

Diptford Parish Council Meeting, Diptford Parish Hall
Tuesday 14th May 2019 at 8.00 p.m. (Following the Annual Parish Meeting)

MINUTES

1 Member of the public attended the meeting.

Present: Cllrs Foster (Chair), Franklin, Peach, Parker-Davidson, Crocker, Sally Smale (Clerk)

14.05.1 **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllrs Baggott, Hill and Lethbridge.

14.05.2 **To note declarations of interest and Dispensations in items on the Agenda** – there were no declarations

14.05.3 **The minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd April 2019 were confirmed and signed by the Chair.**

14.05.4 **Diptford Playing Field**

The financial statement of the Diptford Amenity Trust was received:

Current account £3,937.95 Savings Account £30.86

- a) 4 companies had been approached regarding grass-cutting and it was agreed to accept the only quotation received to date from Keith Jane:
“To cut field and banks 8 times a year - £85 per cut. We will do field and banks every time except the big bank at the back which we will just clear around steps and seat. Plus an occasional weed spray around the tennis courts.”
It was noted that 3 cuts have been done to date and that Cllr Foster had given consent for the removal of a large branch causing an obstruction and for the Council to be invoiced for this.
There has been no interest in the sale of the mower to date and it was agreed to place an advert on e-bay.
- b) The date for the next Amenity Trust meeting was agreed for 10th September

14.05.5 **Planning Applications**

It was agreed to discuss 1003/19/HHO first in order for Mr Pallett to make his representation and leave the meeting.

Standing orders were suspended at 8.15PM

Mr Pallett outlined the plans and reasons for the application. He noted concerns from the previous withdrawn application and outlined how these concerns had been addressed with the new application.

Councillors agreed that Mr Pallett had worked well with the planners and thanked him for responding with positive solutions to the concerns at the previous application.

Standing Orders were resumed at 8.25PM

- a) Reference: 1003/19/HHO
Proposal: Householder application for proposed extension to provide additional residential provision in the form of a new kitchen/lounge area and associated alterations to the existing house (resubmission of 3707/18/HHO)
Site Address: Cross Cottage. Diptford. TQ9 7NU

Cllrs unanimously agreed to support the application.

- b) Reference: 0915/19/FUL
Proposal: Change of use of land to residential garden land.
Site Address: Mr C. Hull, Valley End Farm. Harberton. Devon. TQ9 7NE

Discussion regarding the remote location, narrow lanes and restricted access and an agreement that incremental developments in these locations were discouraged in principal by the council. It was also noted that there was currently sufficient parking for the existing dwelling.

Cllrs agreed that this was the comment to be returned to SHDC

- c) Reference: 1107/19/FUL
Proposal: Retrospective planning application to retain single storey temporary accommodation
Address: Valley End Farm. Harberton. TQ9 7NE

Councillors noted that the applicants themselves acknowledged the narrow lanes and restricted access to the property and re-iterated the concerns expressed in 14.05.5 (b). It was agreed that as there was already a building on site an additional temporary dwelling was unnecessary and constituted progressive and piecemeal development.

Cllrs unanimously objected to the application

d) Ref: 1226/19/HHO

Description: Householder application for proposed alterations and extensions

Address: Lanquillet Halwell Devon TQ9 7JY

Cllrs unanimously supported the application

Planning Decisions Made By SHDC were noted:

a) 4032/18/FUL Diptford, Murtwell House Diptford Devon TQ9 7NQ, Mr Oliver Cowmeadow

Change of use of the land from agricultural to car park with temporary gravel surface

DECISION: Conditional Approval

b) 2658/18/ARC Diptford Lower Coombe Bungalow Diptford TQ9 7NP Ms Roni Jay Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3, 4, 9 and 13 following grant of planning permission DECISION: Discharge of condition Approved

Standing orders were suspended at 8.45 on the arrival of Cllr Smerdon.

South Hams District Council update

Cllr Smerdon briefed Council on changes following the recent elections. He welcomed Cllr Pannell and expressed regret at the loss of Cllr Steer who has worked so hard for the communities in his constituency during his term as SHDC. Cllrs Smerdon and Pannell will agree a rota for attendance at meetings, including the Annual Parish meeting on 28th May. The Parish Council requested grant funding for the purchase of the projector for the Parish Hall. There was a short discussion regarding potential funding sources and Cllr Smerdon will send details to the clerk.

