

Diptford Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 8th August 2023

Diptford Village Hall

MINUTES

Present Cllrs Franklin (Chair) (SF), Parker-Davidson (Vice Chair) (SPD), Peach (CP), Crocker (TC), Hill (SH), Lethbridge (LL), Randall (JR), Hancock (DH) (SHDC) and Ali Kohler (Clerk)

There were no members of the public in attendance.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2023 101 Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Carrol (LC), Pannell (GP)(SHDC) and Thomas (DT)(DCC)

Matters arising.

County Councillors Report.

Cllr Thomas did not submit a report to this meeting

South Hams District Councillors Report

See appendix 2 <https://www.diptfordparishcouncil.org/meetings.php>.

Open Forum

2023 102 Declarations of Interest – Cllr Hill planning item 2304/23/VAR

2023 103 The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 11th July 2023, as previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

2023 104 Diptford Playing Field

a) To receive the financial statement for Diptford Amenity Trust
Current Account: £721.27 Savings Account: £46.49

Receipts

Interest received - £0.03

Payments

K Jane – grass cutting June 2023 - £85.00

Mr Kendell removal of wasps' nest - £60.00

K Jane – grass cutting July 2023 - £85.00

The wasps' nest which was reported in the playing field was removed by pest control.

It was agreed to renew the contract for the insurance and inspections of the play equipment.

b) **Tennis Courts** – clerk still currently waiting for inspection team to update pc.

c) **Play Equipment** - the condition of the play equipment was discussed and also the repairs needed to the play equipment. A meeting of the parish councillors was agreed for Friday 18th August at the playing field to have a look over what the general

condition of the play equipment and then the parish council will be able to formulate a plan of action going forward.

Repairs to the play equipment have been authorised, and a welder has been engaged to complete the repairs before the next parish council meeting

2023 105 Highways and Community Lengthsman

- a) **Lengthsman** - The lengthsman has been working through a list of tasks.
- b) **Ploughing of Lanes** – Cllr Hill had a meeting with Nick Colton. Nick Colton suggested that he may be able to arrange for road closures to allow the parish council to arrange for the work to be safely carried out. Clerk to investigate the possibility of using a workforce from the Community Payback Scheme.
- c) **Road Sweeper** – Clerk to contact Cllr Thomas with regards to arranging for DCC to send a road sweeper to the parish to complete a specified route.
- d) **Highways Notice** – Reference – TTRO2350686 – Road Patching – Full notice is displayed on the parish council's website

2023 106 Planning

a) Planning applications considered:

1. Reference 2304/23/VAR – Application Type: Variation of Condition. Location: Barn adjacent to Robins Nest, Cross Farm, Diptford TQ9 7NU. Works: Application for variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning consent 4240/18/FUL. – **The parish council strongly object to this planning variation – the variation application is so different from the original planning application, that it should be a new full planning application and not a variation application. The variation plans show that it is not of the footprint of the existing barn. The line of the barn is being brought forward and breaches the current line of the property. Neighbouring properties will be excessively overlooked as the original plan did not have windows on the west side of the property but the variation now has windows. There is also concern about the drainage on the land.**
 2. Reference: 1999/23/FUL – Application Type: Full Planning Application. Application for a single storey rear extension to provide back access and garden room, change of use to land to residential garden. Location: Etheridge Farm Barn, Diptford TQ9 7NQ – **No objection**
 3. Reference: 2452/23/AGR – Application Type: Agricultural Determination. Location: Land at Sx 7455 5780 Diptford. Proposal: Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed agricultural machinery and fodder storage building measuring 18m (L) x 13.5m (B) x 5.7m to ridge. **No comments required, for information only.**
- b) Planning applications to note/decisions:

1. Reference: 0411/23/HHO Location: Diptford Green, Diptford, TQ9 7PA. Applicant Name: Mr Steven Partridge. Application Type; Householder. Proposal: Householder application for demolition of existing conservatory and replacement with a single storey extension. **Decision date: 27 June 2023. Decision: Conditional Approval.**
2. Reference: 2036/23/NMM. Location: Field at Gladsfield, Diptford, Devon, TQ9 7PD. Applicant Name: Miss Jane Acton. Application type: Non-Material Minor Amendment to planning consent 4100/18/FUL (Erection of polytunnel, greenhouse, barn, construction of new access track, hardstanding adjacent to site

entrance, construction of pond) for addition of first floor/loft space within the barn (retrospective). **Decision date: 7 July 2023. Decision: Conditional Approval**

3. Reference: 1208/23/PDM Location: Barn at Sx 752 546 Halwell. Applicant Name: Harefold Ltd. Application Type: Prior Approval Agricultural Building to dwelling C3. Proposal: Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed change of use of agricultural building to 1 No dwelling house (Class C3) & associated development (Class Q (a+b)) **Decision date: 13 July 2023 Decision: Prior Approval Given**

c) Planning Applications Withdrawn

None

2023 107 Finance

1. The following payments were approved:

Payments

A Kohler – Clerks Office - £16.00

A Kohler – Mileage/Parking - £9.00

A Kohler – Stationary - £4.00

HMRC – Clerk PAYE - £123.00

A Kohler – Salary July 2023 - £492.77

ICO – annual subscription - £35.00

J Widdecombe – lengthsman – invoice 2066 – buddleholes June - £198.00

J Widdecombe – lengthsman – invoice 2082 – buddleholes July - £198.00

Receipts

Interest received £10.09

Transfers

None

2. The Financial Statement was received:

Current Account 2 nd August 2023	£7,170.04	£344.00	P3 - Footpath maintenance
MINUS Unpresented: Clerk's expenses	£29.00	£1,000.00	Winter Emergency Planning
PLUS, Uncleared receipts	£0.00	£5,283.00	Community lengthsman project
Current Account	£7,141.04	£5,700.13	Amenity trust
Savings Accounts	£14858.11	£2,530.98	Contingency
TOTAL FUNDS	£21,999.15	£14,858.11	Total

Total uncommitted funds £ 7,141.04

2023 108 Glebe Land

No update

2023 109 Graveyard

A decision over the future of the management of the graveyard is expected soon. All documents are now with the Privy Council.

2023 110 Correspondence

Concerns were raised from parishioners over the works by South West Water at Diptford Sewerage Plant for which there has been no forewarning and no timescale given for the works which are being carried out. South West Water have been contacted and we are currently waiting for an update

2023 111 P3 Parish Paths

Cllr Parker-Davidson to update at the September Parish Council Meeting. Clerk to contact North Huish Parish Clerk as there is a large amount of knotweed and hymalayan balsam plants on the footpath from Hepburn House down to Gara Bridge adjacent to the river.

2023 112 Community Policing

The community police officer who covers Diptford Parish is PC James Bolton. A request for crime statistics was requested and he advised that there were 64 contacts made with parishioners since the start of the year but only 2 of them related to crimes which were reported

2023 113 The South Hams Society

It was agreed not to approve an application for membership to the South Hams Society.

2023 114 Parish Council Committee Positions

It was agreed that these would be looked at and discussed at the September parish council meeting. Clerk to circulate details to councillors prior to the meeting.

2023 115 Any Other Business

Cllr Peach visited Little Greyhills open day and found it very interesting

Planning Enforcement – Clerk to contact planning to chase up enforcement cases which should have had a decision reached as per councillors

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Next Meeting:

12th September 2023 at 7pm, Diptford Parish Hall.

10th October 2023 at 7pm, Diptford Parish Hall

14th November 2023 at 7pm Diptford Parish Hall

12th December 2023 at 7pm Diptford Parish Hall