

**Minutes of the meeting of Damerham Parish Council
held in Damerham Village Hall on
Monday 9th January 2012**

Present

Cllrs. P Tandy (Chairman), D. Crane, Mrs. C. Godber, R. Gilbey, Mrs. S. Sykes, S.Allsopp

In attendance

Cllr. E. Heron

Mrs. R. Jones

B. Mair (Clerk)

2 electors of the parish.

Public participation

Mr Godber reported a missing 30 mph sign at the bottom of Pound Lane. Cllr. Gilbey said he would report this to HCC Highways/

1. Apologies

Cllrs. S. Langdown M. Jerrard,

2. Declaration of business interests

There were none to declare.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 14th November 2011 be signed by the Chairman as correct records.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

In addition to matters on the agenda there were no actions to be discussed

.5. Report form Parish Footpath Officer

Footpath 501

Mrs Jones presented her report (copy attached to these minutes)

6. Report from the Parish Watercourses Officer

The officer was not present.

7. Report form the Transport Representative

RG's written report had been received in advance by Cllrs (copy attached to these minutes).

There was nothing additional to report.

Cllr Crane asked about the position of the Give Way sign at the South end of the High Street. After discussion Cty Cllr Heron agreed to review the need for any changes and discuss with HCC Highways.

8. Correspondence

In addition to previously circulated e-mails the Clerk reported a letter from an Estate Agent acting on behalf of NFDC with respect to the possible interest of the Parish Council to acquire Crendell Methodist Chapel which had been declared redundant. The Clerk was asked to reply that the Parish Council could not envisage a Community use for the property.

9 Finance and payments

To approve payments for November & December 2011

RESOLVED to make the following payments:

NFDC (Election costs)	£123.25
PlaySafety (PlayTrail RoSPA inspection)	£82.80

10 Planning Applications

To note decisions by NFDC

11/97823/24 Hyde Farmhouse – Refused

To note planning application

11/97937 Hyde View – Tack room and Stables RESOLVED to recommend permission

11 Village Broadband

Cllr Gilbey was attending to this matter and had produced an item for the next Parish Pump including a call for residents to report their broadband speeds to him, aimed at possibly helping HCC with their programme of improving speeds in rural areas

12 The Community Web Site

The Clerk had circulated a paper on this topic (copy attached to these minutes). Members agreed the Clerk's recommendations

13 Lengtsman Trials

Cllr Heron reported that Fordingbridge TC would be the lead Council for the Northwest Forest area and he would be attending the inaugural meeting later in the week

14. Play Trail Maintenance

After considerable discussion the Chairman agreed to talk to FunQuest about issues of replacement for broken equipment, should that occur, and the financial responsibility for the same.

15 Reports from other meetings

There were none to report.

Any other business

There were no matters raised

15. Date and time of next meeting

Monday 12th March 2012 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Committee Room.

Signed _____
Chairman

Report from the Traffic & Transport Representative

1. LOCAL ROADS

Lots of repair activity on local roads to report!

- a) Littlemill Lane was to be closed for at least two days from 3rd January 2012 for “major” repairs to try to prevent flooding – but unfortunately it was under about a foot of water on that date! (Still waiting to see what happens as I write this on 4th January!)
- b) Rockbourne Lane/Channel Hill at the Rockbourne end is due to be closed on 9th January to repair a length of the road that has been in a very poor condition for a number of months. This is weather dependent. (see above!)
- c) Lower Daggons Lane is to be closed for up to three weeks from February 2nd 2012 for water company work on the mains. A long diversion route will be published in The Pump.
- d) Cranborne Lane is to be closed for up to five days from February 13th 2012 for urgent repairs to the road surface. A long diversion route will be published in The Pump.
- e) The C38 between Martin & Damerham is to have work done on the “haunches” over its whole length, but the date has not yet been scheduled.

The state of the roads in general isn't good – the damage to the “haunches” caused by heavy vehicle traffic and tractors is causing problems in many parts of the Parish. Hampshire Highways are trying to keep up with reported faults, but as we all know, once the bad weather and frosts arrive, the situation will only get worse over the next couple of months.

Signs on Pound Lane & Court Hill have been fixed – I am unaware of any missing signs, but some are obscured currently by the over-growth of the hedges.

The assistance of the proposed “Lengthsman” is eagerly awaited. This can only be good news for rural parishes such as Damerham where localised road flooding caused by blocked ditches, culverts and grips is a major factor.

We await more information from Hampshire ALC with anticipation.

2. TRAFFIC MATTERS

We are still waiting confirmation from the police authorities regarding CRB clearance of our nominees to join the SpeedWatch team. This process is taking far longer than expected and, hopefully, we will obtain clearance early in the New Year.

In the meantime, Hampshire Constabulary will be carrying out intensive “Speed Camera” enforcement in North End/High Street, Damerham together with Rockbourne Road and Station Road, Sandleheath as a stop-gap.

3. TRANSPORT

At the recent Transport Forum, there was nothing discussed that has any relevance to Damerham and the surroundings.

Robert Gilbey
Traffic & Transport Representative

9th January 2012

Damerham.net

I am writing this for circulation before the January Parish Council meeting hopefully to make discussion more profitable

Background

The site was started by the Village Information Group as a means for better communication in the village. Jeff Gaines (ex Parish Councillor) volunteered to create the site and keep it updated in his own time. After he left the village I agreed to keep the site updated as part of my clerk's duties with the proviso that changes to organisations' pages should be notified to me as well as significant events and dates.

Software

Jeff used NetObjectsFusion to build the site. It was a freebie and current version (v9) is not supported by authors. Upgrade will cost c. £30, which might be a good investment to add new features like a Google calendar diary.

I have invested many man hours in learning the system and gaining familiarity with the site structure and content.

The site is hosted by Heart Internet at modest cost. There is multiple e-mail resource and needs an ftp (file transfer protocol) upload process for changes which NOF provides. Generally this works well

Currently

I have made a few changes recently to correct Parish Council details and am waiting for FunQuest amendments. I would like the remaining Members to answer the questions that some members have completed and provide a head & shoulders picture and so have a page for each of you.

I have not been as efficient as I could have been with The Diary and Coming Events - apologies. When anyone asks for specific changes I usually do this fairly promptly.

Damerham-pc.gov.uk

This site hosted by NFDC/HCC suffers from inflexible but mandatory software which has crashed several times in the last few months, Changes have been made only to add links to new PC minutes.

Future

Changing horses is not in my opinion a valid option. Rockbourne use WordPress for their site which is a good site, and they have ditched their NFDC site. I am not in favour of allowing updates by all and sundry – dangerous and open to abuse.

Proposal

I recommend the following:

1. Stay with the current process
2. Update Damerham.net to include specific Parish Council pages including minutes and any other Parish Council matters
3. Change New Events page to be "New information" i.e. the Jubilee Celebrations with suitable national links and other burning issues
4. I will remind current contributors to regularly review and update their material
5. I will ensure that before the Parish Pump is printed I will update the Diary to match.
6. I will take note of Member's suggestions for design changes.

Brian Mair
03 January 2012

Footpath Report: January 2012

Storm Damage:

During last week's gales several trees fell across our footpaths. I am aware of two across Muddy Lane (F'p 17); one across the footbridge where footpath 49 joins footpath 1 near Damerham Fisheries; and one that has sagged over the stile where footpath 1 enters the triangle of waste ground. It is possible with a bit of agility to get past all of them.

As yet I have had no opportunity to ring the respective landowners and ask for help, but will do so as soon as possible.