

# **Diptford Parish Council Meeting**

## **Tuesday 8 January 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, Diptford**

### **OPEN FORUM**

From 4 February 2019 Bridge Civil Engineering Ltd will be undertaking works to install a foul water sewer for the new housing development on Wheat Park, on behalf of South West Water. It is expected that the work will take 5 weeks to complete.

Totnes Road will be closed to lay the new sewer so there will be some disruption. If you have any questions or concerns about the works, please contact Ben Haskins from Bridge Civil Engineering on 07794 783748 or by email at [bhaskins@bridgecivileng.co.uk](mailto:bhaskins@bridgecivileng.co.uk) or South West Water's 24 Hour Helpline on 0844 346 2020.

There are on-going concerns from local residents about the overgrown vegetation on the Church Wall which is forcing residents to walk in the road to avoid the brambles. The Clerk has written to the Parochial Church Council twice. It was agreed that the Clerk will write to the Churchwardens as well.

### **Update from District and County Councillors**

DCC Cllr Hosking noted that:

- He has reported the damage on Stretchney Bridge and the collapsed culvert.
- There is also a collapsed area on the Diptford to Shorter Cross Road.
- It is budget season at DCC. The first draft budget will be available on 21 January.
- It is likely that mobile libraries will be phased back if not used. Please encourage any supporters of the mobile libraries to contact Libraries Unlimited. <https://librariesunlimited.org.uk>

Councillors asked if Cllr Hosking could chase the plans for Gara Bridge.

SHDC Cllr Steer noted that:

- Help to Buy SW won't be available until the properties at Wheat Park are ready to be marketed. But interested local residents can go on a waiting list. Please contact Help to Buy SW <https://www.helptobuysw.org.uk>.
- Councillors noted that planning permission was conditional on the properties being available for people with a Diptford connection. Cllr Steer agreed to go back and say that this has to be one of the criteria for selection for affordable housing properties. Diptford Parish Council supported this strongly.
- Waste Services at South Hams have been taken over by a private company from 1 May. There will be changes including a lot more recycling.
- SHDC have some commercial endeavours to raise money – these include a new supermarket in Ivybridge by the Leisure Centre, a national hotel chain in Kingsbridge and beach huts at Beesands. Parish Councillors noted that it is important to keep car parking in towns and not build on sites unless the car parking is retained.

### **DRAFT MINUTES**

**Present:** Cllrs Foster (Chair), Franklin, Crocker, Lethbridge, Parker-Davidson, Peach, DCC Cllr Hosking, SHDC Cllr Steer and Zoe Oldman (Clerk).

**08.01.1**      **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr Baggott and Cllr Hill.

**08.01.2**      **To note declarations of interest and Dispensations in items on the Agenda** There were no declarations of interest or dispensations.

**08.01.3**      **The minutes of the meeting held on the 11 December 2018 were confirmed and signed by the Chair.**

**08.01.4**      **Diptford Playing Field**

Diptford Amenity Trust.

Current account £4,628.94

Savings Account £30.86

Cllr Hill kindly provided an update.

- Secure accommodation has been arranged for the ride on mower and strimmer.
- Training on the ride on mower will be provided & arranged by Cllr Hill. There are currently six local volunteers. They will be asked to sign an agreement arranged by Cllr Hill.
- Strimmer training will be arranged by Cllr Parker Davidson. It may also be available through DCC if any volunteers want more training. The strimmer and ride on mower should only be used by local volunteers who have undertaken the training and completed the paperwork.
- Councillors thanked Cllr Hill for setting up the grass cutting rota. They agreed to fund the additional items he suggested such as a new battery for the ride on mower, service, battery charger and fuel. Councillors agreed to purchase a key safe so volunteers can access the equipment.
- Cllr Parker Davidson agreed to try and set up a date for training in March when as many volunteers as possible can attend.

#### **08.01.5 Planning Applications**

**Reference: 3971/18/VAR**

Proposal: Application for variation of condition 2 (approved plans) following grant of planning permission 3613/16/HHO

Site address: Little Orchard Cottage Diptford

<http://apps.southhams.gov.uk/PLanningsearchMVC/Home/Details/183971>

**No objection**

**Reference: 3707/18/HHO**

Proposal: Householder application for proposed extension in the form of a new kitchen / lounge area with a roof terrace above and associated alterations to the existing house

Site Address: Cross Cottage Diptford

<http://apps.southhams.gov.uk/PLanningSearchMVC/Home/Details/183707>

**Object** on the grounds of drainage, possible removal of trees and the size of the extension compared to the size of the original house. The site is in the heart of the village so it may change the visual impact within the AONB. The main concern is drainage as the soakaway is very close to the gully / drainage ditch which already floods.

**Reference: 3926/18/FUL**

Proposal: Proposed construction of below ground pipe for surface water to be constructed across neighbouring property's land to watercourse.

Site address: Lower Coombe Bungalow, Diptford TQ9 7NP

<http://apps.southhams.gov.uk/PLanningSearchMVC/Home/Details/183926>

**No objection**

**Reference: 4100/18/FUL**

Proposal: Erection of polytunnel, greenhouse, 2 barns, construction of new access track, hardstanding adjacent to barns and hard standing adjacent to site entrance & pond.

