

# **LITTLE DUNMOW PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LITTLE DUNMOW PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON MONDAY 14 MARCH 2011 AT 7.15 PM AT THE RECREATION GROUND  
MEETING ROOM, BROOK STREET, LITTLE DUNMOW

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*Present:* Cllrs: Atherton, Brown, Davies, Dodkins, Johnston, Pratt & Thomas.  
*In the Chair:* Cllr Thomas.  
*Clerk:* Angela Balcombe.  
*Also present:* 4 members of the public, County Councillor Simon Walsh and a reporter from the Dunmow Broadcast.

## **11/34. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

There were no apologies.

## **11/35. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.**

The minutes of 10 January 2011 were approved as a correct record of events.

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

## **11/36. PROGRESS CHECK.**

A brief update on actions from the last meeting.

## **11/37. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.**

To receive any 'personal' or 'personal and prejudicial' interests relating to items on the agenda. No interests were declared.

## **11/38. PUBLIC FORUM.**

- Dog fouling has got worse by the play area.

## **11/39. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS.**

District Councillors report – previously circulated. Apologies were received from Cllr Bellingham-Smith who passed on her best wishes to the Parish Council as she will not be standing again in the May elections.

County Cllr Walsh reported that there would be no increase on Council precepts and explained details of where the savings are being made. A question was asked about the continuation of school escorts, Cllr Walsh to let the Council know the outcome. No libraries were being closed, although there will be a reduction in opening hours at some branches. Mobile libraries are to continue.

## **11/40. PLAY AREA.**

Following representation from members of the public at the last meeting, quotes had been obtained for various options of fencing the play area to keep dogs out. After some discussion it was agreed to spend up to £4,000 to fence the area using post and rail fencing with wire mesh, to include two self closing gates plus one larger gate for mower access. The gates to also have wire mesh. Signage was also discussed and it was agreed to order three 'no dogs' signs of a similar size to the bus shelter signs.

**Proposed: Cllr Dodkins. Seconded: Cllr Thomas. Unanimously agreed.**

It was also suggested that shrubs could be planted around the fencing to make the area more attractive and that volunteers might help with this. Cllr Dodkins was thanked for finding out the information about the various fencing options.

**11/41. ROYAL WEDDING CELEBRATIONS.**

The Flitch of Bacon are holding a barbecue on the Friday afternoon. Cllr Thomas proposed that a party is held in the summer – next agenda.

**11/42. ECC SECTION 106 AGREEMENT ~ UPDATE.**

There was no further information on the S.106 agreement. A meeting to be arranged regarding the proposed bus shelter near The Moors.

**11/43. FINANCE.**

**Accounts paid and cheques signed:**

100525 £1,175.10 Brentwood Sign Workshop (Notice Board)  
100526 £294.22 A Balcombe (February - Salary £267.00, Office Expenses £23.75 , Postage £3.47)  
100527 £44.04 A & J Lighting Solutions (Maintenance)  
100528 £19.03 Veolia Water (Meeting Room)  
100529 £216.00 M J Walsh (Notice Board)  
100530 £302.75 A Balcombe (January - Salary £267.00, Office Expenses £23.75, Phone £12.00)  
100531 £44.04 A & J Lighting Solutions (Maintenance)  
100532 £19.56 A Balcombe (No Smoking Signs x 2)  
D/D £63.50 E-on (Street lighting – January)  
D/D £63.50 E-on (Street lighting – February)

**Direct Debit Instruction** – it was agreed to pay A & J Lighting Solutions by monthly direct debit. Unanimously agreed.

**Income** - £10.00 (meeting room hire).

**11/44. INSULATION OF STORAGE CONTAINER ROOF.**

The cold weather had caused condensation, an offer of help to insulate the roof at an approximate cost of £200 had been received. It was agreed at allow up to £300 to do this work.

**Proposed: Cllr Dodkins. Seconded: Cllr Brown. All agreed.**

**11/45. BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION.**

It was agreed not to enter the competition this year.

**11/46. PARISH ELECTIONS – 5 MAY 2011.**

Nomination papers were available at the meeting.

**11/47. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE.**

**Audit Commission** – Appointment of Auditor for 2010/11.

**ECC** – Highways and Transportation update.

**ECC** – Review of salt bag pilot scheme, invitation to attend the review session on 12 April 4.30pm at County Hall.

**11/48. INFORMATION EXCHANGE / NEXT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY.**

- A children's party has been booked for the 16<sup>th</sup> April.

- A request for hard standing around the post box (near 'Bergates') had been received. Permission needed from UDC.
- FP24 – next agenda.

**11/49. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.**

The next meeting of Little Dunmow Parish Council will be held on Monday 16 May 2011 at 7.45pm at the Recreation Ground Meeting Room. This will be the Annual Meeting of the Council following the May 2011 elections. All councillors will be required to sign a Declaration of Acceptance of Office prior to the start of the meeting.

**Annual Parish Meeting (Electors Meeting)** – this will be held prior to the Annual Council Meeting at 7.15pm.

***THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.43 PM.***

**SIGNED (CHAIRMAN):**

**DATE:**