



DES福德 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**Held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 17th of August 2016
at Desford Library, Main Street, Desford.**

MINUTES

Present were - Cllrs J Minto (Chairman), R Camamile, C Crane, P Crane, S Houghton, B Hutt, A Lewis, M Peel, P Sims, S Wakefield.

Also present - County Councillor D Sprason, The Clerk, Martin Broomhead, and 12 members of the public.

61/2016 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Rood and Stretton.

Apologies were also received from Borough Cllrs Surtees and Sutton.

62/2016 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

63/2016 TO RECEIVE AND CONFIRM AS ACCURATE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 20th OF JULY 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th July were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

64/2016 RESOURCES COMMITTEE

a) To receive and CONFIRM the recommendations of the Resources Committee held on 15 August 2016.

i. Receipts and invoices for payment

The following invoices were approved for payment and the income for July was noted.

DPC Accounts Payable	Nett invoice	VAT	Invoice total
Arboreco Ltd (Works to Botcheston VH Grounds)	£350.00	£70.00	£420.00
Eon (7 Stars Road)	£56.55	£2.83	£59.38
Sansome Contractors (Moles at Kirkby Road RG)	£50.00	£0.00	£50.00
Sansome Contractors (Moles in the Cemetery)	£250.00	£0.00	£250.00

G Burley and Sons Ltd (July Invoice)	£867.06	£173.41	£1,040.47
Clerk's Salary for July 2016	£1,092.48	£0.00	£1,092.48
Income Tax & NI related to Clerk's salary	£395.00	£0.00	£395.00
Clerk's Expenses for June & July 2016	£206.69	£0.00	£206.69
Printer Cartridge costs	£87.50	£17.50	£105.00
HBBC (Pickard's Bins)	£76.96	£0.00	£76.96
Severn Trent Water - Water Supply to Allotments	£47.10	£0.00	£47.10
Severn Trent Water - Water Supply to Cemetery	£27.24	£0.00	£27.24
Mercedes Benz Leicester (Damage to Car - DiB Acc't)	£578.00	£115.60	£693.60
Total	£4,084.58	£379.34	£4,463.92

Cheques also to be presented to Full Council on 17 August for approval & signature

None to date this month.

Monies in/Payments Received

		<u>Sub-totals</u>
Up to 31 July 2016		
(Paid into Current Account No 00292087)		
HMRC VAT Refund	£887.09	
Interment Fee	£200.00	£1,087.09
(Paid into Account No 2 (01431064) - Desford in Bloom)		
Public donations in July 2016	£76.96	£76.96
	Total Income for July	= £1,164.05

ii. To consider a request for training

Referring to the training currently being offered by the LRALC, it was agreed that:

- Approval for Cllr P Crane to attend the Data Protection/ Freedom of Information course (26 September) and the S106/CIL course (6 October) should be recommended to Council; and
- That, at the Council meeting to be held on 17 August, Councillors should be reminded of the courses on offer and asked if anyone wanted to put their names forward for them.

iii. Grounds maintenance expenditure incurred in previous financial years and an accusation of concern to Council

Resources Committee recommend to Council that an Independent Auditor be appointed to:

- Review the costs of the Grounds Maintenance work carried out for the Council during the financial years 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17 (the current financial year) with a view to comparing costs between the different financial years; and
- Review the Council's finances with a view to addressing the accusations recently made that 'Councillors were taking backhanders'.

iv. Mole Problem- Allotments

A request from the Allotment Working Group for the mole problem in the allotment to be addressed. The Committee agreed not to recommend the appointment of a mole-catcher to the Council

v. Appointment of a Temporary Administrative Assistant

At the Staffing Committee meeting held on 11 August 2016, Councillors agreed to recommend the appointment of a Temporary Administrative Assistant for a period of 6 months to work 7 hours average per week at a rate of £8.00 per hour.

The Resources Committee agreed to recommend this to Council at the meeting to be held on 17 August 2016

All of these recommendations were approved by Council and it was also agreed to refer the allotment mole problem back to the Allotment Working Group.

b) To receive and CONFIRM reconciliation of accounts for July 2016

The reconciliations of accounts were received and confirmed.

c) To note Income & Expenditure to date

The Income and Expenditure reports were received and noted. The Clerk pointed out that, after 33.3% of the financial year having elapsed, the expenditure to date was 25.8% of the overall budget.

