

DEBENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting held 30 June 2008

Present: Cllrs R Walters (Chairman), A Baxter, G Baxter, Mrs L Cockerton, Mrs J Farthing, Mrs C Hellier, C Silverton, Mrs G White, Mrs F Winrow-Giffin. Three members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr M Monk
2. **Declarations of Interest relating to items on the Agenda** - none
3. **Co-option to fill two Parish Council vacancies**

The Chairman reported that since the last meeting a resignation from the Council had been received from Michael Whayman due to his work commitments. MSDC had been informed and the Chairman stated he would be writing to Mr Whayman to thank him for his contribution to Council work over the last year.

There were currently two vacancies to fill by co-option. Mr Ken Fenton and Mr Kevil Voller were in attendance at the meeting and wished to put themselves forward for those vacancies. Mr Fenton and Mr Voller both addressed the meeting to inform members of their interest in the village.

Both parishioners left the room to enable Members to consider the nominations.

Cllr Mrs Winrow-Giffin proposed Mr Fenton was co-opted to the Council, seconded Cllr Silverton and unanimously agreed.

Cllr G Baxter proposed Mr Voller was co-opted to the Council, seconded Cllr A Baxter and unanimously agreed.

Both parishioners returned to the meeting

The Chairman informed Mr Fenton and Mr Voller of their co-option to the Council, Declarations of Acceptance of Office forms were signed and witnessed and both new members were welcomed to the Council.

The Register of Interest forms to be completed and returned within 28 days.
4. **To approve expenditure in region of £7,080 for installation of basketball/soccer play item at Recreation Ground, Aspall Road**

It was hoped that the planned basketball/soccer play item could be installed at the Recreation Ground before the start of the school summer holidays. Contributions were expected from MSDC totalling £2,500 and from the County Councillor locality budget of £1,500, with the remainder made up from the Council's allocated reserve budget 08/09 totalling approximately £7,080. To formalise the expenditure Cllr Mrs Winrow-Giffin proposed the above, seconded Cllr Mrs Hellier and unanimously agreed.
5. **To consider letter from MSDC Public Rights of Way re. proposed Bridleway No 38**

MSDC were asking for confirmation of Parish Council support for the proposed new footpath and bridleway. The Parish Council had already made a request that it became a condition of the proposed changes that a fence between the footpath and bridleway was retained in perpetuity but it was reported MSDC were unable to guarantee such a condition. Cllrs Mrs Winrow-Giffin and Mrs Hellier had inspected the footpath, the current fence was a boundary fence and although the current owner intended keeping it, she could not speak for any future owners of Poplar Hall. The meeting was informed that where a footpath and bridleway run parallel there was normally an unwritten agreement that the bridleway ran along the field side.

Subject to resolving a few signage issues, Cllr Mrs Winrow-Giffin proposed acceptance of the proposed changed route for the footpath/bridleway, seconded Cllr G Baxter and agreed.
6. **Planning Applications for consideration and Parish Council recommendation to MSDC:**
 1. 1384/08 : 68 High Street – Listed Building Consent for 2 storey rear extension to existing building (1383/08 planning application for 2 storey rear extension – PC recommended refusal). The papers from MSDC for consideration of the application were not available, also concerns were raised that a number of applications were submitted where plans did not contain measurements.

As suggested by District Cllr Debenham, the Chairman agreed to draft a letter to MSDC raising the issue above. Copied to District Councillor. Cllr Mrs Hellier offered to circulate the MSDC criteria for planning considerations from the MSDC Website.

2. 211/08 : Debenham High School – two storey extension block for extra classrooms and ancillary requirements. Cllr Mrs Hellier proposed support of the application, seconded Cllr A Baxter and unanimously agreed.

7. **New Dental Surgery at 76 High Street**

Since approval of the planning application for conversion of the dwelling to a Dental Surgery a large Dental Surgery sign had been attached to the High Street wall of the property. The sign did not form part of the planning permission granted. Some complaints had been received from residents concerning the size of the sign and that it had been erected in a conservation area without permission. The meeting was of the view the sign was not appropriate for a conservation area. The Chairman proposed that he raise these queries with MSDC Planning Control for comment – unanimously agreed.

8. **59 Gracechurch Street – revised plans**

The meeting was informed the application had been withdrawn.

9. **Temporary exclusion of press and public : That pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the Public and Press be excluded from the Meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed concerning personnel matters.**

See separate note.

10. **Chairman's urgent business**

Saturday Surgery 5 July 10.30am – 12noon. The Chairman, Cllrs Mrs Farthing and Mrs Cockerton would be attending together with PCSO's Emma Cowell and Chris Bales.

The Chairman stated he hoped to arrange a date for a summer barbecue to enable Members and partners to meet informally.

Streetlight outside WC's – Cllr A Baxter stated he was in contact with Chris Goldring, Suffolk CC Street Lighting and would provide a full report for the next meeting.

As the Council was nearly up to full strength, the Chairman stated he would include an item on the September agenda, as stated at the May meeting, for re-election of Chairman if members so desired.

Meeting closed 8.15pm

Signed:

Chairman

Date: