

DIPTFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING - HELD AT DIPTFORD PARISH HALL TQ9 7NY

ON TUESDAY 20th May 2025 @ 7.30pm following the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

- 1) **Open Forum – Public & Parishioners (15 minutes)** – no points raised.
- 2) **Present** - Cllr S Franklin (Chair), Cllr T Crocker, Cllr G Paterson, Cllr C Peach, Cllr S Hill, Cllr L Carroll, C Cllr D Thomas, D Cllr G Pannell.

In Attendance – Mr Ralph Mortimore

- 3) **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr S Parker-Davidson (Vice Chair), Cllr L Lethbridge.
- 4) **Declarations on interest** – none received.

5) **Minutes**

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting – Tuesday 15th April 2025.

Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday 15th April 2025.

Minutes have been circulated – proposed by Cllr L Carroll & seconded by Cllr G Paterson with all in agreement and duly signed by the Chair – Cllr S Franklin.

6) **Matters Arising**

- a) FODS – Cllr L Carroll reported that a business case was submitted and a £12,000 donation has been received to use for outdoor spaces at the school.

7) **Reports**

- a) County Councillor D Thomas – reported as follows:-
 May's election saw the political map of Devon dramatically redrawn. The Lib Dems went from 9 to 27 Cllrs (4 short of an outright majority). The Conservatives went from 40 to 7 Cllrs. The Green Party gained 4 members, from 2 to 6 Cllrs. The Independents are now at 2, down from 3 Cllrs. Julian Brazil has been elected Leader of the Lib Dems and will become Leader at County later this month. He has announced that he will be resigning from his position as leader at SHDC. Paul Arnott, the Leader of East Devon District Council, will be his county deputy. A new county cabinet has been selected and will be announced at the annual meeting on May 22nd. Reform UK are the official opposition, with 18 Cllrs. The South Hams is the only authority area in Devon with no Reform members.

b) District Councillor G Pannell & D Hancock – Cllr G Pannell reported - Dan Thomas has been elected as Leader of SHDC & David Hancock is now a member of Executive Planning & Strategy Committee. Devolution – Main Government have now come back and asked for one proposal for Devon to be submitted.

Cllr C Peach – commented that the Road Sweeper has still not been in the village – Cllr G Pannell to chase this up with SHDC.

c) Diptford Playing Field/Amenity Trust – the below bullet points to be agreed by the Parish Council prior to the first meeting of the Amenity Trust following the Parish Council Meeting.

- Diptford Parish Council has the custodianship of the ‘playing field’ land through a ‘legal gift of covenant’ from the prior owners.
- The Amenity Charitable Trust was set up to facilitate the running & management of the land & its adoption as a Play area for the local community on behalf of the Parish Council. It was decided that all councillors would be trustees.
- The main funding for the Amenity Trust is from the Parish Council. This is through:
 - Direct financing - £500 from the Parish Council to Amenity Trust. (do this as payment).
 - Providing Insurances
 - Financing grass cutting.
 - Provision of 3rd party inspections.
- The Parish Council retains overall responsibility for Overseeing Public Safety is maintained.

All cllrs in agreement with the above proposals.

d) Tree Warden – nothing to report.

e) P3 Co-Ordinator – nothing to report.

8) Planning Applications / Matters.

Applications received from South Hams District Council –

a) For Information only – no comment required - Application Number: 1456/25/PDM - Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed change of use of agricultural buildings to 2No dwellinghouses (class C3) & for associated development (Class Q) Location: Barn At SX 757 541 (Beech Grove) Halwell

Decisions received from South Hams District Council -

- a) Conditional Approval – Application no 2501/24/FUL – Land at SX 755560 – Demolition of existing barn and erection of two dwellings.
- b) Conditional Approval – Barn Adjacent Robins Nest, Diptford – Variation of Condition 1 (approved drawings) of planning consent 2304/23/VAR for change to house roof.
- c) Temporary Campsite Notification – Land Opposite Holsome Park, Diptford – Pop-up Campsite for up to a total of 60 days from 20th April until 14th September 2025.

9) Correspondence

- a) South Devon National Landscape Estuaries Environmental Management Plan – 28th May 6pm via Zoom.
- b) Devon Wildlife Trust – Free Fruit Trees for Community Spaces.
- c) South Devon Catchments Partnership Meeting – 6th June 2025.

10) Highways

- a) Village Road Sweeping still outstanding to be done by SHDC.

11) Finances.

Payments

BACS – 14.4.25 = £240.25 (vat £31.35) – DALC (Annual Sub).
 BACS – 14.4.25 = £17.41 (vat £2.90) – Sharon Raggett (Files for Council Paperwork).
 BACS – 16.4.25 = £150.00 – R.Paul (Village Xmas Tree).
 BACS – 29.4.25 = £933.82 (vat £155.64) – Cornilleau (T/Tennis Table – Amenity Trust)
 BACS – 3.5.25 = £39.99 (vat £6.67) – Ralph Mortimore (Paint – Amenity Trust).

Bank Balances May 2025

<u>Treasurers Account</u>	£12,795.00
<u>Instant Access Account</u>	£7,228.09

12) Any Items to go onto the next Parish Council meeting Agenda.

- a) Cllr S Franklin – Steve Hill has decided to step down from the Parish Council, we thank him for all his hard work as a Parish Councillor its much appreciated.

There be no further business the meeting closed 8.25pm
 ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC WHO HAS SPECIAL NEEDS AND REQUIRES A COPY OF THESE MINUTES SENT TO THEM – PLEASE CONTACT THE CLERK 01364 654607. They can also be found on the Parish web site – diptfordparishcouncil.org