

Diptford Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 12 June 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, Diptford

Questions from the Public

The Community Lengthsman attended to talk about item 10.07.8.

Update from District and County Councillors

SHDC Cllr Robert Steer commented that Cllrs have raised concerns about delayed bin collections. The District Council is going through a procurement process for a private waste company to take over collections. This may be impacting on collections. Cllrs raised concerns about this. Cllr Steer gave his personal support for the proposal to expand sports facilities on the Playing Field as it would improve health and wellbeing.

DCC Cllr Hosking has chased the Highways proposals for Gara Bridge. Unfortunately, it has been passed to a third design engineer and is further delayed. Cllrs discussed options to stop vehicles damaging the bridge. Cllr Hosking briefed Councillors on Crowd Fund Devon – a partnership venture by DCC enabling people to organise crowd funding. The fee is 8% of the project and Cllrs felt that this is high.

Cllr Franklin has chased the local Highways Officer to sort out flooding problems at Bradridge Cross. Subsidence at White Gates is also causing problems. Cllr Foster raised concerns about Coombshead Cross and dangerous driving over the brow of the hill. Cllrs asked if DCC could address speeding through additional signage. Cllr Hosking agreed to ask the local Highways Officer to look at it but noted that the Parish Council was more likely to get signage if they offered to pay for it. Cllr Franklin asked if it would be possible to get a contribution from Locality funding. Cllr Hosking will investigate. The Clerk also will draft a letter to Devon Highways raising concerns and share it with Moreleigh Parish. Cllrs congratulated Cllr Hosking on being the DCC Vice Chairman for the next 12 months.

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Franklin (Chair until item 7), Foster (arrived during item 5, Chair from item 8) Hill, Peach (from item 4), Lethbridge, Parker-Davidson, SHDC Cllr Steer, DCC Cllr Hosking and Zoe Oldman (Clerk).

10.07.1 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Baggott.

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

10.07.3 The minutes of the meeting held on the 12 June 2018 were confirmed and signed by the Chair as a true record.

10.07.4 Diptford Playing Field

Diptford Amenity Trust Current account £4,628.94 Savings account £30.77

Cllr Parker-Davidson will arrange strimmer training with a local professional gardener.

The Clerk will arrange documentation for volunteers based on the DCC Parish Paths documentation for volunteers.

Cllr Hill has arranged temporary storage for the ride on mower. He will arrange a key box and access for volunteers. The equipment will need to be checked before each use.

Cllr Hill has purchased safety equipment. The strimmer needs a new guard. It was agreed that these costs will be reimbursed via the Clerk.

It was agreed that quotes would be obtained for the suggested work at the Playing Field funded by the TAP Fund. This will be discussed in detail with the Playing Field Group at the September PC meeting.

There was a discussion about the practicality of part of the Playing Field being used as a drop off area for the school.

Next year the TAP Fund changes to the Community fund and there is a greater emphasis on collaboration. Cllrs discussed possible projects which could collaborate with other community groups or parishes. There was a proposal to change the football pitch to a bowling green with a putting area / walking netball. This would provide additional sports opportunities and be accessible to other parishes as the nearest bowling green is in Yealmpton and Buckfast. The Clerk will write an article for the Parish News to see whether there is community support and discuss the proposal with the neighbouring parishes of Moreleigh and North Huish.

DCC have contacted the Parish Council asking if they could help control the vegetation in FP1 before the contractor starts in June. This is main footpath from the village and very well used. However, it is very narrow which is why any vegetation growth is a problem. Cllrs want DCC to continue to put pressure on the contractor to start cutting the footpath as early as possible but they agreed to help, possibly through the services of the community lengthsmen, if there was no other solution.

Cllr Parker-Davidson will ask SHDC for more weather proof dog fouling signs. Cllrs agreed that the level of dog fouling is unacceptable and that it is an offence.

10.07.5 Planning Applications

1943/18/PDM Barn at Crabdon Cottage Farm, Halwell, Totnes, TQ9 7JZ
Notification for prior approval for proposed change of use of agricultural building to dwellinghouse (Class C3) and for associated operational development (Class Q(a+b)) **No Objection**

1750/18/FUL Barn conversion at Wagland Farm, Halwell, TQ9 7LB **No Objection**

1374/18/FUL Coachman's Cottage, Ashwell House, Halwell, Devon, TQ9 7LB
Change of use of barn from office to ancillary/holiday cottage **No Objection**

2112/18/PDM The Cabin, Murtwell Farm, Diptford, Totnes, TQ9 7NQ
Notification for prior approval for proposed change of use of agricultural building to dwellinghouse (Class C3) and for associated operational development (Class Q(a+b))

The Parish Council has previously refused this planning application as 0893/18/PDM. The Clerk will ask SHDC why it has been resubmitted as a PDM rather than a full planning application as is usual after a refusal.