Site address: field at Gladsfield, Diptford, TQ9 7PD

<http://apps.southhams.gov.uk/PlanningSearchMVC/Home/Details/184100>

**Object** as could interfere with the enjoyment of the neighbouring amenity land.

This planning application was considered at short notice due to the Christmas break. It will therefore be advertised fully and ratified at the next Parish Council meeting on 12 February 2019.

#### **Planning decisions made by SHDC**

3026/18/ARC Land opposite Wheat Park

Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 13 and 14 of planning consent 0428/18/FUL

**Discharge of condition approved**

3237/18/HHO 3 Gara Bridge Cottages, TQ9 7JT

Householder application for retention of replacement ancillary residential outbuilding

**Conditional approval**

The Planning decisions were noted.

### 08.01.6 P3, footpaths & highways

The Clerk will chase roadside ploughing and action on Bradridge Cross, Coombeshead Cross and road cleaning. Larkham Quarry and the school run difficulties were postponed to the next meeting. The Clerk will discuss the P3 forms with the P3 Representative. Cllr Parker Davidson will liaise if necessary.

### 08.01.7 Planning consultation changes

Councillors discussed the need to view planning applications when South Hams stop sending out hard copies in March 2019. Halwell and Moreleigh have a pull-down screen and projector which works well. The Clerk will approach the Parish Hall Committee and see what they suggest. The matter is urgent by the time it has been purchased and installed so the Clerk will ask for a response by the next meeting. Cllr Peach offered to liaise with the Parish Hall Committee. The Parish Council may be able to source some funds for the equipment.

### 08.01.8 NALC national Salary Award for Clerks

The amended salary scales were noted and agreed.

### 08.01.9 Eleemosynary Trust

Over recent months the trustees of this charity have been re-examining their role and the function of this small local charity. It is now inviting applications from people residing in the parish of Diptford for a modest grant from its limited funds to assist with:

- Travelling expenses to doctor or hospital appointments or residential care
- Anyone suffering financial difficulty due to sickness or unexpected loss
- Anyone under the age of 21 who is training as an apprentice or for an occupational qualification

For further information please contact the Charities secretary Miss C Crocker, Coombeshead Park, Coombeshead Farm, Diptford, TQ9 7NG. Parish Councillors asked if there is a closing date but applications are on-going.

The Parish Council will discuss representation at a future date when the Trust have decided their own representation on the Committee.

### 08.01.10 Finance

#### 1. To approve cheques for payment:

Cheque	Description	VAT	Gross
905	Grant to South Hams Citizens Advice		150
904	Accessibility works for playing field		1675.92
903	HMRC – Clerk's December tax		35.40
906	Clerk's December salary (less bank transfer)		0.20
907	Clerk's November expenses – Office £16, paper £2.49, mileage £24.30		42.79
<b>Receipts</b>			
10.12.18	12p interest in saving account		

#### 2. To receive the Financial Statement

Lloyds Current Account to 19.12.18	5754.42
Less payments & unrepresented cheques	1904.31
Plus, uncleared receipts	
Total Current Account	3850.11
Lloyds Saving account to 19.12.18	1432.34
Total funds	5282.45

#### Earmarked Reserves

P3 Footpaths	74.29
Winter Emergency Planning	800.00
Community Lengthsman	0
Defibrillator / Composting toilet	
	557.30
Total Reserves	1431.59

**Total uncommitted funds                      £3850.86**

The financial statement was agreed.

#### **08.01.11      Annual Parish Meeting**

This will be held on 28 May. The Clerk will invite the Air Ambulance to speak, and then Action Fraud.

The Clerk will make sure that the local Neighbourhood Watch representative is invited.

#### **08.01.12      Correspondence received & available at the meeting**

DEVA Digest

Rural Bulletin

NHS Commissioning Bulletin

Devon Communities – Community courses:

- Budgeting and Price Setting for village halls 21 January 6.30 p.m.
- National quality standards for community buildings 4 February 6.30p.m.
- Effective risk assessment 13 February 9 – 13.00
- Modernising a community building constitution 18 February 6.30 p.m.
- Project managing a community led initiative 25 February 13.00 – 16.00
- Running a successful crowd funding campaign 27 February 10 – 16.00

DALC Update – new staff, pay scales and elections information.

P3 forms - DCC

Information on the community buildings courses will be sent to the Village Hall Committee.

#### **08.01.13      Any Other Business**

The website was discussed. Cllr Parker Davidson is kindly adding extra pages to the Parish Council website to include information previously published on Diptford.org.

The Parish Hall finances the broadband at a cost of £312 per year, of which £184.48 is the line rental. Previously the Parish Council have helped pay this. The Village Hall Committee have asked if this could be the case for 2018-9. This was agreed and a cheque will be raised for the February meeting.

*Meeting ended 9.30 p.m.*

*Date of next Meeting Tuesday 12 February at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.*

*Cllr Parker Davidson provided apologies in advance.*