

DAWLEY HAMLETS PARISH COUNCIL

PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the above committee held on Monday 1st March 2004 at
Horsehay Village Hall at 7.15 p.m..

PRESENT Cllr. R. Haire (Chairman)

Cllrs. A. Chetwood, D. Gibson, A. Hickie, J. Lees,

R. Pritchard and Mrs. D. Wallis.

Mr M. Goldstraw (Clerk)

Also in attendance: Mr. A. Shrimpton (Bournville Trust)

Mr. D. Everington (Bournville Trust)

Two members of the public

PUBLIC SESSION

The Chairman asked those present if they had any matters they wished to raise. There were no matters to raise so Council moved on to the main agenda.

04/27 APOLOGIES

Apologies along with the reason for absence were received and accepted from Cllr. Onions.

04/28 Lightmoor Development

Mr. Shrimpton, aided by Mr. Everington, gave a detailed presentation on the development to date and the proposed schedule of works. Members heard that the development (which is in partnership with English Partnerships) is to be 800 houses of mixed tenure, 200 will be of rented accommodation and the remaining 600 owner occupied. There are plans for a school/community centre and the last part of the development is scheduled for completion around October 2011.

Talks are about to take place with the Borough Council about the School/Community centre and it was hoped to include a multi faith centre.

Mr. Shrimpton answered the questions of Members and it was learned that there would be provision for “lifetime homes” and that 2% of the properties would be of “wheel chair” standard. No one bed roomed properties would be built, the school would cater for the educational needs of up to 210 pupils of primary school age and there would be an encouragement of safe routes to school and transport provision for secondary school children. Industry and commerce would be encouraged to the extent of “living/working” units within the development and there would be a subsidised bus service from day one of the occupation of the village.

Cllr. Chetwood asked about the level of liaison with interested parties (i.e. The Parish Council and local groups) BVT and EP intended to participate in and received assurance from Mr. Shrimpton that there would be a committee involving all parties during the development of the site and afterwards to deal with any problems as they arise. Cllr. Gibson requested that disabled groups/advisors be involved from day one and received the assurance of Mr. Shrimpton that this would be so.

Finally, Mr. Shrimpton assured the Council that Bournville has long term stewardship of the village and intended to manage the development firmly but fairly as was their proven record. Mr. Shrimpton agreed that the request by The Gorge Parish Council to the Boundary Commission to have the whole of the village within the boundary of one Parish Council, namely Dawley Hamlets Parish Council, was wholly sensible and would receive the support of The Bournville Trust.

8.15 p.m. The Chairman, on behalf of all present, thanked Mr. Shrimpton and Mr. Everington for their informative update and they left the meeting.

04/29 STROWP

The meeting discussed the concerns that the way STROWP had recently chosen to use its resources was not in accord with the wishes of DHPC. Members agreed that they had been more than content with phase one, which had been successful in lawfully defining the rights of way within member parishes (and to a certain extent continues). Further, they had been most pleased when STROWP had moved on to phase two which revolved around the employment of a dedicated officer whose brief was to find sources of voluntary labour and additional funding to ensure that the rights of way were properly and adequately maintained. This phase had been successful and had also included a certain limited amount of publicity including leaflets and guided walks.

Members acknowledged that due to clashes between the STROWP meetings and those of the Parish Council no Member of DHPC had been present when the decision to move to a new third phase was decided upon following the resignation of the officer responsible for implementation of phase two.

Members had been made aware that STROWP had decided that the third phase was to be the employment of an officer whose main responsibility was to promote the usage of the rights of way. It was no longer to be the brief of this officer to find voluntary labour/funding to ensure that the footpaths remained usable and it was this fact which was the main concern of Council. Since the adoption of the third phase, DHPC had received many copies of communications to the Borough from the new officer simply informing of problems on the network. Members agreed that whereas in the recent past, the previous officer would have taken action to remedy the problems it was no longer the brief of the new officer to do so.