Planning decisions

1238/18/HHO
Green Acre, Diptford, TQ9 7NU extension and new garage **Conditional approval**

0513/18/FUL
Murtwell House, Diptford, Conversion of triple garage into a cooking teaching school **Conditional approval**

1394/18/HHO
Ashwell House, Halwell, TQ9 7LB alteration of tennis court to garden with green house **Conditional approval**

4403/17/HRN
Wagland Farm, Halwell, TQ9 7LB hedgerow removal notice **Approval**

Cllrs asked the Clerk to send a letter of complaint to Devon Highways that they didn't raise concerns with regard to planning application 0513/18/FUL which is located down narrow lanes and will generate significant traffic on quiet lanes. They noted that this is not the first time that Highways haven't commented on applications which may adversely affect rural roads.

10.07.6 P3, footpaths & highways

Mud on the roads is still outstanding.

The meeting with DCC at Larcombe Quarry was positive although there is little funding available. Possible options include diverting the path around problem areas. It may be a Heritage Lottery project. DCC are going to find out who owns the land in this area.

Cllrs Lethbridge and Franklin will be attending a meeting with the school regarding parking and drop off on Friday 13 July.

10.07.7 Defibrillator

Cllr Peach reported that the cost of the electrician has reduced. Cllrs agreed to this cost.

Devon Community Foundation have offered to fast track the application as it is for a small amount of money. The Clerk was asked to submit this bid as quickly as possible.

10.07.8 Community Lengthsman

The majority of work is carried out in October. It is therefore difficult for the community lengthsman to provide monthly invoices. Cllrs noted this but felt that it is importance to monitor spend and manage finances.

The Clerk will send the Lengthsman basic forms with prepared envelopes. These just need to be completed and sent back to the Clerk when work is carried out so the Clerk can keep a total of expenditure to date against the amount available.

It was agreed that the Community Lengthsman should be tasked with preparing drains in case there are floods in August. All Cllrs are happy with the Lengthsman's work and he was thanked. There has been a big improvement in the buddle holes and drains.

Cllr Hill will oversee the management of the Lengthsman.

10.07.9 Finance

1. To approve cheques for payment:

Cheque	Description	VAT	Gross
876	Clerk's June expenses - Office £16, mileage £44.10		60.10
877	Clerk's June salary		332.75
TFR	Information Commission's Office data protection fee		40
TFR	Transfer of outstanding reserves from saving account		2298.82
Receipts			
TFR	Transfer from Diptford Amenity Trust of money for mower repairs less VAT		506.50

It was agreed that the Clerk could pay the ICO by direct debit as this saves £5.

2. To receive the Financial Statement

Lloyds Current Account to 03.07.18	4740.06
<i>Less</i> payments & unpresented cheques	432.85
<i>Plus</i> uncleared receipts	0
	4307.21
Total Current Account	4307.21
Lloyds Saving account to 03.07.18	3,330.29
Total funds	7,637.5

Earmarked Reserves

P3 Footpaths	74.29
Winter Emergency Planning	800.00
Community Lengthsman	1000.00
Defibrillator	
	1456
Total Reserves	3330.29

Total uncommitted funds £ 4,307.21

3. To discuss security of documents and financial information

It was agreed that a duplicate of essential passwords will be sent to Cllr Foster and held securely.

4. To receive a report on the quarterly bank reconciliation from Cllr Baggott.

Cllr Baggott was happy with the recent quarterly bank reconciliation.

10.07.9 Website

Cllrs agreed to move to TSO Hosts at a cost of £2.92 a month + VAT to avoid adverts on the website. Cllrs agreed a further cost of £9.99 a month + VAT for the domain registration. The Clerk will carry this out over the summer. It may take a while due to Word Press.

10.07.10 General Data Protection Regulation

The Clerk and Cllr Parker Davidson have drafted four documents which have been circulated. They will be discussed in detail in September.

10.07.11 New policies

The Statement of Control, Training policy and Anti-Fraud and Corruption policies were all agreed.

10.07.12 Correspondence received

Correspondence received from Rvd Sayle asking the Diocese to tackle overhanging vegetation.

Correspondence received from Cllr Hosking supporting the Amazon Smile initiative.

Correspondence received from the Community Foundation regarding grant management.

10.07.13 Correspondence available at the meeting

SHDC Consultation on the 5 Year Corporate Strategy

Dog fouling campaign.

10.07.14 Reports on meetings attended

Larcombe Quarry – see minutes.

10.07.15 Any other business

At a recent FODS meeting a parent asked if the owners of Church Park House could cut the foliage coming from the wall on the bend by the school. The Parish Council agreed that the Clerk would write to the home owners.

Meeting ended 9.20 p.m.

Date of next Meeting Tuesday 7 August at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. Please note change of date.