

LITTLE DUNMOW PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LITTLE DUNMOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2008 AT 7.15 PM AT THE BRITISH LEGION HALL, FELSTED.

Present: Cllrs: Bennett, D Crome, Y Crome, Davies, Dodkins,
Favell, Robertson, Shepherd, Thomas & Westbrook.
In the Chair: Cllr D Crome
Clerk: Angela Balcombe.
Also present: Approximately 50 members of the public, Sgt. Gilchrist,
PC Saunders, County Cllr Walsh and District Cllr
Bellingham-Smith.

08/04. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Cllr Davies apologised for having to leave the meeting early. No other apologies were received.

08/05. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

The minutes of 11 August 2008 were approved as a correct record of events.

Proposed: Cllr Dodkins. Seconded: Cllr Shepherd. All agreed.

08/06. PROGRESS CHECK.

A brief update on actions from the last meeting.

Temporary sports pitch – a complaint regarding the distance of the pitch from the nearest house has been sent to the District Council.

08/07. CASUAL VACANCIES.

One of the two candidates has withdrawn his application, therefore one vacancy remains on the Council which must be filled as soon as is practicable.

Mr Denis Westbrook introduced himself to the Council and gave a brief outline of why he wished to be nominated as a parish councillor.

Cllr Thomas proposed that Mr Westbrook be co-opted to the Council, seconded by Cllr Bennett. This was unanimously agreed.

Cllr Westbrook signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Parish Councillor to Little Dunmow Parish Council and was welcomed to the Council.

08/08. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

To receive any 'personal' or 'personal and prejudicial' interests relating to items on the agenda. Cllrs D & Y Crome and Cllr Shepherd declared a personal interest in item 08/11, as they live in the road where the parking restrictions are proposed.

08/09. PUBLIC FORUM.

The majority of residents were present to voice their opinions on the proposed temporary experimental parking restrictions at Oakwood Park. The Chairman explained the background to the proposals which

originated from the intention to run a bus route through the estate as a result of the S.106 planning agreement. Residents present were against the bus route going through the estate.

It was agreed that a survey should be carried out and statistics on usage be obtained. Depending on the results of the survey, a letter asking for rescission of the S.106 agreement could be sent to Uttlesford District Council.

- It was suggested that the community facilities should be in place before any decision was taken on the bus service and proposed parking restrictions.
- Concern raised over the safety of children if buses do come through the estate.

Cllr Walsh agreed to take back comments from this evenings meeting to officers and members at Essex County Council, he also agreed to ask for a survey to be done regarding the bus route.

Other matters raised:

- Parking restrictions outside the school.
- Play area management – the Clerk will contact Uttlesford and ask for maintenance work to be done, removal of old signage, and new signage re opening times to be installed.

Cllr Davies gave her apologies and left the meeting.

08/10. REPORTS.

Police / PCSO Report. PC Saunders and Sgt. Gilchrist introduced themselves and gave a brief report of the numbers of crimes reported in the area.

District / County Councillors Reports. Written reports were received from District Cllr Bellingham-Smith and County Cllr Walsh.

08/11. PARKING RESTRICTIONS – OAKWOOD PARK.

A decision will not be made regarding the proposed temporary experimental parking restrictions until Essex County Council has fully consulted with residents and the Parish Council.

Unanimously agreed that the Parish Council will put their decision on hold until full consultation has been carried out by ECC with all residents and the Parish Council.

It was suggested that a working party could be formed to carry out site meetings and gain information prior to decisions being made by the full council – next agenda.

08/12. YOUTH SHELTER.

To agree the best way forward regarding the future of the youth shelter, considering that it is currently in a temporary position until the playing fields are ready.

The youth shelter and surrounding area is regularly cleaned up by parish councillors.

Cllr Dodkins proposed that no more money is spent on the shelter whilst in its current position and that it should not be moved until the new site is ready. Seconded: Cllr Westbrook. 5 in favour, 3 against, 2 abstentions. Resolved.

08/13. OUTREACH PROGRAMME.

To receive an update on the Outreach Programme.

Cllr Shepherd reported that due to lack of numbers, the Outreach Programme has now finished and the Youth Bus no longer visits Oakwood Park as the few children that were attending were not engaging with the youth workers.

08/14. GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT.

To review the number of cuts needed this season.

Ten cuts have already been done but more will be needed before the end of the season. It was agreed to allow four extra cuts.

Proposed: Cllr Dodkins. Seconded: Cllr Thomas. All agreed.

08/15. PLANNING.

Application No: UTT/1290/08/FUL. Retrospective application for erection of conservatory.

Location: 37 Ranulf Road, Little Dunmow. No objections.

Application No: UTT/1347/08/FUL. Loft conversion with dormers front and rear.

Location: 19 Baynard Avenue, Little Dunmow. No objections.

Application No: UTT/1384/08/FUL. Single storey rear orangery.

Location: 9 Perry Road, Little Dunmow. No objections.

Application No: UTT/1318/08/FUL. Demolition of lean-to, erection of side extension.

Location: Bouchiers, Station Road, Little Dunmow. No objections.

Cllr Westbrook to be added to the list of Planning Representatives.

08/16. FINANCE.

Accounts paid and cheques signed:

100384 £342.88 A Balcombe (Salary £316.92, Office Expenses £22.92, Postage £3.04)

100385 £550.00 M J Canning (Youth Shelter)

100386 £43.12 A & J Lighting Solutions (Maintenance)

D/D £63.50 E-on (Street lighting – August)

08/17. EALC TRAINING COURSES.

- Budget & Precept, 30 September, Cost: £32
- Law & Procedures, 16 October, Cost: £52
- Roles & Responsibilities, 21 October, Cost 32

08/18. NEWSLETTER

Cllr Shepherd to co-ordinate the next newsletter. Deadline for copy – mid-November to be ready for delivery in December.

08/19. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE.

EALC – AGM (6.15pm), preceded by Making the Links partnership event (3pm), 24 September at Coggeshall Village Hall.

UDC – National Flood Forum Presentation, 1 October, Cost: £50

ECC – West Essex Area Forum, 11 September at 10am.

NHS – comments regarding the application for preliminary consent for inclusion in the west Essex pharmaceutical list.

Residents e-mails/telephone calls – mainly regarding the proposed parking restrictions at Oakwood Park.

08/20. INFORMATION EXCHANGE / NEXT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY.

- Old A120 – speed restrictions / traffic calming – next agenda.
- Parking on the grass verges remains a problem.
- Precept – preliminary discussion next agenda.
- Footpath & Bridleway near the A120 needs clearing of weeds.
- Drains on Oakwood Park need clearing.
- Recreation Ground car park needs spraying for weeds, prices to be obtained for the next meeting.
- Community Hall and Village Centre – next agenda.

08/21. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting will be held on the 13 October 2008 at the British Legion Hall, Felsted at 7.15 pm.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.35 PM.

SIGNED (CHAIRMAN): D Crome **DATE:** 13 October 2008