

DAVENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Public Attendance: 3 members of the public attended the meeting and raised the following issues:

- Parking on Green Avenue
- Anti-social behaviour Hartford Road, Firthfields, Butchers Stile Field

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held Monday 26 March 2007 at Davenham Methodist Church commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Clrs: B Coker, Chairman; B Robinson, J Curran, A R Wood, A Bridge, C Colclough, E Betts, D Ravenscroft, S Batten and Jo Aldridge, Clerk

1 Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies from J Kerruish-Jones who is ill. D Ravenscroft declared an interest in item 3.2.

2 The Minutes of the previous meetings

2.1 The minutes of the full Council on 26 February 2007 & were accepted as a true record and signed.

2.2 Matters Arising

The February/March Action Log was noted:

06/11/4.1 A Wood agreed to contact the Planning Department to discuss further progress on the Oddfellows takeaway issue.

29/01/10.1 D Ravenscroft has asked for a quote from a local firm for drainage work to be carried out on Butchers Stile Field. It was agreed that a survey would first need to be completed. J Aldridge to liaise with D Ravenscroft to progress this further.

26/02/5.1.1 B Coker reported that Northwich Town Council already have a booking on the SID and have agreed to use it on Monarch Drive. NTC are prepared to organise this although they have asked for a volunteer from Davenham Parish. It was agreed that J Aldridge would write to Northwich Town Council to request a meeting with B Coker to discuss traffic calming measures. S Batten agreed to ask Kingsmead Residents Association for details of the survey they have already carried out on Monarch Drive.

26/02/6.2 It was confirmed that although there are sufficient bins on the Kingsmead development they are not being emptied often enough to be effective. It was agreed that B Coker would write to Redrow to persuade them to look at the issue and that Councillors from the Kingsmead Ward would continue to monitor the situation. It was further confirmed that the shops should take more responsibility for the rubbish created and that they are legally responsible for an area approximately 100m in front premises.

26/02/7.4 Following discussion it was resolved to replace the noticeboard situated in the centre of Davenham at a cost of approximately £1000. J Aldridge to obtain quote for the full cost of a two-pane lockable board prior to the next meeting.

3 Finance and Administration

3.1 It was resolved that payments for March totalling £3,277.09 as per the attached schedule be approved

3.2 Davenham Dynamoes

It was agreed that DPC would offer a grant of £100 to the Football Club. J Aldridge to action and inform.

3.3 The following correspondence was received:

- The election packs were delivered to the previous Clerk who refused to accept them. VRBC have not received the packs from GS and have now ordered a new print run as they have run out of packs.

Nomination and Consent to Nomination Forms have been received were available at the meeting. The Nomination Form needs to be proposed by someone registered on the Electoral Roll in Davenham Parish and seconded by another person also registered on the Electoral Roll for Davenham. The Candidate's Consent to Nomination needs to be witnessed, again by someone registered on the Electoral Roll in Davenham/Kingsmead Parish. Both forms need to be returned to the Clerk as soon as possible but BEFORE MONDAY 2nd APRIL. The Clerk will then add the electoral numbers to the forms and hand deliver them to VRBC before noon on Wednesday 4th April.

- **NOTICE OF TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE**

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 C601 DAVENHAM ROAD, DAVENHAM / RUDHEATH

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Cheshire County Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, proposes to make an order temporarily to prohibit vehicles in the following length of road:-

C601 DAVENHAM ROAD. DAVENHAM / RUDHEATH

At Billinge Green Railway Bridge

The alternative route during this closure will be via Davenham Road (C601), King Street (A530), Rudheath Roundabout, A556 ('Northwich By pass'¹), Davenham Roundabout, London Road (C653), Church Street (C601), Shipbrook Road (C601).

Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times. Access for emergency services and vehicular access to properties along the closed road will be maintained as far as possible.

The closure is necessary to enable railway bridge repairs to be carried out. It is anticipated that the works will be carried out from 16th April 2007 and will take approximately three weeks to complete.

This order will come into operation on 16th April 2007 and will continue in force for 18 months or for such less time as is necessary to complete the work to be executed in the highway.

- E-mail regarding dog fouling throughout the Village particularly Green Avenue, alleyway to the school by The British Legion, Church St access to Laburnum Field. Request for dog fouling notices to be installed at the end of all the alleyways in the village. Copy sent to Environmental Heath for follow-up by Environmental Protection Section (Columb McPhillips)
- UHY Hacker Young have been proposed by the Audit Commission as external auditor to all local councils for the period 2006-2007
- E-mail regarding Dukes Way which seems to be used as a car park by the parents of Kingsmead School and also people who use the shops. At certain times of the time day ie about 8.30am and 3pm it becomes a single track road with parents parking opposite each other.
- Cheshire County Council's response to the White Paper "Strong and Prosperous Communities" has been received and was circulated to Councillors
- A letter has been received from Davenham Recreation Bowling Club concerning broken glass and dog faeces adjacent to their premises and access path. They have requested a "No Dog" sign to be re-instated on the play area. The Club also express concerns regarding flooding on Laburnum Road which they feel is directly caused by the laying of tarmac on the field and further state that this flooding makes it dangerous for members and visitors to gain access to their premises.
- One member of the public has written expressing interest in the vacant Council seat for the Davenham Ward. They have been sent an election pack.

3.4 It was agreed that B Coker and J Aldridge would be added to the list of authorised signatories for the Parish Accounts and that the mailing address for the accounts would be changed to that of the current Clerk.