The meeting felt that the consequences of this new brief would be that owing to limited Borough funding, the required action would simply not be attended to, leaving the Parish Council having to either accept a gradual fall of the rights of way into a state of disrepair or having to finance any maintenance works through the parish precept.

It was the view of the meeting that there seemed little point paying a fee to simply publicise the existence of the footpaths and yet allow them to fall gradually back into a state of disrepair when in the recent past the fees paid had both ensured their maintenance and given a small amount of publicity. Members expressed reluctance to pay a STROWP fee and in addition further burden the council tax payer with maintenance costs.

Cllr. Hickie proposed that Council did not renew its membership of STROWP and that better use be made of the existing membership of the Ramblers Association.

Cllr. Pritchard proposed that the proposition put by Cllr. Hickie be amended to be: That Council does not renew its membership of STROWP, that better use be made of the existing membership of the Ramblers Association and that any

funds which would have been used for STROWP be redirected to fund any essential rights of way maintenance agreed to be necessary either in addition to or instead of the statutory duty of the Borough to maintain said rights of way.

The amendment was seconded by Cllr. Chetwood. It was RESOLVED: That Council does not renew its membership of STROWP, that better use be made of the existing membership of the Ramblers Association and that any funds which would have been used for STROWP be redirected to fund any essential rights of way maintenance agreed to be necessary either in addition to or instead of the statutory duty of the Borough to maintain said rights of way.

Members acknowledged that the decision of Council had nothing to do with the effectiveness of otherwise of the work of the present STROWP officer who was merely carrying out the brief he had been given by his employers.

04/30 Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd February 2004

The **Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd February 2004** were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Cllr. Chetwood moved that owing to the time taken up by the presentation from Mr. Shrimpton the meeting delays business relating to items 5, 6, 7 and 9 on the agenda to the next meeting. This was agreed by all and the Chairman moved the business to item 10. Planning applications.

04/31 Planning Applications

The following applications were received:

- W04/0138 Erection of a detached single dwelling and creation of new vehicular/pedestrian access Land adjacent The Firs St. Lukes Road Doseley. RESOLVED to object to this proposal due to concerns for safety at the access points to the site.

- W04/0126 Erection of two storey side extension 105 Majestic Way Aqueduct. There were no objections.

- W04/0172 Erection of two storey side extension 11 Fieldfare Way Aqueduct. There were no objections.
- W04/1439 Display of advertising boards Jiggers Roundabout. There were no objections.
- W04/0077 Erection of first floor side extension 3 Broadstone Mews Aqueduct. There were no objections.

The following permissions were received:

- W03/1253 Extension to Coots Building to enclose an existing production line Johnston Pipes Ltd. Doseley.
- W03/1503 Erection of conservatory and single storey extension 23 Malvern Crescent Little Dawley.
- W03/1129 Erection of two storey side extension 27 Gittens Drive Aqueduct.

The following refusal was noted:

- W03/1417 Change of use of informal open space to private garden land (retrospective) 2 Jarman Drive Horsehay.

04/32 Bus shelters

The Clerk informed the meeting that the time Council had allowed for public consultation over the proposed provision of a bus shelter at a site on Holly Road had expired and one letter of objection had been received. Members discussed the proposal and it was noted that although only one letter had been received, it did contain a number of other signatures in opposition.

Members discussed the perceived problems and objections outlined in the letter and weighed it against the known difficulties the elderly were experiencing during inclement weather whilst waiting for their bus.

Following discussion Cllr. Lees proposed that the project be allowed to come to fruition. Seconded by Cllr. Gibson. It was **RESOLVED** that Council proceed with the project and provide a bus shelter on the agreed site at Holly Road. [Three votes in favour, three against and one abstention – the Chairman used his casting vote in favour of the proposition]

04/33 Countryside Officers Report

There was no report.

04/34 Other Items of Information

Cllr. Lees asked that the provision of disabled parking spaces be raised with the Trustees of the Village Hall. Members agreed.

04/35 Date of next meeting Monday 5th April 2004 at Horsehay Village Hall at 7.15 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman