

The Parish Council of Dickens Heath

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday June 18th 2013 at 7.30pm in the Parish Rooms, Waterside

Present:

Dickens Heath Parish Councillors; Philip Brandum, Alyson Glenn, Richard Holt (Chairman), Josh O'Nyons.

7 members of the public

Clerk: Ms Helen Marczak

Minute 21 (2013/14) Apologies for Absence

Apologies were accepted from Councillor Cudmore. Councillor Glenn was welcomed back after her long spell of illness. Borough Councillor Brown also sent her apologies.

Minute 22 (2013/14) Public Participation

The right turn out of Birchy Leasowes Lane, towards Tidbury Green, is blind because the foliage is so overgrown. Councillor Brandum agreed to go and have a look.

The problem of the kerb when turning left out of Birchy Close was raised again. SMBC keep repairing the dropped kerb when damaged because cars drive over it. Why not move it further back? It was agreed that an appeal should be made against the previous decision not to act.

The issue of Garden Squares was raised again. It was agreed that Mike Swallow at SMBC should be asked what progress is being made, and what steps SMBC are taking.

Minute 23 (2013/14) Dickens Heath Football Club – Application for a Grant

Mike McCarthy gave a summary – the club has been set up, they have players & several are Dickens Heath residents, but they need to find £2,000 before they kick a ball. Funds have been raised from player contributions, they have a shirt sponsor plus some support from village businesses. They hope to be self funding once the club is up and running, but there are a lot of up front costs. Player subs and fund raising will be on-going. They have applied for a grant of £750 for the cost of the pitch. They will be playing at Brick Kiln Lane because this was the closest pitch they could get for the coming season, and will move to a closer pitch when one is available. Residents feel that such a club would be good for the village. There followed some discussion about a site that may be suitable for a football pitch and youth facility - the possibility of leasing this land to be followed up.

Later in the meeting, the Parish Council discussed making a grant. It was agreed that this football team would raise the profile and promote the name of the village, however the Parish Council need to know that their grant will be going to a sustainable team. It was therefore agreed that a grant of £375 would be made for 2013/14 and then a further grant of £375 for the 2014/15 season.

Minute 24 (2013/14) Gardening Club

Planter at back of Parish Rooms

SMBC have suggested an alternative site for this – but this is not acceptable because it is under trees and too shady.

Hanging Baskets

The hanging baskets have been put up, but there are a few obvious gaps. The Clerk to contact SMBC and Plantscape about adding a few more.

Minute 25 (2013/14) Declarations of Interest/Written Requests for Dispensations

None.

Minute 26 (2013/14) Minutes of previous meeting held on May 21st 2013

It was proposed by Councillor O'Nyons and seconded by Councillor Brandum, **Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday May 21st 2013 be approved as a true and accurate record.

Minute 27 (2013/14) Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on May 21st 2013

It was proposed by Councillor O'Nyons and seconded by Councillor Brandum, **Resolved** that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday May 21st 2013 be approved in principle as a true and accurate record.

Minute 28 (2013/14) Actions from the Minutes of the previous meetingUnadopted Islands

Redrow have strimmed these and will press for them to be adopted.

Memorial

A memorial for the village was discussed. It was agreed that the estimate from Davis Memorials was acceptable, and that a free standing memorial between the trees opposite both the library and Tesco would be suitable. The Clerk to contact Davis Memorials about meeting with the Parish Council, and SMBC for advice regarding planning permission.

Noise outside the Chalice

Noise from people chatting outside very late is an issue on occasions, usually Friday and Saturday nights. It was agreed that a Parish Councillor would drop in to see the licensee.

Portable PA system

Two options were considered. It was agreed that in the region of £250 should be spent on the higher specification model.

Minute 29 (2013/14) Planning Applications

No comments.

Minute 30 (2013/14) Financial Matters

Proposed by Councillor Glenn, seconded by Councillor Brandum, **Resolved** that the payments in Appendix I of the June 18th 2013 agenda be approved.

There has been notification that a £9,346 VAT reclaim will soon be received.

Minute 31 (2013/14) Review of the Annual Parish Meeting 2013

This was a success with a reasonable number of residents in attendance - the speaker and food were both very good.

Minute 32 (2013/14) Proposed Further Development

A public exhibition has been held regarding the Braggs Farm Lane site. A public exhibition is expected towards the end of July regarding the development of the Cleobury Lane site. There is a lot of proposed development, but Dickens Heath lacks infrastructure and youth facilities. It was agreed that the other Blythe Parish Councils should be approached with a view to meeting up and working together in response to the many proposals for further development. It was agreed that Dave Simpson of SMBC Planning should also be invited.

Minute 33 (2013/14) Youth Facility/Club

Some proposals are being put together, details are not yet available.

Minute 34 (2013/14) Internal Auditor's Report

This has been read and approved. It was agreed that a number of recommendations should be addressed.

Minute 35 (2013/14) Parish Rooms

Proposed Bookings

It was agreed that Anja, who runs the choir, could use the Parish Rooms on the afternoon of Saturday July 27th.

A proposal for children's language lessons in the Parish Rooms was discussed. Since the proposal appears to be purely educational, it was agreed that the proposal should be turned down. This has been the policy in the case of previous educational proposals.

Minute 36 (2013/14) Correspondence

Fundraising Appeal from Fastaid

Fastaid provided First Aid cover at the Remembrance Day Service, at no charge. It was agreed that a donation of £75 should be made.

Minute 37 (2013/14) Items for Next Agenda

None.

Meeting ended 9.20 pm

Next Meeting : Tuesday July 16th 2013: 7.30pm