

DIPTFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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

ON TUESDAY 19th May 2026 @ 7.30pm

1) Open Forum – Public & Parishioners (15 minutes) –

a) Many thanks to D Cllr G Pannell for organising the removal of the dumped caravan they have cleaned it up and left it very tidy.

2) Present - Cllr S Franklin (Chair), Cllr T Crocker, Cllr G Paterson, Cllr L Carroll, Cllr D Dugdall, Cllr L Lethbridge, Cllr C Peach.

In Attendance – no public present.

3) Apologies for Absence – C Cllr D Thomas, Cllr S Parker-Davidson, D Cllr G Pannell.

4) Declarations of interest –

5) Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday 21st April 2026.

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held Tuesday 21st April 2026.

Minutes have been circulated and read – proposed by Cllr T Crocker & seconded by Cllr C Peach with all in agreement and duly signed by the Chair – Cllr S Franklin.

6) Matters Arising

a) Emergency Plan – carried forward to the next meeting.

b) Harris Fencing on Village Building Site – The Clerk confirmed that Morrish Homes have been contacted regards this and a reply has been received to say they will be attending site to ensure the fencing is made safe.

7) Reports

a) County Councillor D Thomas – no report given.

b) District Councillor G Pannell & D Hancock – no report given.

c) Diptford Amenity Trust.

1) New Climbing Frame – Cllr S Franklin reported - many thanks to Cllr L Carroll for organising the new climbing frame with Rhino Play and to Cllrs Crocker & Paterson for removing the old climbing frame. Rhino Play have started on site today and will be finished by Thursday.

2) Swing Seats (Zurich Report) – links on the top of the swings need replacing, the Zurich report has asked that they are replaced before further use. Cllr T Crocker

confirmed that he will replace the links on this. Cradle Swing replacement – Cllrs Paterson & Crocker will manufacture a new frame for this to go on.

3) Boundary walk which was organised by Mike Cox was very successful, it raised some more money for the new climbing frame, also thanks to Julian Holiss for sponsoring the refreshments.

d) Tree Warden – LANTRA Tree Safety Inspection Course for Will Young – the Parish Council would like to offer Will £75 towards this course on the understanding that he will undertake the next tree safety report on the Playpark FOC.

e) P3 Co-Ordinator – Cllr S Parker-Davidson is liaising with a work party from the Ramblers to renew a footpath. The stone for this has been delivered.

f) Parish Councillors reports.

a) Defib at Curtisknowle needs new pads – prices for a new defib to be sought as this one is over 10 years old.

8) Planning Applications / Matters.

Applications received from South Hams District Council –

a) Application no 0498/26/FUL – Creber Industrial Units TQ9 7NG – Replacement of small industrial building. The Parish Council Support this application – all in agreement.

b) Application no 0305/26/FUL – (Neighbouring Parish Consultation) North Beneknowle TQ9 7LU – Application for a new external swimming pool in the residential curtilage and change in use of a portion of land from Agricultural/Woodland to residential and to erect a new garage outbuilding on that land. The Parish Council Support this application – all in agreement.

c) Application no 0969/26/HHO – Etheridge Farm Barn TQ9 7NQ – Householder application for erection of a single storey porch extension to the north elevation of the dwelling to form a new principle entrance. The Parish Council Support this application – all in agreement.

Decisions received from South Hams District Council

a) Appeal Decision – Murtwell House TQ9 7NQ - Part Granted -

The Inspector has allowed the appeal as follows:

Ground (a) appeal should succeed in part only, planning permission granted for:

- the change of use of the dwelling Murtwell House from residential (Class C3) to a mixed use of residential and International Macrobiotic Cookery School;
- the use of an outbuilding for residential purposes in connection with an International Macrobiotic Cookery School;
- the construction and use of an unauthorised wooden structure as an office.

b) Conditional Approval – Application no 3503/25/HHO – Robins Nest TQ9 7NU – Householder application for proposed single storey rear extension to create dining room and 2 storey side extension to create a workshop/utility space and additional bedroom.

9) Correspondence

10) Highways

- a) Cllr Paterson reported – many thanks to Dan Thomas and Highways for their work on the road down to Bearscombe.
- b) Cllr S Franklin reported – the Stop Sign in the Village has been done, the white line is done and it is lit.
- c) Cllr C Peach reported – the visibility Splay at Shorter Cross & Crabadon Cross needs cutting – this will be reported on the website and reported to Nick Colton – Highways.

11) Finances.

Payments

BACS – 27.4.26 = £666.00 – Zurich (Annual Insurance Policy).
 BACS – 27.4.26 = £500 – Diptford Church (Churchyard Maintenance Grant).
 BACS – 1.5.26 = £556.20 (vat £92.70) – Wiltshires (P3 Stone).
 BACS – 5.5.26 = £54.00 (vat £9.00) – Western Web (Website Audit).
 BACS – 5.5.26 = £180.00 (vat £30.00) – John Widdicombe (Lengthsman).
 BACS – 5.5.26 = £260.00 – K Jane (Grass, Weeds and Strimming).
 BACS – 10.5.26 = £9,922.20 (vat £1,653.70) – Rhino Play (New Climbing Frame).
 BACS – 11.5.26 = £302.40 (vat £50.40) – Defib Warehouse (News Pads).

Bank Balances April 2026

<u>Parish Council Community Account</u>	£28,957.92
<u>Parish Council Instant Access Account</u>	£7,272.54
	<u>£36,230.46</u>
 <u>Including P3 Monies</u>	 £1,996.50
 <u>Amenity Trust Treasurers Account</u>	 £1,173.77
<u>Amenity Trust Instant Access Account</u>	£6,341.89
	 <u>£7,515.66</u>

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

a) Defib Servicing and replacement.

There be no further business the meeting closed 8.34pm

Next Meeting Date – Tuesday 16th June 2026 @ 7.30pm.

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