

## Diptford Parish Council Remote Meeting

Tuesday 12 May 2020

7.30 pm Following the AGM of the council

### MINUTES

#### 1 member of the public was in attendance

**Present** Cllrs Franklin (SF) (Chair), Foster, (JF), Baggott (BB), Crocker (TC), Hill (SH), Lethbridge (LL), Parker-Davidson (SPD), Peach (CP), Hosking (DCC), Smerdon (SHDC), Pannell (SHDC) and Sally Smale (Clerk)

#### Report from Cllr Smerdon (SHDC)

##### See app. 1

Cllr Smerdon also reported that the carparks at Bigbury and North Sands beach would be opening Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May - phone only payments at present and that the toilets would open 22<sup>nd</sup> May. Car parking in towns is to remain free for the present. More would be opening on a rolling programme.

#### Report from Cllr Hosking (DCC)

Cllr Hosking has been sending regular updates through to the council over the month. He thanked Rev. Sayle for all his efforts co-ordinating the emergency support volunteer programme in the parish. He reiterated that there was emergency funding still available and urged anyone who needs support of any kind to contact him. He reminded council that the recycling centre in Ivybridge was now open for essential waste only and warned that long queues were expected in the first few weeks. There is still funding available through his locality grant.

Cllr Hosking has proposed the Primrose Line for a feasibility study into re-opening the line. Comments are welcome.

CP commented that it would probably only be used for recreational purposes.

SPD commented that it would be an asset to the parish if opened for recreational purposes

SF commented that she felt the benefits might not justify too great expenditure on the feasibility study.

SF asked what was happening during the pandemic period with road repairs. Cllr Hosking confirmed that work is progressing as normal as possible.

A member of the public gave further details of the planning application 1015/20/FUL. The emphasis for the build is energy efficiency, longevity and sustainability. SF congratulated him on the design and access statement.

SF had been asked to raise 2 issues by members of the public:

- 1) The rooks nesting in the trees in the playing field causing a nuisance and mess. It was agreed that the problem would ease after the nesting season and that while rooks are not granted any specific legal protection the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 protects all birds, their nest and eggs making it an offence to intentionally damage or destroy an active nest or prevent parent birds access to their nests.
- 2) Could the village hall committee give reassurance that prior to opening it would be deep-cleaned? SH confirmed that plans were already in place for this to happen – a company still needs to be found and plans confirmed for continual cleaning pending further government

advice. The hall will only open to the school initially and the committee is waiting to hear from the school re a proposed re-opening date.

**2020/19** There were no apologies for absence (SF took the Chair as JF was having technical difficulties and the council were unable to hear him.

**2020/20** LL registered an interest in item 2020/24 b) on the agenda.

**2020/21** The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> April 2020, as previously circulated, were confirmed and will be signed by the Chair

**2020/22** Highways and Community Lengthsman  
a) It was agreed that SPD would ask the Lengthsman to start on road-sign cleaning.

**2020/23** Diptford Playing Field

a) Diptford Amenity Trust Accounts were noted

Current account £ 4,780.31

Savings Account £ 36.30

**2020/24** Planning

a) 1015/20/FUL T Roe Creation of new dwelling to replace Class Q approval (0322/20/PDM)

Address: Larcombe Barns Larcombe Diptford Totnes TQ9 7PD

It was agreed that this was an attractive design fitting into the landscape and councillors were impressed with the efforts to ensure energy efficiency and sustainability.

**Agreed to support the application**

b) **Discussion regarding correspondence from a parishioner regarding Holsome Park**

LL retired to the waiting room and did not participate in these discussions. It was noted that this communication was an on-going issue over several years. DPC has been assured by the owners of the property the parishioner is complaining about that the issues raised are being addressed in the relevant planting seasons when the ground is not water-logged as it was during this last winter. **It was agreed that the issue needed to be dealt with by SHDC as the planning authority and that DPC were unable to consider the matter again. Cllr Pannell will check with Planning and Development that the previous correspondence was dealt with and the clerk will inform the parishioner that this matter cannot be dealt with by DPC and he needs to seek the advice of SHDC.**

**2020/25** The following planning decisions made by SHDC were noted and SF expressed disappointment with the decision made regarding Bradridge Farm. It was noted that the concerns of DPC regarding the potential increased traffic flow and unsuitable infrastructure had also been highlighted by DCC Highways. Cllr Pannell agreed to look into the decision.

a) Brushford Diptford TQ9 7LU Mr & Mrs S. Hyde Householder application for erection of hobby/craft room

**DECISION: Conditional Approval**

b) 3835/19/FUL Thorn Farm Beenleigh Bridge Road Diptford TQ9 7NF J Sawyer  
Proposed development comprising 3 stables and small storage barn for hay and tack

**DECISION: Conditional Approval**

- c) The Cabin Diptford Devon TQ9 7NQ Christiane Fullalove Conversion of existing agricultural barn into single-storey dwelling

**DECISION: Conditional Approval**

- d) 0751/20/PDM Bradridge Farm Diptford Totnes Mr Mark Spencer Notification for prior approval for proposed change of use of agricultural building to 4 no. dwellinghouses (Class C3) and for associated operational development (Class Q(a+b))

**DECISION: Prior Approval Required and Given**

- e) 0759/20/HHO Butterdown Banks Diptford TQ9 7NZ Ms S Shaw Householder application for replacement of rear extension and front porch. New slate roof and new windows

**DECISION: Conditional Approval**

**2020/25 Internal audit**

The clerk informed that this year's internal audit had been very favourable. The report summary reads:

*I can report that, within the areas checked, it is my opinion that Diptford Parish Council has greatly improved on its standard of documentation over the past year and that it now has effective systems of internal control in place. There are no areas highlighted within this report for Council attention, which is rare indeed. I would like to congratulate the Council and Clerk for taking time to address the recommendations noted within last year's report as this will have helped with general understanding of requirements and also the lowering of any risk to the Council.*

**2020/26 Finance**

**1. The following payments were approved and receipts noted:**

Alison Marshall (Internal audit)	£100
S Smale (salary £299.25 and expenses £38.19)	£337.44
HMRC (clerk's tax)	£74.8

**Receipts**

£200 grant from Cllr Pannell towards the noticeboard  
£4846 precept 1

**2. The Financial Statement was received**

Current Account 30.4.2020	6641.34
MINUS Unpresented cheques	529.88
PLUS Uncleared receipts	0
Current Account	6,111.46
Savings Accounts	7,207.71
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>13,319.17</b>

P3 Footpaths	234
Winter Emergency Planning	800
Community Lengthsman	3063
Contingency	1360
Amenity Trust	1750
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7207</b>

**Total uncommitted funds £6112.17**

**Unpresented cheques:**

R Paul	40
SHDC	80.62
WesternWeb	180
Smale (ZOOM)	14.39

Jane - grasscutting	85
DALC subscription	129.87
	529.88

### 3. It was agreed to renew the insurance with Zurich Municipal for £206.08

#### 2020/27 Parish Website Update

**SPD forwarded several questions from the design company to the council and agreement was reached on the following:**

Photos and email addresses of councillors will be on the website (NB there will be a mechanism for mail to transfer from the council address to personal accounts)

Representation on other bodies will be posted

There will be further discussion on inclusion of community group information, accounts and supporting reports and documents.

#### 2020/28 COVID-19 update

It was agreed that Rev. Sayle is doing an excellent job. Diptford Parish Hall have applied for the special grant. There are no confirmed cases of people registered with South Brent Health Centre.

#### 2020/29 The following correspondence was noted:

Cllr Hosking

11<sup>th</sup> April Emergency Dental Care

17<sup>th</sup> April Coronavirus update

24<sup>th</sup> April COVID-19 bulletin

1<sup>st</sup> May Coronavirus update

Cllr Pannell 23<sup>rd</sup> April Information re grants available

NALC Newsletter 14<sup>th</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> April. 1<sup>st</sup> May

Rural Services Bulletin 15<sup>th</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> April

SHDC Newsletter 16<sup>th</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> April, 1<sup>st</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> May

DCC 17<sup>th</sup> April Changes to bus time-table

DCC 1<sup>st</sup> May Newsletter

DALC Newsletter 27, 28, 29

SF thanked everyone for attending

Meeting closed at 8.30pm