

MINUTES OF THE DENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10 JANUARY 2012 IN THE VILLAGE HALL MEETING ROOM

Councillor J Richardson was in the chair. Councillors present: J Bednall(part), E Edmonds, B Hinton, J Payne, S Ratcliffe, T Swinson, C Vernon and R Wright. Apologies: None. Six members of the public were present.

1. **MINUTES:** of the meeting held on 6 December were approved and signed.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Vernon – item 5b(family)
3. **MATTERS ARISING/CLERK'S REPORT:**
 - a. Training for new cllr. Ongoing.
 - b. Teen Play Area securing of train. **AGREED Not to secure train.** Seat to be done by the spring.
 - c. All Saints Church Christmas Tree festival 10/11 December. Successful. Thanks given too Cllrs Payne & Vernon for decorating.
 - d. SCC – 2012 Volunteer Staffordshire Award. Nomination made.
 - e. Tree overhanging St Chad's Close to College Road footpath. Clerk to pursue.
 - f. Npower electricity tariff increases and change to E.ON. First bills from E.ON received.
 - g. Free trees. Ongoing.
4. **ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** *A summary of the items raised is shown at the end of the minutes.*
5. **PLANNING:** [Permitted & Refused are decisions by ESBC]
 - a. P/2011/01198/EW. Erection of a single storey rear and single storey side extension, Broadview, Alton Road. **Permitted**
 - b. P/2011/01490/JI. Erection of a single storey rear extension with study above balcony, Fairfields, College Road. **No objections to be raised**
 - c. P/2011/01043/JI. Erection of a detached dwelling and formation of a new vehicular access, Land adjacent to 16 Marlpit Lane. **Permitted**
 - d. Any applications received since publication of the agenda. None.
6. **WEBSITE:** Alton Towers has agreed to £25 payment. Statistics of site 'hits' now available.
7. **FOOTPATH FROM MARLPIT LANE TO THE WEAVERS:** One quote received. **Clerk to seek alternative quote and then progress with lower quote.**
8. **ISSUES RAISED FOR DISCUSSION WITH CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES:**
 - a. Car park outside church room. Letter from PCC circulated. **Noted.**
 - b. Church Room. December PCC meeting had determined to sell. **Parish Council to seek joint meeting with Youth Fund and PCC to see if it was still possible to put the building to Community use.**
9. **DENSTONE SHOW 2012:** Properly constituted committee to be set up with cllr members (initially Cllrs Hinton, Payne, Richardson and Vernon). Initial meeting 17 January. Show to be held on 8 September.

10. **WAR MEMORIAL MAINTENANCE:** Photographic record of memorial and plaque to be made. After enquiring with other Councils it was **AGREED that the risk of significant damage to the memorial was minimal and therefore the insured value should not be increased.**
11. **REPLACEMENT HAWTHORN TREES COLLEGE ROAD:** Awaiting collection and planting.
12. **STUBWOOD BUS SHELTER:** Cllr Edmunds to carry out roof repairs in the spring.
13. **FUTURE OF THE POST OFFICE:** Mrs Crompton and Ratcliffe provided information for this item. Major changes to post offices are proposed but how this will affect Denstone not yet known. Post Office Local not a practical option. To seek ways to increase revenue – continued as item 23d.
14. **CYCLE PATH TO RYECROFT SCHOOL:** Cllr Ratcliffe to speak to JCB about possible routes in the factory area.
15. **OPENING OF VILLAGE HALL TOILET ON SUNDAYS:** **AGREED To be opened on Sundays and payment to be increased to £1.50 per day.** *Cllr Bednall left the meeting*
16. **SPCA EAST STAFFS AREA COMMITTEE – MEETING 12 JANUARY:** Clerk to attend.
17. **CHRISTMAS TREE:** Tree by Village Hall blew over early December. **AGREED To plant new tree.**
18. **HIGHWAY ISSUES:**
- a. Traffic problems College Road/Marlpit Lane/Narrow Lane. Parking on The Westlands side not thought to be a problem. 26 January meeting to be deferred until February as traffic survey required.
 - b. Stubwood speed limits. Nothing to report.
 - c. Access gate to Old railway Line. Nothing to report.
 - d. Community Ice Busters. Awaiting information from Cllr Bednall.
 - e. Lane between B5032 & 5030 at top of Quixhill. Bollards one end but still rubbish. **SCC Highways to be contacted.**
 - f. Parking College Road near shop. Police advise use of cones. **AGREED To purchase 6/10 cones.**
19. **NEIGHBOURHOOD WORKING:**
- a. Neighbourhood Forum. Nothing to report.
20. **CORRESPONDENCE:** All items circulated with agenda.
- a. SMDC Local Development Framework – Publication of Revised Submission Core Strategy. No change on Alton Towers relief road – representation will be carried forward.
 - b. SCC – Proposed changes to our Post 16 home to school and college transport policy. **Noted**
 - c. ESCVS - Outreach service Uttoxeter Fridays. **Noted**
 - d. CPRE - Planning explained. **To be circulated around Planning Committee.**
 - e. ESBC Exemplar Property. **Noted**
 - f. Staffordshire Community Works. **Noted**

21. CORRESPONDENCE ON THE TABLE TO NOTE: All noted.

- a. CPRE – Fieldwork Winter 2011
- b. VAST Annual conference 24 January/Action December 2011
- c. DCLG – Council Tax referendums
- d. SCC – Extended consultation deadline NHS/Social Care arrangements
- e. SCC – Briefing November 2011 (circulated via email)
- f. Celebrate Midlands Rural Housing week 12-18 March

22. FINANCE/PAYMENTS:

- a. Precept 2012-3. Deferred to item 23c below.

To approve the following payments:

- b. Street lighting (November) = £6.88 + 0.34VAT = **£7.22** [Parish Councils Act 1957 s3]
 - c. Street lighting (December) = £7.64 + 0.38VAT = **£8.02** [Parish Councils Act 1957 s3]
 - d. Gardener's pay (6mths) = **£280.00** [Open Spaces Act 1906 s10]
 - e. Lengthsman (non SCC work) = £240.50(OLR 62, Teen Play 20) = **£240.50** [Open Spaces Act 1906 s10, Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953 s4]
 - f. Village Hall donation = £10(2nd half 2011 heating & lighting outstanding amount) = **£10.00** [LGA 1972 s133]
 - g. Webmaster December = **£25.00** [LGA 1972 s142 & 144]
- Total = **£570.74**. All payments proposed Cllr Ratcliffe seconded Cllr Edmunds.

23. STANDING ORDER 1c: That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

- a. Arrangements for appointing new clerk including remuneration. To be advertised Parish Magazine, Notice Boards, SPCA and local paper. **Chairman & clerk to prepare advert.** To allow for remuneration in budget determination – see c. below.
- b. Review of gardener's remuneration. **AGREED No change.**
- c. Precept. **AGREED To be set at £11,900.**
- d. Future of the Post Office. Financial detail discussed. **Chairman to produce publicity to encourage use.**

24. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA:

- a. Dates of meeting for May – December 2012. **AGREED June meeting 29 May.**
- b. Best Kept Village 2012

25. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS: 7 February & 6 March 2012

The meeting closed at 21.57.

ITEMS RAISED DURING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD

Future of post office – see 14.