65/2016 COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORTS

County Councillor David Sprason referred to the future of the library, but indicated that not much progress had been made and the situation seemed to have gone a bit quiet at County Hall. This was due to be discussed by Cabinet and the Scrutiny Committee and he hoped that Ruth would support our cause.

He also referred to the fact that LCC Highways budget has been reduced by 75% so, in future, there will be no money for signs, bollards etc unless funded by other bodies.

66/2016 PARISHIONERS PARTICIPATION

Mr Longstaff reported some dangerous surfacing under the tyre swing at Kirkby Road Recreation Ground. The Clerk will investigate.

Mr Longstaff also expressed concerns about the mess and numerous traffic cones outside the school. David Sprason will raise at LCC.

Jason Hunt (JH) referred to the letter that he'd sent to David Tredinnick MP and the Monitoring Officer at HBBC. Of particular concern to JH were the stone-masons reports. The Chairman pointed out that this was on the agenda later for discussion.

JH also expressed concern about how the cemetery regulations were communicated. It was agreed that these would be put on the Parish Council website and we intend to apply for a grant to erect a notice board at the Cemetery in February.

Mrs Beesley expressed concern about the state of the footways in the village and the lack of dropped kerbs for mobility scooters. As footways are a County responsibility, Mr Sprason agreed to look into this. The Clerk was asked to write to LCC about this.

Mrs Beesley also felt that, at the last meeting, Cllr C Crane had been rude to Cllr Rood and should apologise.

Ewan Lindsay raised concern about Neovia and HGVs. The Chairman and other Councillors assured Ewan that Neovia were very well aware of the concerns and had recently been proactive in reducing the problem.

Ewan also raised the issue of Christmas lights and the Chairman indicated that this was on the agenda later in the meeting.

Theresa Wright wanted to know about progress on the S106 funding schemes. The Chairman also said that this was on the agenda later, but indicated that all ideas should be sent to the Clerk for consideration.

67/2016 FEEDBACK FROM THE PARISH MEETING HELD ON 12 JULY 2016

The Clerk indicated that he had circulated draft notes of the Parish Meeting and that, as he hadn't any feedback, he had assumed that they were an accurate record of the meeting.

68/2016 VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE PRESENTED TO THE COUNCIL ON 20 JULY

The Chairman presented a report about the Vote of No Confidence/Petition that had been presented at the last meeting.

Cllr Camamile thought it very sad that the situation had escalated and come to this. She stated that she hoped that all concerned would show more respect in the future and that Parishioners' needs were considered sensitively.

The report and the Vote of No Confidence were noted.

69/2016 MEETING WITH AND COMPLAINTS MADE TO THE MONITORING OFFICER (HBBC)

The Chairman gave details of the meeting held at HBBC with Julie Kenny, the Monitoring Officer (MO). She also referred to the 3 complaints made to the MO about 3 other councillors.

70/2016 LETTER FROM MR TREDINNICK MP REGARDING DAMAGE IN THE CEMETERY

Mr Tredinnick had sent a letter he had received from Mr Hunt and asked for the Parish Council's response. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should draft a response and circulate it to all councillors for approval before it was dispatched.

71/2016 PREVIOUS GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS AND COSTS

This issue had been discussed and agreed upon under item 4(a)(iii) above.

72/2016 UPDATE ON GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

The Chairman read out a letter of concern from G Burley and Sons regarding the intimidation that their operatives were receiving when they were working at the cemetery. The Chairman asked all concerned to allow the contractor to get on with their job and that any complaints should be sent to the Clerk in the first instance.

The Chairman also read out a letter of thanks received from the Church Wardens about the quality of the grounds maintenance work within the churchyard. Other Councillors and residents also expressed their satisfaction with the quality of the work being carried out by Burleys.

The Clerk was asked to write to Burleys expressing our thanks for the good work being carried out.

73/2016 POSSIBLE SHORT-TERM WORKS AT KIRKBY ROAD RECREATION GROUND

The Clerk updated the meeting with regard to the PCIF bid and the works to be carried out. This relates to works near the changing rooms and moving the existing goal-posts.

74/2016 PLANNING AND NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

a) To receive Planning Committee minutes for 1 August 2016

The Planning Committee minutes were noted.

b) To receive information on Applications, Withdrawals, Refusals, Approvals and Appeals

Cllr P Crane stated that the Planning Committee had expressed concern about the car parking works carried out by the Pestos restaurant in Leicester Lane. The restaurant owners appeared to have disrupted a mature hedge (the Parish Boundary) and a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

Cllr Crane referred to an application in Station Road and the impending Neovia application.

Cllr Hutt outlined the situation with regard to the new and replacement bus shelters. The Council agreed to place an order with Littlethorpe of Narborough, Leicester for 2 wooden-framed bus shelters. Council also agreed to pay up to £1,000.00 for the required concrete bases for the shelters.

Cllr Peel informed the meeting that the repairs to the benches were underway.

c) Update on the Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Crane informed the meeting that the Focus Groups had started meeting to address the various issues relevant to the Parish.

75/2016 TO CONSIDER PROPOSALS FOR S106 FUNDED WORKS IN THE PARISH

This will be deferred to the next meeting. Cllrs Houghton, P Crane and Stretton will prepare a report for the next meeting. Again, the Chairman asked for any suggestions to be sent to the Clerk.

76/2016 DESFORD IN BLOOM (DiB) UPDATE

Everyone expressed their satisfaction with the DiB hanging baskets and floral displays. The Group would be happy to consider new areas and were always on the look-out for new volunteers.

77/2016 ALLOTMENTS RULES AND DRAFT STRATEGY PLUS REQUEST TO ADDRESS MOLE PROBLEM

Cllr P Crane presented a report on issues relating to the allotments. The updated allotment rules were approved by Council, but further work was requested to be carried out on the draft Allotment Strategy. It was suggested that this could cover the issue of devolving responsibility for the allotments to the Working Group or to DAGA.

78/2016 TO UPDATE THE SITUATION RE SPEED WATCH AND HGVs

With regard to the HGV problems, the Chairman thought that these had significantly reduced recently. CC Sprason indicated that the new Neovia application would need to address the issue of HGV traffic in the village, in particular the signage.

Cllr P Crane asked that all issues be sent to her in time for the liaison meeting to be held with Neovia on 26 August.

79/2016 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS PROPOSALS

Following extensive discussions, Council agreed to place an order with New Farm Trees for the supply and installation of one 14 foot Christmas tree and 15 small trees in the sum of £360.00.

Cllr Lewis indicated that further proposals were in hand and that more information would be available at the next meeting.

The Chairman and others expressed thanks for all the effort that Cllr Lewis had put into these proposals.

80/2016 PROPOSED NOMINATION OF CLLR P CRANE FOR THE LRALC EXECUTIVE

Council agreed to nominate Cllr P Crane for the LRALC Executive.

81/2016 MISSING LITTER BINS

The Clerk asked if there were any other 'missing' bins that he could report to HBBC in addition to those mentioned at the last meeting.

82/2016 COUNCILLOR TRAINING

a) Freedom of Information Training

It was agreed to fund Cllr P Crane for this training.

b) S106 Training

It was agreed to fund Cllr P Crane for this training. (Cllr Stretton had already been nominated for this course).

c) Other Training

It was agreed that Cllrs C Crane and Peel should attend the 2 finance and budgeting courses.

83/2016 CLERKS REPORT

a) Church Lane Lighting

It was noted that HBBC has a fund that could finance the provision of heritage lighting in Church Lane. The Clerk was asked to progress this.

b) Meeting Venue for 19 October meeting - Botcheston Village Hall

The Clerk indicated that the Council meeting to be held on 19 October would be held at Botcheston Village Hall.

c) Crime Information Figures from the Police

The Clerk had circulated crime figures for the parish which had been supplied by the police.

d) Tree Inspections

The Clerk was asked to obtain 3 quotes for an inspection of the Council's trees.

84/2016 PRIORITIES FOR THE COMING YEAR

Cllr Houghton said that any proposals that could be included in the Council's Vision for the Village should be sent to the Clerk.

Cllr Camamile said that Christmas lights should be included.

85/2016 INFORMATION EXCHANGE (not for debate or decisions)

Cllr Minto suggested that a 'Friends of Desford Cemetery' Group should be formed to help keep the cemetery in as good a condition as possible.

Cllr C Crane stated that a breach of the cemetery rules had occurred and asked the Clerk to send a polite request for the kerbing be removed.

Cllr Hutt expressed concern about the hedges on Chapel Lane and the adjacent jitty.

Cllr Peel thought that the cemetery needed more flowers in it and suggested that we might consider putting more flowers inside and outside the Cemetery next year

Cllr Houghton mentioned a break-in at the Kirkby Road changing rooms.

Cllr P Crane asked for a copy of the Annual Playground Inspection report.

She also expressed concern that Cllr Rood had not attended any of the Desford VH Committee meetings.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.00pm.

Chairman

Date