Cllr Hosking arrived at 8.50

Devon County Council update

- Cllr Hosking reminded council of potential grant funding opportunities through DCC.
- DPC requested an update on Gara bridge following the recent damage and closure of the bridge.

Cllr Hosking confirmed that, thanks to photographic evidence, the vehicle and firm responsible for the damage had been identified and that police were working on prosecution proceedings. He noted comment from Cllr Peach that cut stone had been used on a listed bridge for the repair work. It was noted that the proposed survey work was dependent on re-opening of the bridge.

- Future options were discussed:
 - Chicane and bollards
 - CCTV surveillance

It was agreed that CCTV appeared to be a good idea but practice has shown it to be ineffectual and that the preferred option was for the chicane and bollards.

Cllr Peach agreed to feed DPC views to the DCC Design Team.

- Cllr Hosking confirmed the road markings at Curtisknowle were to be refreshed
- Cllr Hosking noted the following concerns raised by DPC:
 - The subsidence between Benecknowle and Avonwick
 - Concern at the volume and speed of traffic using Ridge Road (Moreleigh to Diptford)
 - Concerns at the knock-on effect the lack of traffic management in Totnes is having on neighbouring villages and the countryside.

Cllrs Smerdon and Hosking left the meeting and standing orders were resumed at 9.00PM

14.05.6 Annual Parish Meeting

It was agreed that the meeting on 28th May 2019 would start at 7PM in the Village Hall with tea and coffee being served on arrival. The guest speaker is from Devon Air Ambulance. Clerk to send invitations to Cllrs Smerdon, Pannell and Hosking and to follow-up invitations to local groups to attend.

14.05.7 Cllr Franklin confirmed that the overhanging garden hedge abutting the road at The Rising Sun, between the square and Ryes Cottage has been dealt with.

14.05.8 The following response from Adam Lewis of Jameson Homes regarding the Wheat Park development was noted:

" ... I can confirm that the offsite infrastructure works have now been completed. Due to the current slow down in the housing market, progress on our current development at Spreyton has been slower than we had anticipated at the beginning of the year and this is having a knock on effect with respect to our envisaged start date at Diptford which for the time being is now on hold. As soon as the situation changes and we have a firm start date we will of course let you know."

14.05.9 To agree any action regarding the recent communication about Gara Bridge. Dealt with earlier during Cllr Hosking's update.

14.05.10 The following correspondence was received :

Rural Bulletin – 2nd April 2019, 9th April, 16th April, 23rd April, 30th April
 Rural Services Network - May 2019, May 8th
 NALC Newsletter – 3rd April, 10th April
 Devon Highways News Update – 3rd April
 NALC. Chief Executive's Bulletin – 5th April, 12th April, 18th April, 26th April, 3rd May
 SHDC Council News – 8th April
 Public Sector Executive Online – 8th April
 DALC Newsletter – 9th April, 25th April
 SHDC News Release - Funding Gained for South Hams' Heritage Sites – 23rd April, Councils reviewing discount claims - 26th April
 Devonshire News – 26th April
 Public Sector Network Newsletter – April 2019
 Tell us Totnes, Caring Town Online survey – 1st May
 Healthwatch Devon – 1st May
 Devon and Cornwall Alert: Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter – 30th April
 Healthwatch Devon – 29th April
 Update on Wheat Park development – 3rd May
 INVITATION AONB Management Plan launch – 7th May

14.05.11 Finance

1. It was noted that the clerk's payment included salary and expenses and the following cheques were approved for payment:

Cheque	Recipient	Amount	VAT
923	DALC	125.65	33.18
924	DALC	48	8.00
926	SallySmale	657.16	0.94
Transfer	Lengthsman	1180	
Transfer	Elections	400	

2. The Financial Statement was agreed.

Current Account 30.04.2019	£7,674.87
MINUS Unpresented cheques	£7,674.87
PLUS Uncleared receipts	£7,674.87
Current Account	£7,674.87
	£2,812.58
Savings Accounts	
TOTAL FUNDS	£10,487.45

Ear-marked reserves

P3 Footpaths	£74.29
Winter Emergency Planning	£800.00
Community Lengthsman	£1,180.00
Elections	£400.00
	£2,454.29

Total uncommitted funds £8,033.16

Date of next meetings

Tuesday 28th May – Annual Parish Meeting
 Tuesday 11th June – Parish Council Meeting

Meeting finished at 9.30PM