

**Minutes of Deopham and Hackford Parish Council Meeting
in the Gralix Hall on Wednesday 8th November 2017**

Present :

Councillors : Martin Skidmore, Jackie Phoenix
Chris Biggs, John Chilvers
Chris Coath

Cllr. M. Dewsbury - Norfolk County Council

Parish Clerk : Rowena Harkness

Parishioners : Jason Marsh

1. **Apologies** - Mark Howard, Jayne Allan, Cllr. Y.Bendle - South Norfolk District,

2. **Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda**

2.1 Jackie Phoenix declared an interest in both the planning applications.

3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 11th October 2017 were agreed as a correct record.
Proposed John Chilvers, seconded Jackie Phoenix

4. **Matters Arising**

4.1 Ivy Bungalow, Victoria Lane, Deopham, NR18 9DU (App.No 2017/1383) – proposed redevelopment of Ivy Farm. Nothing new to report.

4.2 The telephone box on Church Road is looking very smart – big thanks to Jason (No.20) and Helen & Nigel (No.21) for their all their hard work.

4.3 The issue with the driveways on Church Road has been resolved. Jason met with Bob West on site and the result was that the drives were done in ashphalt and chippings – not tarmac like the Vicarage Rd. Drives – but everyone seems to be happy with them. Jason was also able to show Bob the drainage issues and Bob has agreed to have the ditch dug out and the chambers cleared and pipes jetted!

5. **Correspondence**

5.1 Correspondence was circulated around the table.

6. **Finance**

6.1 The account balances as at 18/10/2017 were £463.32 in the current account and £3,043.88 in the deposit. There are no unrepresented cheques and these are the reconciled balances.

6.2 The payment of £357.50 to the Gralix Hall for the rent of the hall for 11 meetings from April 2016 – March 2017 was approved. Proposed John Chilvers, seconded Jackie Phoenix.

6.3 The payment of £400 to The Deopham Rix Trust for the rent of the Playing Field was approved. Proposed John Chilvers, seconded Chris Coath. Jackie took the cheque as the trustees were meeting the following evening so she could hand it over.

6.4 The transfer of £500 from the deposit to the current account was approved. Proposed Martin Skidmore, seconded Jackie Phoenix.

7. **Planning**

7.1 The Willows, Low Common, Deopham NR18 9DZ – Single storey extension with wood burner. (App. No. 2017/2415). After discussion and looking the plans it was agreed that the Parish Council would recommend approval but point out that we are concerned that the flue for the woodburner is too low and may cause problems with

smoke in neighbouring properties.

- 7.2 Land Opposite Walnut Tree Farm, Stalland Lane, Deopham, NR18 9DN – Formation of new machinery and hay store. (App. No. 2017/2472). After discussion and looking at the plans and photographs of the site from the road taken by Chris Coath, it was agreed to recommend approval but that due to the scale of the building and the current number of containers on site, a condition of approval should be removal of the existing containers. The containers have not been moved since 2008 and can be seen from Stalland Lane and on Google Earth. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk submit the photos with the comments.

8. Deopham Playing Field

- 8.1 The Parish Clerk reported that she had submitted the application to Biffa on 1st November and that she had received a letter dated 3rd November from them saying that the application is rejected because they “give preference to projects which have a current and signed lease agreement of at least 10 years in place or that the applicant owns the project location site”. Because the lease is in the name of the Playing Field Association and not in the name of the Playing Field Development Group - which is who was making the application because Parish Councils are not allowed to apply – they did not consider we had a legitimate lease. The Parish Clerk did speak to the Grants Officer to explain the position but he said it made no difference. He also said that any grant funding would have to be paid into the bank account of the group applying (ie could not go through the Parish Council bank account) and that the applicant/group would need to have a constitution.
- 8.2 The letter also said that they will not accept a resubmission of the application for a minimum of 3 months from the date of the letter – so after February 3rd 2018.
- 8.3 The Chairman said that he had spoken to a solicitor who having looked at the current lease couldn't see any problems with getting a new lease done in the name of a new group and Jackie and the Parish Clerk felt there is no reason why the Playing Development Group couldn't open a bank account and become properly constituted.
- 8.4 It was agreed to spend the next few months getting the lease sorted and a group established.

9. Any Other Business

- 9.1 Jason reported that he has set a date for Deopham Fun and Music Day to be June 10th 2018. He has sent an early notification to The Net for the next edition. He is thinking of the Funday being 1 – 4pm with all the traditional Fun day stalls and then having something 4 – 6 pm which would have music and food for local people. This may need a licence – which he is aware of and will sort out. He has been offered the chance to have a 'fair' depending on the gate width of the Playing Field. Also hoping to get Tug of War teams!

- 10. Date of Next Meeting** Wednesday December 13th 2017, 7.30pm.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.30pm.