



DES福德 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**Held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 20th of April 2016
at Desford Library, Main Street, Desford.**

MINUTES

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, there was a short presentation from Tim Empson on the TECHX Project at Bosworth Academy.

Councillors Present: J Minto (Chairman), C Crane, A Lewis, R Camamile, Z Rood, A Stretton, P Sims, M Peel, B Hutt, P Crane.

Also present: D Sprason CC, HBBC Cllr M Surtees, 4 members of the public and Martin Broomhead, Clerk to the Council

1/2016-143 - Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr S Wakefield.

1/2016-144 - Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

1/2016-145 - To receive and CONFIRM as accurate the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th of March 2016

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 16 March were confirmed as accurate and signed off by the Chairman.

1/2016-146 - Resources Committee

a) The following recommendations of the Resources Committee held on 18 April 2016 were confirmed.

- i. That, as the finances were now in a much more healthy state, a new reserve account be opened to hold a £30,000 reserve for the Council. (This being 25% of the annual turnover of the Council).
- ii. That Council should note that future expenditure on the following was expected in the near future - The wet-pour repairs at Pickards, the repair of 6 benches, the Quinquennial Review and the cemetery.
- iii. That the Clerk had been asked to write again to the owners of the Solar Farm as the Council had not received a response from their last letter of nearly 2 months ago.

- iv. That BH was helping confirm details for the insurance quotes for the 3 policies due for renewal on 1 June.
- v. To note that the Draft Financial Regulations would be ready to be adopted at the next meeting.
- vi. That 'Desford in Bloom' be provided with a cash float of £100.00.
- vii. That BH had prepared a schedule of likely payments for supplies for the 'DiB' initiative and that approval should be given for payments to be made when required.
- viii. That the Neighbourhood Plan Group be provided with a cash float of £250.00. This comprises of £100 float and £150 for the meetings.
- ix. That a quinquennial review of all of the Councils buildings should be carried out.
- x. That the issue of the registry of the Kirkby Road car park needed to be resolved and that approval be given to expenditure up to £50.00 for the likely Land Registry charges.

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

Details of the reconciliations of the accounts were circulated and approved.

c) To confirm Income & Expenditure to date

Details of the income and expenditure since the last meeting were circulated and approved.

d) To RECOMMEND that invoices up to the 20 April be paid

The following invoices were approved for payment.

DPC Accounts Payable	Nett invoice	VAT	Invoice total
Sunningdale Landscape Supplies Ltd	£48.34	£9.66	£58.00
E-on - Street Lighting Quarterly Maintenance	£74.12	£14.82	£88.94
HBBC - 2 No Trade Waste Bins (Quarterly payment)	£266.50	£0.00	£266.50
7 Stars Road - Unmetered supply	£56.55	£2.83	£59.38
LRALC & NALC Annual Membership	£552.78	£0.00	£552.78
P Richards Environmental Services (Invoice No 210)	£75.00	£0.00	£75.00
ESPO - Paper and Stationery supplies	£86.50	£17.31	£103.81
LRALC Clerk's Training	£70.00	£0.00	£70.00
Clerk's Salary for March 2016	£1,141.44	£0.00	£1,141.44
Income Tax & NI related to Clerk's salary	£418.56	£0.00	£418.56
Clerk's expenses - February & March 2016	£92.55	£0.00	£92.55
R A Lomas - March 2016 Invoice	£90.00	£0.00	£90.00

1/2016-147 - BOROUGH COUNCILLORS/COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

County Councillor D Sprason spoke about the following issues.

- a) The changes expected that would lead to a significant reduction in the way that the County Council got involved with the education service in the county.
- b) The changes in the charges and times of opening of the Household Waste sites.
- c) The lack of progress on sorting out the future of Desford library.
- d) Concerns that that had been raised about the grass verge mowing arrangements.
- e) Continuing concerns about HGVs in the village.

Borough Councillor M Surtees spoke about the following issues.

- a) The new Hinckley leisure centre will open shortly.
- b) In response to concerns about HBBC concentrating too much on the urban areas around Hinckley, MS indicated that the Council had set up the Rural Initiative Fund.

1/2016-148 - PARISHIONERS PARTICIPATION

Ewan Lindsay of the Desford in Bloom Group raised a concern about the purchase of the water bowser for the DiB initiative.

Following discussion, Council approved the purchase of a suitable bowser, subject to funding being available. Council also agreed that, for this specific item, the financial regulation requiring 3 quotes to be sought would be waived.

Ewan also raised concern about the grass cutting in the churchyard. The Chairman pointed out that the new Grounds Maintenance contract had only just started and that the contract should be given time to get underway.

The Chairman took the opportunity to publicly thank Ewan for all his hard work on the DiB initiative.

1/2016-149 - PLANNING AND NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

a) To receive Planning Committee minutes

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 4 April were noted.

AL reported that she is still trying to sort out power supplies from lamp columns for the Christmas decorations.

It was noted that HBBC needed to be contacted about the litter bins by the Kirkby Road playing fields.

MP also mentioned that repairs needed to be organised to 7 benches owned by the Council. Quotes would have to be sought for this.

The Clerk mentioned that he had received S106 information from HBBC that he would circulate.

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

Details of these were circulated and noted.

c) Update on the Neighbourhood Plan.

The minutes of the meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Group held on 12 April were circulated and noted.

The leaflets would be ready soon and volunteers were sought to help with delivery.

1/2016-150 - ALLOTMENT WORKING GROUP

Minutes of the Allotment Group meeting held on 5 April were circulated and noted.

PC noted that receiving and banking allotment rents had recently increased the Clerk's workload and that alternative arrangements would be made in future.

PC and the Clerk would meet to ensure that all allotment rent had been accounted for. (Also to check to see if there were any free allotments).

PC also confirmed that the first inspection had been carried out.

Finally, PC suggested that a more permanent solution to the access road and car park surfacing needed to be sorted out.

1/2016-151 - PROCUREMENT WORKING GROUP – Including an Update on the Grounds Maintenance Contract

It was noted that the Working Group had not met recently, but that the new Grounds Maintenance contract was now up and running.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the plants for the planters should, where possible, match the DiB colour scheme of white, pink and purple.

1/2016-152 - PICKARDS RECREATION GROUND - DOG MESS

Concerns had been expressed by local residents that dog-owners seemed to be taking over the park.

However, some councillors felt that youths gathering at the park was more of a problem. AS also stated that she had carried out a small survey over 5 days and concluded that dog-poo was not a major problem. Evidence suggested that litter was much more of a problem.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk would put up a notice indicating that the Council wanted to ensure that Pickards Recreation Ground was mainly for children and that dog owners should behave responsibly. The situation would be monitored.

1/2016-153 - DUMPING PROBLEM IN LINDRIDGE LANE, DESFORD

Following a discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk would contact our dog-waste contractor to ask what their arrangements were for disposal of the waste they collected.

1/2016-154 - CLERKS REPORT

a) Change of date for Annual Parish Council Meeting

It was noted that the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council is now set for Wednesday the 11th of May and would be held at Desford Library.

b) Proposed Newsletter

PC stated that she had prepared 4 articles for the newsletter and further items were required. AS agreed to put the newsletter together. An article about fly-tipping was requested. CC would do an article on the cemetery. JM will prepare an article on responsible dog-ownership. Photos were also suggested.

PC will get a quote for 500 to be printed.

c) HBBC LEADER Programme - 27th April

This meeting will provide further information about grant funding opportunities. Cllr C Crane is booked to attend.

d) Active Places Data - Sport England Site Validation

The PC has received a request on behalf of Sport England, which appears to relate to the Kirkby Road playing field and (possibly) Sport in Desford.

The Clerk will contact Jim Houghton about this.

e) HBBC Growth Workshop - 4 May 2016

Cllrs P Crane and B Hutt are now booked to attend this workshop.

f) Concerns over new street lights in the Church Lane Conservation Area

Concerns have been expressed about new street lights in Church Lane which are very modern and completely out of keeping with the heritage lamps that are already installed in this location.

g) Section 106 Funding

Karen Pegg and a colleague from the HBBC Planning Team have agreed to attend our June Council meeting, but would like advance notice of any questions that we're likely to raise.

h) LCC Notice Board Licence for signature

Leicestershire County Council have sent us 2 copies of the Licence which will allow the Notice Board to be erected outside the library. These will be signed by the Chairman after the meeting.

1/2016-155 - UPDATE ON REVIEW OF COMMITTEES

A schedule of meetings was circulated and approved in principle, subject to evening meetings starting at 7.00. The Clerk would prepare a full list of meeting dates and times for approval at the Annual PC meeting on 11 May.

1/2016-156 - TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON PROGRESS TO PREVENT THE ACCESS OF HGV's THROUGH THE VILLAGE

AS stated that, despite the claims of LCC, no new signage had been erected diverting HGVs away from the village. AS also stated that she had not received any substantive responses from LCC despite sending them over 20 e-mails. In addition, LCC had not arranged the meeting that had been promised to discuss this issue.

MP also indicated that he had not received any response from his letter to the County Council.

RC suggested that all letters to LCC should be sent by the Clerk.

Also under this item, significant concerns were expressed about parking around the Pesto Restaurant. It was agreed that double-yellow lines would be requested outside this location and that HBBC be asked to monitor the situation via their traffic wardens.

1/2016-157 - TO REVIEW THE SITUATION RE SPEED WATCH

There was no update on this and AL agreed to organise the necessary forms and signatures to get this organised.

1/2016-158 - UPDATE ON THE OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION RE SOLAR FARM

As no response had been received, the Clerk was asked to write a follow-up letter on this issue.

1/2016-159 - INFORMATION EXCHANGE

CC noted that a new website would be required before the end of August.

AS wanted to thank Cllr B Hutt for all his efforts in sorting out the finances of the Council and getting them into a far better state than they used to be. The Chairman also thanked BH for all his work in this respect.

AS also wanted to know if the old ground maintenance contractors had been sent thank you letters. The Clerk will check on this.

BH stated that the new Financial Regulations would have to be adopted at the next meeting.

PC asked who would be preparing the display for the Carnival and who would be helping to staff the display. Various councillors agreed to help on the day and AL would try to source some new boards. Photos would also be required. PC will coordinate all of this.

The chairman closed the meeting at 9.53pm.

Chairman

Date