3.5 Grounds Maintenance

3.5.1 Grounds Maintenance Contract

It was agreed that VRBC would continue grass cutting on Laburnum Road and Butchers Stile Field. The quotation for the year is £920.00 plus VAT which represents a 3.4% increase on the previous year. This fee will be payable at the end of the 07-08 financial year. Clerk to issue contract.

3.5.1 Village Keeper

It was reported that the Village Keeper has not sent reports for work completed or submitted an invoice for February and March 2007. Although the Clerk has tried to make contact there has to date been no response. The Clerk has also requested a quotation for work to be completed during the 2007-2008 financial year and this has not been received. It was resolved that the Clerk will again write to the Village Keeper to further request the information required and also to ensure the current Keeper wishes to continue with this role.

4 Planning Matters

4.1 The schedules of Applications Received and Decisions made by VRBC were noted.

4.2 Notification has been received from VRBC that an appeal has recently been lodged against the refusal of application 06-2391-ADV for a freestanding directory sign at Kingsmead Square by Northwich Properties. The appellants have opted for a written representations procedure.

The advert appeals follow a slightly different procedure to normal appeals and the Council's statement is due at the Planning Inspectorate on 29 March 2007. Following discussion it was agreed that B Coker would send an objection on behalf of DPC.

5 Borough & County Matters

5.1 Highways matters

5.1.1 Safe Route to School – relocation of railings

The above issue was discussed at the recent MADSAG meeting and it was agreed that both DPC and MPC would send a letter to David Heyes expressing concern. A letter written by D Curran was agreed and will also be copied to VRBC Councillors.

5.1.2 Kingsmead crossroads and Davenham roundabout

It was noted that lines have been painted on the approach to Davenham roundabout and confirmed that the arrow signs on the A556 are at a statutory distance. Council agreed to continue to monitor the situation. The traffic flow appears to be better than it was following traffic-light adjustment

6 Ward Issues

6.1 Green Avenue parking issues

Photographs supplied by a member of the public detailing parking offences have been sent to the police. D Woodward has agreed to patrol the area and monitor the situation. It was agreed that the PCSO would be asked to target this area, issuing enforcement notices as required. Residents were advised to make applications for white lines to be painted in front of their drives to try to encourage more responsible parking. They were further advised to make a note of number plates and times of day when cars are parked in order to feedback to the PCSO for follow-up action.

6.2 Community Centre at Kingsmead Primary School

B Coker reported on a recent meeting held at the school to discuss the possibility of a Community Centre situated to the right of the school entrance. The proposal would include a hall, small meeting room, kitchen and toilet

facilities. It is envisaged that this would be an environmentally sustainable building similar in design to that of the school. This would be a long-term project proposed by the Governors rather than CCC and will require grant funding. It was agreed that this would be an excellent addition to current facilities although no comment will officially be made to the governors until a full proposal is submitted to DPC for consideration as part of the normal planning process

6.3 Distribution of April Newsletter

Following discussion it was agreed that the newsletter would be made available at various shops within the Parish and that notification of availability would be advertised on both noticeboards.

6.4 Mount Pleasant Road

Repairs have been made to the grass verges. It was agreed that Councillors would continue to monitor the situation although no further action is currently required.

7 Village Garden, Playing Fields & Footpaths

7.1 Groundwork Trust – Laburnum Road

Report circulated prior to the meeting. Following further information received it was agreed that drainage work needs to be completed on the field before anything further can happen. Concern was expressed regarding the work carried out by Groundwork Trust and it was agreed that no further invoices would be paid until some progress was noted. GT are applying to WREN (£40,000) and Football Association (£25,000) for part funding although the submissions have not yet been made. The Committee agreed that the public consultation exercise undertaken by GT was insufficient and presented a biased view of what members of the Parish envisaged. It was noted that the costs associated with the project are rising and agreed that DPC had put aside funds to cover maintenance costs and not capital expenditure. It was resolved that more regular dialogue is required between the Council and GT and that the working group would arrange a meeting with GT to draw up specific aims and objectives and agree a timetable of works.

7.2 Replacement of stiles

Cheshire County Council is anticipating additional funding for the replacement of stiles and the funding should be confirmed within the next few weeks. DPC has made a request for the stile on Footpath Number 9 which leads from the Dairy Farm, Beehive Lane to Fountain Lane to be replaced with a kissing gate. This has been authorised by the couple who farm the land. It is expected that the Probation Service will carry out the installations free of charge and they will liaise directly with the landowners once this has been confirmed. It was agreed that J Aldridge would confirm ownership of the farmland before proceeding with the application. T Betts to provide further details.

7.3 Drainage on Butchers Stile Field

It was agreed that the drainage work on the field needs to be completed as soon as possible. D Ravenscroft has already approached a local firm to quote for the work and has thorough knowledge of the drainage issue. J Aldridge to arrange for another quotation and ensure that the contractors liaise directly with D Ravenscroft.

7.4 Litter Clearance

Following discussion regarding glass on the play areas it was resolved that part of the role of the Village Keeper is to undertake a weekly inspection of Laburnum Road and Butchers Stile fields together with the village garden and remove all litter. Clerk to write to Village Keeper reminding him of this role.

8 Antisocial Behaviour & Neighbourhood Watch

8.1 MADSAG – The report of the meeting held on 15 March 2007 was noted

8.2 Vandalism and ASB at various locations within the Parish

It was agreed that PCSO who starts work in the Parish on 1/04/07 will be asked to look at the above issue as a matter of priority.

9 Other Business

There was no other business

10 Date of Next Meeting: 30 April 2007 at 7.30pm at Kingsmead Primary School

The meeting closed at 10.15pm

Minutes Approved:

Jo Aldridge

Parish Clerk

Chairman

Date: