

Diptford Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 12th March 2024

Diptford Village Hall

MINUTES

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

Two members of the public were present.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2024 027 Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Carrol (LC) and Pannell (GP)(SHDC).

Matters arising.

County Councillors Report.

See appendix 1 <https://www.diptfordparishcouncil.org/meetings.php>

South Hams District Councillors Report

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

Open Forum

2024 028 Declarations of Interest - none

2024 029 The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 13th February 2024, as previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

2024 030 Diptford Playing Field

a) To receive the financial statement for Diptford Amenity Trust
Current Account: £,3448.50 Savings Account: £1,158.50

Receipts

Interest received - £1.28

Payments

none

Transfers In

none

Transfers Out

none

b) **Tennis Courts** – no further update

c) **Play Equipment** – waiting for P Tanner to complete repair works. Currently the main climbing frame is still closed waiting for repair works to be completed.

d) **Fund Raising/Grants** – Three grant applications have been submitted to National Lottery, Sport England and Diptford Community Grant. Updates will be given when further received.

Cllrs Thomas and Hancock left the meeting.

2024 031 Highways and Community Lengthsman

- a) **Lengthsman - buddleholes** are still being cleared by our lengthsman when reported.
- b) **Highways notice reference** - Work order 2106511 – East Leigh Cross to East Moore Cross has been postponed to mid-May at the earliest. Further updates will be issued when new date has been confirmed.
- c) **Highways** – Cllr Franklin is meeting with Nick Colton from highways to look at the pothole situation in the parish.

2024 032 Planning

a) Planning applications considered:

1. none

b) Planning applications to note/decisions:

1. Reference 4025/23/PDM – Location: Barn at Sx 752 546, Halwell. Description: Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed change of use of agricultural building to 1 No dwellinghouse (Class C3) & associated development (Class Q (a+b)) **Decision: Prior Approval Required and Refused. Date: 13th February 2024**

c) Planning Applications Withdrawn

1. None

2024 033 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
J & MJ Widdicombe – invoice 2220 - £118.80
HMRC – Clerk PAYE - £153.40
A Kohler – Salary February 2024 - £718.54
D Murrell Fencing & Landscaping – clear broken branches - £150.00

Receipts

Interest received - £11.36
Locality Grant DCC - £918.00 (to be transferred to Amenity Trust)

Transfers In from Reserves

£118.80 for lengthsman

Transfers Out

none

2. The Financial Statement was received:

Current Account 6 th March 2024	£2,219.19	£344.00	P3 - Footpath maintenance
MINUS Unpresented: Clerk's expenses	£29.00	£1,000.00	Winter Emergency Planning
PLUS, Uncleared receipts	£0.00	£5,019.00	Community lengthsman project
		£500.00	Locality Grant for Amenity Trust
Current Account	£2,190.19	£600.13	Amenity trust
Savings Accounts	£10,082.23	£2,619.10	Contingency
TOTAL FUNDS	£12,272.42	£10,082.23	Total

Total uncommitted funds £2,190.19

2024 034 Glebe Land

Cllr Parker-Davidson has agreed with the tenants of the Glebeland for the Lengthsman to assist with cutting back the overgrowth from the road facing wall. Cllr Parker-Davidson has also agreed to assist the Lengthsman under his management in completing the task.

2024 035 Graveyard

SHDC has agreed that they will do 3-4 cuts per year, but there is some concern about keeping the paths clear to visited graves for the immediate future and possibly into the future. At present, the PCC are undertaking a grave mapping exercise as requested by SHDC before the management of the churchyard moves to SHDC. The PCC has also undertaken a clean up and are hoping to undertake further clean up days throughout the year.

2024 036 Correspondence

- a) Primrose Trail – a letter has been received from the Primrose Trail Group. The letter gave an update on the latest progress of the Primrose Trail project. They outlined proposals to lay down way markers at the start and end of the trail (Stage 1 from South Brent to Gara Bridge – quiet lanes and bridleways). The route of the trail has been altered to include only existing public rights of way from South Brent to Kingsbridge, using safer off-road options. This stage has been chosen before revisiting other parts of the route which are presenting more challenging issues. The parish council has been in discussions with Devon County Council and South Hams District Council regarding the claims of the Primrose Trail Group. Save the Avon Valley Group are exploring options of having the waymarking revoked with Councillors Julian Brazil, Rufus Gilbert and Dan Thomas.

It is understood that at a recent SHDC meeting regarding the cycle path development that the Primrose Trail was dismissed as a non-viable option.

The Parish Council do not support the Primrose Trail Group with their proposals and have also received letters of objection from residents'.

- b) St Mary's Church – The church has requested a grant from the Parish Council. The Parish Council already has a sum of money in the 2024/2025 budget to help towards the Graveyard maintenance. Unfortunately, the budget for 2024/2025 has been already agreed and no request was received in time for the budget meeting in December/January, when the Parish Council discussed and agreed the finance for the new financial year.

2024 037 P3 Parish Paths

Cllr Parker-Davidson is checking the paths.

2024 038 Defibrillator Training

Currently waiting to hear from the North Huish Clerk for information on the training.

2024 039 Budget Monitoring

The latest budget monitoring figures were circulated to councillors for information.

2024 040 Speaker/Date for Annual Parish Meeting

Date was agreed as Tuesday 9th April 2024 at 7pm. Clerk to try and contact Airband to see if they can provide a speaker. Cllr Parker Davidson to contact Chair of The Four Rivers Dementia Alliance to see if she was available to do a short talk.

2024 041 Grant request to Four Rivers Dementia Alliance

Deferred to April Meeting

2024 042 Internal Auditor

It was agreed to continue with the existing internal auditor of Microshade VSM.

2024 043 Any Other Business

Cllr Carrol is now the Chair of FODS

Andrew Savery to be contacted to collect the unused sandbags and to be thanked for providing them so quickly when urgently needed.

2024 044 – Part B

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Next Meeting:

9th April 2024 at 7pm Annual Parish Meeting, followed on by the April Meeting of the Parish Council.

14th May 2024 at 7pm Annual Parish Council Meeting followed on by the May Meeting of the Parish Council