abandon them.

Cllr. Pritchard suggested that the council could not really refuse to take on the centre with a 3 year get out clause, without being seen to have abandoned the centre.

Cllr. Jeffs reminded members that any money spent on improvements/development would be the peoples money and as such it would not be wasted even if the centre was to be handed back, since it would still be owned by the people. This facility, he stated, was provided for the people.

Cllr. Gibson outlined the present policy imposed by government on T&WC to dispose of services etc. and asked members to consider the acquisition in light of money set aside for offices in the past.

Cllr. Pritchard stated that if the council did not proceed with this, members would live to regret it. Cllr. Gibson impressed on members that if the centre was adopted, the council must get a development officer to promote its use.

Following further detailed discussion, it was proposed by Cllr. Jeffs and seconded by Cllr. Pritchard that this committee recommend to the council that approval be given to negotiate a 99 year lease of the Aqueduct Community Centre which would include a 3 year get out clause. This was resolved unanimously.

The Clerk was asked to arrange another meeting with T&WC to discuss some of the issues raised, in order that members be better informed by the next meeting of the full council.

#### 01/49 Correspondence

- a) T&WC Best Value Performance Plan - noted
- b) T&WC Foot & Mouth Update - noted
- c) Greenwood Trust Product catalogue - noted.
- d) CPRE - Planning Update - Cllr. Jeffs

#### 01/50 Planning Applications

The following applications were received:

W01/0414 Erection of detached dwelling with garage, Land adjacent Stanwell, Farm Lane, Horsehay.

W01/0407 Proposed loft conversion, 12 Foresters Close, Horsehay.

W01/0388 Demolition of carport and erection of tandem garage with w.c. to side of property, 29 Gittens Drive, Aqueduct.

No objections were raised.

The following permissions were received:

W2000/0692 Proposed ext to rear and internal alterations to dwelling 13 Pool View, Horsehay.

#### 01/51 Countryside Officers Report

Cllr. Jeffs commented on the problems currently being encountered by a resident who lives near to the pool. Members discussed policing.

#### 01/52 Other Items of Information

Cllr Chetwood raised concerns by residents that the grass at the church yard at Doseley had not been cut. The Clerk confirmed that he too had received complaints.

Members were informed that the church had never taken up the offer by the council to contribute to the cost of cutting. Following discussion, it was

resolved that the Clerk should instruct the council handyman to cut the grass on behalf of the community.

Cllr. Swain raised the matter of the stone crusher at Little Wenlock and asked the Clerk to complain to T&WC Planning Dept that the applicant had not placed the planning notice in an accessible position.

Cllr. Swain reported that number 4 New Row had created a quasi garden (which was an eyesore) on the pool green. the Clerk was asked to report the matter to T&WC as this was a conservation area and the land did not belong to 4 New Row.

Members reported that a contractor (named) had caused damage to the newly grassed areas by parking heavy vehicles on the verges.

01/53 Date of next meeting 2nd July 2001 at Aqueduct Community Centre  
7.45 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

Signed..... Date.....  
Chairman