

**Minutes of the Meeting of Doddinghurst Parish Council General Purpose Committee
held at 20.00 on the 21st January 2009, Parish Room (adjacent the Village Hall),
Doddinghurst Road, Doddinghurst**

Present: Cllrs Gerry Smith (Part-time Chairman), Alan Farrow (Chairman), Mrs Julia Le Page, Graham Bateson, Mrs Alison Richards, Mrs Amanda McGregor.

1. **Apologies for absence.** No absences.
2. **Declaration of Interests relating to items on the agenda.** None declared
3. **👏 Resolved:** Approved and signed, the minutes of the GP meeting held on the 19th Nov 2008.
4. **Information:** Actions arising from GP meeting on the 15th Oct 2008 – see Agenda.
5. **👏 Resolved:** Approved new fees due for implementation in April 09 as follows:
 - (i) Room rent. Rate to rise by £0.50p/ session to £7.50p/session.
 - (ii) Burial Ground. Rates to rise by 5% rounded up to the nearest £5. (NB This increase covers an 18 month period).
 - (iii) DOFC. No change. Grant to remain at a maximum of £2500 and provided as a 60:40 split of costs. (40% to DOFC).
 - (iv) Allotments. Full Plot fee to rise to £60 from £50 per annum. Half plot fee remains pro rata. (First increase since allotments launched 3 years ago.)
6. **👏 Resolved:** Approved a budget of £500 to purchase a Woodland mix of seeds for Nature Trail.
7. **Information:** Cemetery Notice Board – replacement awaited from Keith Parker.
8. **Information:** Memorial Plaque for Tree dedication – Order approved and delivery is awaited.
9. **Information:** Village Sign refurbishment. Peter Kurton has been identified as the original designer and provider of this sign. He has agreed to refurbish the main oval of the sign if the Parish Council organises its removal from, and replacement in, the frame. A quote from the frame manufacture to do this work, and refurbish the frame at the same time, is in hand. The cost of restoring the oval has been quoted as £400, plus materials.
10. **Information:** Play area and related items. Noted: The clerk is to provide proposals for review relating to the new item of equipment planned for 2009/10.
11. **Information:** Noted that new trees planted on Church Lane had been deliberately damaged. Letters to residents of Church Lane to be prepared and an article in the Link to explain why and by whom the trees had been planted.
12. **Information:** Footpath monitoring – issues with roaming dogs and overgrown and inaccessible definitive footpaths raised with Countryside management. Risk assessments are in hand with Clr Farrow.
13. **Any Other Urgent Business strictly for information only.** Noted that overgrown nettles adjacent St Margaret's causing sightline obstruction. Also nettles and hardcore on verge at Church Lane alongside garden belonging to Barn Mead resident an eyesore.

The meeting closed at 21.45

Signed:

Dated: 18th February 2009