

Dedham Parish Council
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Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the Parish Council on Monday 3rd August 2020 at 7.00pm

Attendance: Cllr Kevin Taylor (chair), Cllr Nicola Baker (vice-chair), Cllr Christine Frost, Cllr Sheila Beeton, Cllr Ann Follows, Cllr Jeffrey Herbert, Cllr Jane Meakin, Cllr Jonathan Smith

20.069. Apologies for absence

Cllr Brown- County Councillor

Cllr Chapman- Borough Councillor

20.070. Declaration of Interest. Councillors to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests, other pecuniary interests, and non-pecuniary interests not already declared.

Cllr Beeton declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 20.076, due to the proximity of the playing field to her property.
Cllr Herbert declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 20.082 as a Long Rd resident and a pecuniary interest in item 20.075-planning application.

Cllr Follows declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 20.082 as a Long Rd resident.

Cllr Frost declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 20.076, due to the proximity of the playing field to her property.

20.071. Minutes

The minutes of the Zoom meeting dated 06.07.2020 were accepted as a correct record.

20.072. Have Your Say.

Report from Cllr Nigel Chapman. Ward Councillor.

Report from Cllr Anne Brown. Essex County Councillor.

A resident reported that there were teenagers in the children play area this afternoon, around 2.30. They appear to have climbed over the fence, as the gate is chained.

20.073. Update on items from last meeting, not reported separately and other updates and reports.

- **The Drift Improvement Project-** Cllr Smith reported on the completion of the topographical survey and the arboricultural survey. He has met with the landscape architect and discussed what the brief might be. DPC now need to establish exactly what the brief is for him (this relates to The Drift, not the lighting)
- **B1029 and river issues-** Cllr Taylor once again reported on the poor behaviours on the river. DPC continue to work with the other authorities- but this is still proving difficult as it is happening on private property. Boats and other craft (inflatables) do need licences. The Environment Agency have been out and spoken to people, but have not confirmed whether they are issuing fines.
Partnership meeting has been set up with representatives from DPC, Stratford St Mary PC, Babergh DC, Colchester BC, Essex CC and Suffolk CC. This will cover the highway issues, including the chewing up of the verge and irresponsible parking.
Ipswich parking will be visiting Dedham and Stratford St Mary. The ice cream van has been ticketed, but refuses to move on. There is nothing they can do other than ticket.

REPORT ISSUES TO RELEVANT BODIES ON ESSEX AND SUFFOLK SIDE.

It was noted by councillors that it might be worth contacting the other emergency services EC/KT to action.

20.074. Accounts.

To receive accounts and agree payments **

Proposed: Cllr Herbert

Seconded: Cllr Meakin

Agreed by all

20.075. Planning Advisory Group. Cllr Jonathan Smith.

a) To receive and agree recommendations on the following planning applications:

201518 Bay Trees, Long Road West, Dedham Colchester CO7 6EL

Change of use of strip of land to be used as domestic garden.

Recommendation: No objection in principle, unless objection from neighbours come forward. This will be confirmed closer to the consultation deadline.

The comments for the glamping pods in Coggeshall Road was submitted prior to the meeting to meeting the deadline. See website for full report.

201455 West End Garage, High Street, Dedham Colchester CO7 6HL

Application to discharge conditions 3, 5 and 25 of planning permission 171172 - External materials, Archaeological monitoring report and piling works risk assessment.

Recommendation: As this is discharge of conditions DPC have no further comment.

Tendring's Planning Application 20/00594/FUL

Land adjoining Ipswich Road and Wick Lane Ardleigh Essex CO7 7QL

Proposed hybrid application: Full planning for food storage and distribution facility and associated parking, logistics yard and offices. Outline planning to comprise further B8 distribution warehouses and offices.

This application comes under Tendring District Council but It may have an affect on Dedham because of its size and implications on local roads and services .

There has been a considerable number of objections in excess of 100 from local residents and businesses already on the Tendring Planning portal and Dedham residents are encouraged to report their support or objection on the Tendring planning website in the normal.

This application has also been referenced by Colchester BC planning under ref:201573 with responses [due by 18/08/20](#).

20.076. Playing field issues

To receive a request from a resident to remove the junior goals from the playing field, to deter anti-social behaviour. To consider the request and agree any actions.

Cllr Baker read the complainants letter, detailing the anti-social issues he faces as a resident who's property borders the playing field. The complainant acknowledged that the issue is not caused by the football club and appears to be from older youths/ young adults coming in from outside of the village.

Cllr Frost is concerned regarding the level of noise. There have a number of instances where there were around 30 youths at time, playing very loud music, and not adhering to social distancing. They appear to gather to play football and generally leave their litter.

Cllr Beeton supported Cllr Frost's comments, adding that this disruptive behaviour is often going on late into the evenings.

Tennis club and football club do not support removing them, do not want to prevent the young getting out.

Covid has resulted in 'letting off steam' in all manners.

Andy Bell (Dedham Old Boys Football Club) confirmed they do not use that pitch. As the club and an individual, he felt it would be a real shame if the junior posts were removed, depriving young children of what they were designed for. He did suggest use of the pitch could be formalised with a 7 a side competition?

Neil Weston- (Dedham Cricket Club president, plus plays at the tennis club) sympathises with residents, but also feels it would be a shame to deprive the younger children.

Other key points raised included the difficulty with dealing with these behaviours, and residents and visitors right to use the space as a community and sporting area.

Cllr Frost proposed a trial, removing the posts for a month, and reviewing whether their removal effectively reduces the antisocial behaviours.

Proposed: Cllr Frost

Seconded: Cllr Follows

7 in favour

1 against

Carried

Action: Clerk to arrange removal

20.077. Play Area opening.

To review the play area closure, and resolve to open the play area.

Following a discussion, it was resolved to carry out a risk assessment (Clerk- having attended the EALC webinar on safe re-opening of play areas, hosted by an H&S expert/trainer), produce appropriate 'permanent' signage, and carry out a one-off clean of the equipment. Once this is complete, the play area can re-open.

Proposed: Cllr Baker

Seconded: Cllr Follows

Agreed by all

20.078. CO-OP parking issues.

To note receipt of a request from Dedham Co-op, for three parking permits to allow them to park in the High Street. To discuss the request and its implications and to agree a response.

The key point raised by councillors was that DPC intention has always been to keep the High Street parking available for residents to use the facilities.

Following a discussion, it was agreed to keep the High Street open for residents, and could not approve additional high street permits.

Proposed: Cllr Taylor

Agreed by all

20.079. Request for a trading space on Royal Square from 'The Cheese and Pie Man'

DPC have received a request to allow a 20ft mobile catering unit, with its own generator to park on Royal Square (DPC owned gravel area) on Fridays 9-2.

To consider the request and agree a response.

Following a discussion, it was agreed not to allow this or any (catering or otherwise) traders on the gravel area of Royal Square*, as this must be kept available for residents to park and make use of the High Street facilities.

(*one off events such as the Christmas market excluded)

Anyone wishing to park on the highway to trade should contact the appropriate team at Colchester Borough Council.

Proposed: Cllr Taylor

Agreed by all

20.080. Funding request for football pitch restoration.

DPC have received a request from the football club, to fund the football pitch restoration (vertidrain, rolling etc).

Following a discussion, it was resolved to seek grant funding through Section 106, Leisure, Sport/Recreation Services contributions, or if ineligible for S106 to fund through DPC funds.

Cllr Baker commented that the Football Club have secured funding through Football Foundation, but require the remaining £1000.

Proposed: Cllr Baker

Agreed by all

20.081. Sports Pavilion kitchen refurbishments

a) To agree to request £7000 be added to the Section 106 Community Facilities audit should any future funding contributions arise

Proposed: Cllr Baker

Agreed by all

- b) To allocate £3000 from DPC funds to contribute to the Sports Pavilion kitchen refurbishment. The kitchen refurbishment is required so as to broaden the appeal to prospective hirers, and increase the income stream to the Sports Club in order to maintain financial viability.

Cllr Baker gave a report on the funding situation of the Sports Club, and the need to increase income through lettings.

Andy Bell (Dedham Old Boys Football Club) stated that they want to improve the facilities so that further income can be generated. This forms part of their 5-year plan, which includes a rent increase for the individual clubs, and increasing the letting of the building.

Some councillors suggested the Sports Club should try and raise the funds themselves first, including through the sale of assets, and other fund raising ventures.

Andy confirmed that that is part of it (sale of tractor/ride on mower), but they would like to start that work now while the building is closed.

Other councillors agreed that the Sports Club needs the PC's support.

Following a discussion, it was resolved to allocate £3000 from DPC funds to contribute to the Sports Pavilion kitchen refurbishment

Proposed: Cllr Baker

5 in favour, 3 against

Carried

20.082. Long Road West/East traffic issues.

To receive a status report on the ongoing problems in this area, and to appoint a councillor to take the lead on it.

The LHP applications are in place for the speed and volume traffic count.

Speed Watch are currently awaiting the go ahead to continue; however, the Police have been out more.

Following a discussion regarding who was best placed to lead on this project, it was agreed not appointed a councillor at this stage.

20.067. Correspondence. Clerk

- To note that a complaint about the barista van has been received and investigated in line with DPC's complaints policy.
- A Chip van has sought permission to park in a prominent place within the village. It was agreed to issue the same response as the Cheese and Pie Man application (item 20.079) Any similar requests will be dealt with in the same way.

20.068 Matters of continuing reference

Lime tree- awaiting CBC tree officer

Date and Time of the next meeting. Monday 7th September 7pm

Forthcoming events

N/A

Meeting closed 20.57

** reports available on the website or from the clerk