

## DAMERHAM PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of Damerham Parish Council

Held in Damerham Village Hall on

Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> July 2013 at 7.30 p.m.

#### Present

Cllr. P. Tandy (Chairman)  
Cllr. Mrs. C. Godber  
Cllr. P. Doherty  
Cllr. G. Perrens

Cllr. D. Crane  
Cllr. R. Gilbey  
Cllr. B. Vincent

(Minutes taken by Cllr. Gilbey)

Cllr. E. Heron (District & County Cllr.)

#### Public Participation

In attendance 3 electors of the Parish

- 1) Mrs. S. Sykes asked if the "SLOW" signage that was removed as part of the road resurfacing at the junction of East End and West Park Drive could be replaced. She also asked if the white-lining could be redone.  
Cllr. Gilbey will take this matter up with Hampshire Highways.
- 2) Mr. J. Godber asked if the "Give Way" sign at the junction of Church Lane and Court Hill could be set up again.  
Cllr. Gilbey will take this matter up with Hampshire Highways.
- 3) Mr. J. Godber asked if anything could be done about the encroaching hedges in West Park Lane as these were becoming a hazard to motorists.  
Cllr. Tandy will write to Mrs. Thomas of Tylney Investments as the land-owner responsible.
- 4) Mr. J. Godber asked if anything could be done about the state of hedges and fences in Church Lane where it crosses the water meadow (known as the "Causeway").  
Cllr. Tandy had been in discussion with Mr. Bryant regarding the damaged fence on his land and there is a plan in place to repair/replace as necessary once the land has dried out sufficiently for heavy equipment to be used.  
Cllr. Tandy will write to Mr. Cobb (again) about the state of his hedges and ask for them to be cut back adequately for line of sight for motorists using Church Lane.
- 5) Mr. J. Godber asked about ownership of the land where the cypress tree is at the entrance to the church, as this tree appears to be dying.

Cllr. Tandy told the meeting that after enquiries via NFDC, that the land beyond the verge was church property and did not belong either to the Parish, the District or County Councils. He suggested that the church should get in touch with the NFDC Tree Officer for advice as the tree was in the conservation area.

- 6) Mr. J. Godber asked if there was any progress with obtaining additional grit bins.  
Cllr. Heron would follow up on this matter that had been previously raised with Hampshire CC.
- 7) Mr. J. Godber asked why Court Hill and Brown's Lane were missed on the first cut of the verges.  
Cllr. Heron told the meeting that there is to be a review of the grass cutting policy and he will provide the Parish Council with a list of local roads that would miss out on the first cut.

Cllr. Tandy told the meeting that he had cut back the long grass at the junction of Church lane and Court Hill that was a danger to emerging traffic from Church Lane.

Cllr. Heron suggested that we should use the Lengthsman to assist in cutting back overgrowth where possible. Cllr. Gilbey suggested that this would not be practical on Court Hill because of the danger of passing traffic.

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1. **Apologies:** received from Cllr. Langdown
2. **Declaration of Interests:** Cllr. Mrs. Godber declared an interest on the S137 grant application by the church.
3. **Minutes of Previous Meetings held on May 13<sup>th</sup> 2013:**  
It was resolved that the minutes be accepted and signed as a correct record of these meetings.
4. **Matters arising:** Certain matters arising including the War Memorial, the Footbridge and West Park Meadow are identified as items on the agenda and will be dealt with in turn.
5. **Report from the Parish Footpaths Officer:** Mrs. Jones's report is attached to these minutes. Cllr. Heron advised the meeting that the use of the Lengthsman to assist with the clearing of footpaths is acceptable and should be pursued as part of his on-going contract.
6. **Report from the Parish Water Courses Officer:** No report had been forthcoming.
7. **Report from the Parish Transport Representative:** Cllr. Gilbey's report is attached to these minutes. Cllr. Heron had requested a report from Dorset County Council regarding the "Market" bus service provided by Damory – but no response had been received by the time of this meeting.
8. **Correspondence:** Most correspondence is currently by e-mail and is being distributed to all Councillors. The one item of written correspondence was the RoSPA report on the Play trail.
9. **Finance & Payments:**

*9.1 Payments –*

<i>a) 2 Invoices to James Byrne for Printing the June &amp; July Pump</i>	<i>£40.00</i>
<i>b) Invoice for the weekly Play Trail Inspection by Mr. D.Quinnell</i>	<i>£35.00</i>
<i>c) Invoice for an Account Ledger for Mrs. Sykes</i>	<i>£17.18</i>
<i>d) Invoice for the web-site hosting</i>	<i>£35.96</i>
<i>e) RoSPA for the Annual Inspection of the Play Trail</i>	<i>£81.60</i>

*Receipts –*

<i>a) First tranche of the Precept</i>	<i>£4,000.00</i>
<i>b) Training Allowances for the new Parish Clerk</i>	<i>£75.00</i>

*9.2 Discuss and decide on the S137 Grant Applications.*

*Applications have been received from: -*

- a) the Church for £500.00 to assist in covering the cost of maintaining the church yard*
- b) FunQuest for £500.00 to provide activities for children of the village and to match funding on possible grants*
- c) Sports Field for £500.00 for upkeep of the facilities to the current standard.*

Cllr. Tandy pointed out to the meeting that only £900.00 had been set aside in the budget for the S137 Grant process. There are two alternatives – one to increase the budget and two to pay only a proportion of the amounts requested.

After discussions, a compromise was put forward to grant £500.00 to the church, £400.00 to FunQuest and £300.00 to the Sports Field.

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Cheques were drawn as a result of these decisions and payment of the grants will be made immediately.

Cllr. Heron will give an additional £200.00 to the Sports Field from Hampshire County Council funds. Cllr. Tandy will correspond with Mr. Saltrick of the Sports Field committee as to how this can be obtained.

#### *9.3 Current Financial position of the Accounts.*

Cllr. Tandy pointed out to the meeting that the current budget doesn't show the fee for the District auditor at approximately £120.00 or the Internal Auditor at a figure of £100.00

Mrs. White (Internal Auditor) has requested that her fee be paid as a gift of £100.00 to FunQuest in lieu of a fee once the internal audit of the accounts have been finalised.

Cllr. Tandy will amend the budget account before the next meeting.

Cllr. Tandy requested that all expenditure be minuted to enable the internal audit to become a much simpler operation.

### **10. Planning Applications:**

#### *10.1 To note decisions by NFDC:*

13/10264 - Willow Cottage – Granted with conditions.

There are still two outstanding applications at Willow Cottage

- 1) The raising of the internal doorway – Cllr. Tandy will attend the planning meeting on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> July.
- 2) The replacing of exterior fittings – Security Lighting, Burglar Alarm boxes and the removal of exterior wiring and replacing it with internal wiring.  
Cllr. Tandy will ask the planning meeting as to why this hasn't been resolved after at least 11 weeks – where the target is six weeks maximum?

#### *10.2 To discuss Planning Applications:*

13/10634 – Meadow Cottage – one or two storey rear extension

The meeting decided on a "3" response and this was proposed by Cllr. Vincent and seconded by Cllr. Perrens. The vote was unanimous.

13/10371 – Lopshill Farm – Agricultural barn

NFDC officers have passed this application without reference to the planning committee under local development rules.

13/10781/2 – Pound Cottage – These applications were received after the publication of the agenda and needed to be discussed as decisions are to be made early August.

The application for a conservatory and change of the access are a revision of earlier plans that had been previously rejected on appeal.

The making of the conservatory smaller is based on advice received from the Bristol appeal committee.

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The second part of the application to alter the access position is to reduce the possible danger of exiting the property by improving the line of sight with the gate in it's revised position.

A "3" response was proposed by Cllr. Gilbey and seconded by Cllr. Vincent. The meeting endorsed this unanimously.

#### 11. Councillors attending other meetings:

- 11.1 Cllr. Tandy will endeavour to go the NFALC AGM on July 11<sup>th</sup> at Lymington and report to the council at the next meeting.
- 11.2 Cllr. Tandy will attend the Planning Committee meeting on July 10<sup>th</sup> at Lyndhurst.
- 11.3 Cllr. Gilbey will attend the Transport Forum to be held on July 10<sup>th</sup> at Lyndhurst.

#### 12. Any other item that the Chairman considers to be urgent:

##### 12.1 *Update on the War Memorial:*

Preliminary clearing of moss and some cleaning has been done, but no report has been received to date. Cllr. Vincent will request a response from Lockley Stone. Cllr. Mrs. Godber had received information on grants from the National Lottery and Cllr. Tandy will follow this up.

##### 12.2 *Update on the Foot Bridge:*

Cllr. Vincent has received a quote to replace the treads and to re-stain all the exposed woodwork. The price quote appears reasonable – but other quotes need to be received.

Cllr. Tandy will check Standing Orders to ascertain how many quotes are required for capital expenditure.

Cllr. Tandy will ensure that the Foot Bridge is added to the Asset Register.

##### 12.3 *West park Meadow:*

Cllr. Tandy told the meeting that the RoSPA report on the state of the Play Trail was very satisfactory.

The only item to be replaced is the fascia board on the gazebo. It was pointed out that the "steering wheel" on the boat was missing – but need not be replaced.

The chippings are not seen as a hazard and will be left in place.

Cllr. Tandy pointed out that the trees along the West Park boundary need to be topped as they are now almost 20ft high and block light on to the bungalows.

Cllr. Tandy will request a site meeting with the Lengthsman to see if this work is covered by his contract with NFDC. If not, then the Parish Council will request that the work is carried out under the Parish council auspices.

At the same time the Lengthsman could carry out spraying to reduce the nettles within the Play Trail area.

##### 12.4 *Parish Council e-mail traffic:*

Mrs. Sykes requested that Councillors check their incoming e-mails from the Clerk and decide what level they wish to receive in future.

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At present all e-mails are being forwarded, but this could be filtered once Mrs. Sykes is in place as Parish Clerk to only allow those considered relevant to the individuals.

#### 13. Any other business.

1) Cllr. Vincent raised the subject of a broken branch as a hazard on the road up to Court Hill. Cllr. Tandy will request Mr. Bryant to remove it as soon as possible.

2) Cllr. Crane raised the subject of the land at the corner of The Common and Lower Daggons Lane. This land is owned by Mr. Waskett and having cleared the site he has made his intentions clear that he intends to site a mobile home here and live in it for the next six months whilst he is awaiting surgery.

Cllr. Heron pointed out that this would require a planning application and this would take at least 28 days to process. If this was rejected, then an appeal could be lodged and this would again take time. If the appeal was rejected only then enforcement could commence.

Cllr. Heron said that this whole procedure would probably take longer than the six months – but he would consult with the Enforcement Officers to make them aware of the situation.

3) Cllr. Doherty asked about the old Methodist Chapel. Cllr. Tandy informed him that as far as he is aware, the chapel has been sold to someone as a storage site.

Cllr. Tandy will check as to whether a planning application is needed for change of use. Cllr. Mrs. Godber expressed concern as to vehicles being parked in the road on a potentially dangerous position when loading and unloading.

4) Cllr. Vincent raised the subject of a seriously bent road sign opposite Greenbanks Farmhouse. Cllr. Gilbey will advise Hampshire Highways of the problem.

5) Cllr. Vincent told the meeting of fly-tipping at Cheater's Gate and he will advise Hampshire County Council via their web-site.

6) Cllr. Vincent asked about the Jubilee bench. Cllr. Tandy said that the Mair family wanted to put a bench in memory of their father – and the Village Hall gardens by the river was their place of choice. Cllr. Vincent asked if the Jubilee Bench could go in the Sports Field where there is already a concrete plinth from an earlier bench. Cllr. Tandy will speak with Rob Shepherd & David Herrington as to this possibility. Cllr. Gilbey will check the availability of the original bench and advise at the next meeting.

7) Cllr. Gilbey asked about the election of a vice-chairman as discussed at the Parish Assembly. Cllr. Tandy said this would be discussed at the next meeting.

14. **Date of the next meeting:** The Next Meeting will be held in Damerham Village Hall on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Date \_\_\_\_\_

July 8<sup>th</sup> 2013

## **DAMERHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Meeting of Damerham Parish Council**

Held in Damerham Village Hall on

**Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> July 2013 at 7.30 p.m.**

#### Report from the Parish Transport & Traffic Representative

##### 1. LOCAL ROADS

We have received a notice from NFDC saying that Lower Daggons Lane will be closed from 23<sup>rd</sup> August for a period of up to one week for major carriageway repairs. This closure will be posted in the Parish Pump and on Parish Notice Boards.

NFDC Highways had issued Road Closure Notices for Court Hill, East End and Cranborne Road for June 11<sup>th</sup> and June 19<sup>th</sup> to take one-day maximum.

The contractors to Hampshire County Council closed Court Hill on May 7<sup>th</sup> rather than the planned date of June 11<sup>th</sup> and carried out major resurfacing at the junction with Church Lane.

The other June 11<sup>th</sup> and June 19<sup>th</sup> closures did not take place and when queried, NFDC said that these closures are at the discretion of the contractors and could take place at any time up to six months as per the closure advice notices.

They have agreed that signs will be put up well in advance of any closure to ensure that a maximum number of people are aware of the event.

Any queries – regarding new or outstanding repairs, please ring 0845 603 5633 or log on to the HCC web site at [www3.hants.gov.uk/transport](http://www3.hants.gov.uk/transport).

##### 2. TRAFFIC MATTERS

Although SpeedWatch has been active in Martin and Sandleheath, we have been short of resources to carry out any checks in Damerham in recent weeks.

Both Martin and Sandleheath report that between 16 & 20% of vehicles are exceeding the 35 mph figures – and we can but assume that a similar situation is happening here.

If anyone else would like to be involved in making the village a safer place, please make contact with Phil Tandy as soon as possible.

##### 3. TRANSPORT

The possibility of withdrawal of the “Market” bus is still undecided. The Transport Committee of Dorset County Council was scheduled to discuss the change in subsidies at a meeting early in June, but as yet, we have not been advised as to the outcome.

Our District and County Councillor, Edward Heron, is aware of local consternation and we are hoping that an alternative will be made available if this service is withdrawn.

Robert Gilbey  
Traffic & Transport Representative

8<sup>th</sup> July 2013

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### Footpath Report : July 2013

#### State of the Paths

After the recent fine weather the paths have dried out, and many have also been cut or sprayed out by landowners: my thanks to them.

#### Problems

At the last meeting Councillor Crane mentioned waterlogging on F.p. 7 following recent work by the Electricity Board. I spoke to Mrs. Humphries who said that she would keep an eye on it, and following the fine weather it has dried out.

A walker complained to me that she had had difficulty opening gates on a permissive footpath round Manor Farm. I spoke to Mr. David Burrough who undertook to check and improve the fastenings.

#### Reminder

May I remind dog-owners that landowners are not required by law to provide access for dogs, although many of them do. It is illegal to cut wire or damage fences, for instance under stiles, and on someone else's land your dog should be with you on the footpath.

Please pick up after your pooch on the path!