

# The Parish Council of Dickens Heath

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday October 15<sup>th</sup> 2013 at 7.30pm in the Parish Rooms, Waterside

### **Present:**

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

Reverend Julie Humphries; St Patrick's Church

Dean Taylor; Youth worker

Philip Webb; Tanworth & Camp Hill Cricket Club

23 members of the public

Clerk: Ms Helen Marczak

---

### **Minute 73 (2013/14) Apologies for Absence**

None.

### **Minute 74 (2013/14) Public Participation**

#### Cleobury Lane Planning Application

A resident raised concerns about this planning application, that the consultation was held in the school holidays, and there was not enough direct communication with residents. The Parish Council has already objected to the planning application, and the response will be made available on the parish council website.

### **Minute 75 (2013/14) Proposed Youth Club**

Dean Taylor is a youth worker who works in various schools and at St Mary's church in Wythall. Their proposal is to run a youth club for years 7 to 9 (ages 11 to 14) on Wednesday evenings between 6.30 and 8.30pm. Flyers will be delivered to all households. Dean will oversee the club for 3 years, with the long term aim being to get the young people to form a youth council and run the club themselves. The plan is for the upstairs area to be an internet/xbox/PS3 area with table tennis and pool downstairs. Additional activities will also be organised – eg. screen printing. In the summer, outdoor activities would be arranged. Philip Webb offered the coaching services of the Cricket Club, plus the use of the clubhouse, as an additional activity – this was welcomed. It is proposed that the youth club will open on January 8<sup>th</sup> 2014. The Parish Council thanked Dean and Rev Julie Humphries for all their hard work in getting the youth club up and running.

### **Minute 76 (2013/14) Tanworth & Camp Hill Cricket Club**

Philip Webb spoke about Tanworth & Camp Hill Cricket Club - it has 2 local grounds at Rumbush Lane and Tanworth Lane, and many teams playing. The club arranges coaching at many schools, including Dickens Heath, and is planning to refurbish its club houses. They aim to increase the numbers of people playing cricket and football at their grounds by 35/40%. Not many Dickens Heath residents play at the club, but they would like to get village residents involved. They are applying for an Inspired grant in order to improve their facilities. They have support from CSW Sports and Solihull MBC and would like a letter of support from the Parish Council also - all agreed this.

**Minute 77 (2013/14) Gardening Club**

Litter Pick and Bulb Planting

Borough Councillor Linda Brown organised a litter pick and bulb planting on October 5<sup>th</sup> 2013. This was very successful with 18 people attending.

Overgrown Land

By Belushi's, in front of the apartments, the small piece of overgrown land has been tidied up.

**Minute 78 (2013/14) Declarations of Interest/Written Requests for Dispensations**

Councillor Richard Holt – being a resident of Brockhurst Lane.

**Minute 79 (2013/14) Minutes of previous meeting held on September 17<sup>th</sup> 2013**

It was proposed by Councillor Cudmore and seconded by Councillor Glenn, **Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday September 17<sup>th</sup> 2013 be approved as a true and accurate record.

**Minute 80 (2013/14) Actions from the Minutes of the previous meeting**

Bend at Copperfields on Rumbush Lane

This is in the SMBC 2013/14 programme to be reinstated as a T junction following several accidents.

Memorial Garden on the Village Green

Dickens Heath Management Co. have no objections to this proposal. The Parish Council to look at possible locations.

Whitlocks End Train Station – Pedestrian Crossing

The delay is with SMBC. The Parish Council agreed to write expressing disappointment at the delay, and to reinforce concern at the safety risk to pedestrians as the evenings get darker.

**Minute 81 (2013/14) Planning Applications**

2013/1626 - 145 Rumbush Lane - Fell 1 no. oak tree - Councillor Cudmore to have a look at the location.

No comments on the other planning applications.

The Mount Dairy Farm, Cheswick Green, planning application is expected imminently. It was agreed to submit an objection to this based on the cumulative affect on the area.

**Minute 82 (2013/14) Financial Matters**

Proposed by Councillor Cudmore, seconded by Councillor O'Nyons, **Resolved** that the payments in Appendix I of the October 15<sup>th</sup> 2013 agenda be approved.

**Minute 83 (2013/14) Proposals for Further Development – Joint Approach**

It was agreed that the costs of the document being prepared by Stansgate Planning would be shared by Dickens Heath and Cheswick Green Parish Councils – with the cost split according to the respective council tax base rates.

**Minute 84 (2013/14) Brockhurst Lane Footpath Alterations**

11 residents of Brockhurst Lane were present to discuss the changes which Solihull MBC are to make to the footpath to improve safety – it currently encourages people to cross the road at a blind spot. Most of those present believe that there is not a problem with the footpath – there has never been an incident, but some think there is a safety risk for young children. Residents claim that 74% of households in Brockhurst Lane are not in favour, and they have signatures to prove this. This is in contrast to the results of the SMBC consultation which found a majority of respondents in favour. They feel that adding some railings – to prevent children running into the road – would suffice. There is a potential problem with the new proposal, in that an oak tree is in the line of vision, and residents don't want to lose another oak. Another option would be to remove the pathway completely and block it with planting – so that residents would seek an alternative and safer crossing point.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would ask SMBC to reopen the consultation, due to the strength of feeling among residents, and to suggest that the footpath is removed completely. This will alter people's behaviour so that they cross at a safer point. Residents present would be happy with this solution.

**Minute 85 (2013/2014) Remembrance Sunday**

Fastaid will be attending to provide first aid cover. It was agreed that a donation again be made.

Dickens Heath Village Church to provide some volunteers to man the road closure barriers.

**Minute 86 (2013/14) Parish Rooms**

The Parish Rooms doors hold open automatically and then close automatically. They can be set to hold open permanently, but the automatic open/shut option cannot be turned off without getting an engineer to disable this. There has been a complaint from 'Wiggle Waggle' that a small child has been hit by the closing door. It was agreed that the doors of public buildings do cause complaints, and that you can't please everyone. So all agreed that the doors should remain as they are, with a warning notice, and that the users of the Parish Rooms have to be responsible for ensuring that the doors are used safely.

**Minute 87 (2013/14) Correspondence**Village Defibrillator

In many villages, there are yellow metal boxes with key codes – which contain a defibrillator. They cost around £900 and are very simple to use. A resident has asked whether Dickens Heath should have one. It was agreed that this should be looked into further.

**Minute 88 (2013/14) Items for Next Agenda**

None.

**Private Section**

**Minute 89 (2013/14) Youth Facility**

This was discussed.

**Meeting ended 9.25 pm**

**Next Meeting : Tuesday November 19<sup>th</sup> 2013: 7.30pm**