

Minutes of a Finance and Panning meeting of Debenham Parish Council held on Monday May 10th 2010 at Dove Cottage.

Present: Cllr L Cockerton (Chair), Cllr F Winrow-Giffin (Vice-Chair), Cllr R Blackwell, Cllr K Voller, Cllr I Baldwin, Cllr J Parnell, Cllr L Stock, (arrived at 7:40pm), Mrs. D Bedwell (Clerk) and two members of the public.

- 1. Apologies for absence-**Cllr G Baxter, who tended his resignation, Cllr T Payne.
Absent: Cllr J Farthing
- 2. Declarations of interest with regard to items on the agenda and additions to register:-**Cllr Blackwell declared an interest in item 5, Cllr Stock in item 8.2
- 3. Minutes of meeting held April 10th 2010-**This set of minutes was deemed to be an accurate record of the meeting held. This was proposed by Cllr Blackwell, seconded by Cllr Winrow-Giffin and agreed by all.
- 4. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Lynden Jackson, representative of The Debenham Project, had attended the meeting in order to further inform the Council about this project, following a previous request by the Clerk.

The Project was set up about a year ago and cares for those suffering from Dementia and their carers. In Debenham, within a four mile radius, there are 100 affected people. Dementia is a progressive illness for which there is no cure. The sufferer will eventually lose their faculties and need twenty four hour care. Family carers are at the frontline of what becomes a traumatic and difficult experience. The project was launched in October of last year and aims to offer a range of services to support carers and those cared for, such as a confidential telephone support line, activities in social sections of the community with professional outreach workers that allow carers and cared for to spend quality time together, simple and straightforward access to information via the website. It also concentrates on improving the process that inevitably sufferers will have to go through and improving their quality of life.

So far, the initiative has received excellent support from external bodies, such as the NHS, MSDC, certain charities, and there is the possibility that it could become a model that may be rolled out to other communities. There are awareness campaigns being conducted in order to get in touch with carers in the catchment area and there will also be a meeting at the end of the year to look at what the project is trying to promote long term.

The Council inquired whether the project relied totally on funding and Mr Jackson stated that the core funding is provided by Mid Suffolk Local Strategic Partnership.

The Council thanked Mr. Lyndon for such a detailed report.

Mr Timothy Clements of Raewald Way voiced his concerns regarding the difficult access, during the recent extreme weather conditions, via the footpaths at the Meadows including Raewald Way. Suffolk County Council did not grit the road, and he believed there was a need for a grit bin to be placed on the green. He had held consultations with all the residents of Raewald Way and, apart from one resident, all others agreed that a green grit bin should be placed in Raewald Way. Mr. Clements also presented the Council with an extensive report

and survey on this matter. The Council thanked Mr. Clements for the information provided and advised him that the matter would be further discussed at the next Parish meeting.

5. **Report on meeting between Debenham Parish Council and DVH&PFT, in order to further discuss applications for funding**-Update-This matter was deferred as the meeting had not yet taken place. Clerk to request a copy of the year end accounts as they had been signed off.
6. **Pest control**-update-The Clerk had produced a draft and this had been e-mailed to all Councillors. In addition to the draft, it was suggested that the Recreation Ground needs to have a temporary physical barrier in place, probably orange tape. Pest control should always be carried out at the times when there is likely to be less pedestrians. If members of the public can be seen in the immediate vicinity, pest control must stop. All animal remains must be removed and disposed of. Clerk asked to amend and re-circulate prior to the next meeting.
7. **Village of the Year Competition**-update-Clr Voller had completed the necessary forms and they were ready for submission. The Council thanked Clr Voller for all his hard work on this matter.
8. **Planning**
 1. To consider applications for recommendation to MSDC :
0104/10 68 High Street, two storey rear extension-This application was supported by the Council, proposed by Clr Winrow-Giffin, seconded by Clr Blackwell and agreed by all.
 2. 0360/10 – Land to rear of 2 Great Back Lane – erection of 1 ½ storey detached dwelling-
The Clerk reported to the Council on the recent failed attempts to contact the Planning Officer at Mid Suffolk, who unfortunately was on sick leave due. In order to put forward a recommendation it was agreed further information was required on the following issues:
Twenty five consultation letters had been sent to neighbouring properties and the Council would like to request a summary of responses received from those households.
Further details of the proposed cedar screening as this appeared to be overbearing and encroaching on the highway. The Council would also like to know what comments had been made by officers dealing with Flood Plain and Conservation issues, as well as the Environment Agency.
Had the drainage for the public WC's been identified in the drawings, and if so, was access to the drainage available.
The plot next to the WC's was not an official car park but a piece of waste land that was being used for car parking purposes. Had the necessary procedures been followed in order for vehicular access to be granted? On the same issue, would the new vehicular access represent any danger to children going to and coming from school.
The plans showed a corridor/alleyway between the WC's and the new build. The Council was concerned that this may become a hidden spot that may be used by youths in the future.
More detailed information on the height of the new build compared to the existing stable block –current measurements were unclear

The Council also wished to add that it was appalled by the fact that requested information was not forthcoming.

3. Approvals/refusals received from MSDC:

0459/10 70 Gracechurch Street- Planning permission granted-This development was considered to have no significant detrimental impacts on the character and appearance of the existing dwelling, neighbour amenity or biodiversity issues. This proposal was considered to be in accordance with policies of the extant development plan and Planning Policy Guidance, namely GP1, H16, H18 and PPS1.

0499/10 Windy Ridge, Little London Hill-Planning permission granted- The existing dwelling was set within a substantial plot. There were no immediate neighbours and the proposal is acceptable in terms of the impact upon the dwelling, and the character and appearance of the area. This proposal was acceptable an in accordance with national and local Planning Policies, namely EE ENV7, GP1, H18 and PPS1.

0547/10 erection of single storey rear extension at 24 Aspoll Road-Planning permission granted.

0474/10 erection of 2 storey side extension at 15 Sackville Street-Planning permission granted.

9. Finance

1. RFO report-report presented to the Council.(Copy attached to minutes)
2. Bank mandate and request to increase number of authorised signatories-update- The clerk had still not received the necessary forms in order to change the bank mandate and would be chasing the matter.
3. New laptop and RBS accounting package-update- Cllr Baldwin had very kindly volunteered to order the new laptop and transfer all necessary files. The Clerk had booked the initial session with the company supplying the RBS Accountancy package for May 25th. The entire process would take up to two months as the year end accounts would need to be approved by the auditors before the initial figures could be input into the new system.
4. Any other finance business-No other finance business to report.

10. SK8499 –update-no news to report.

11. Website-to adopt Editor Terms and Conditions- A copy of the document had been circulated to all members. This was proposed by Cllr Blackwell, seconded by Cllr Voller and agreed by all. Copy to be sent to Mr. Barry Woods, for signature and return to the Council.

12. Chair's urgent business: any items not listed on this agenda but of such urgency as to merit, in the Chair's opinion, immediate action. There were concerns regarding the old Garage in Low Road. The Clerk was asked to write to the planning department requesting an update as to what would be happening.

The Council had also received complaints regarding the unkempt state of the Cherry Tree PH and the fact that it was not an attractive site to those coming into the village. The building was listed and would fall into disrepair if something was not done soon. The Clerk was asked to contact The Punch Tavern in order to find out what the future plans are.

It was also reported that there was a loose slab at the steps leading to the Henniker Road town houses. The Clerk was asked to report this to County Highways/Mid Suffolk as a matter of urgency.

13. Meeting open to the Public-No public present.

14. Any other business: information exchange/agenda requests only:

It was reported that conditions had been imposed on the Skatepark Project by the DLC that would probably not make it viable for the young users, a high rental and that all under 16 year olds would need to be accompanied were the two main concerns. Item to be discussed at the next meeting.

Other matters suggested for discussion at the next meeting were: The use of the Village Green, Lower Gardeners Road fence, the need for play equipment for youngsters, Saturday Surgeries and grit bins.

15. Date of next meeting: May 17th Ordinary and Employment

16. Temporary exclusion of press and public: That pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission at meetings) Act 1960 the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

17. SK8499: update-No news to report

With no further matters to be transacted, the meeting ended at 10:15pm.