

Diptford Parish Council Meeting

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

Questions from the Public

Two members of the public attended to talk about planning application 1520/18/FUL. They have objected to the retrospective planning application for a toilet and shower block on the grounds of the visual impact from the road and the neighbouring property, poorly sited and too large for a small campsite.

Update from District and County Councillors

SHDC Cllr Robert Steer commented that there is a new Chair and Vice Chair at SHDC. They are still struggling to recruit planning officers. Cllr Franklin commented that objections aren't appearing on the website in time for them to be seen at Parish Council meetings. Cllr Steer said that he would investigate. It was agreed that planning enforcement needs to be tackled.

DCC Cllr Hosking has chased the Highways proposals for Gara Bridge. Unfortunately, there has been a change of personnel which has delayed matters. He will continue to chase action.

DRAFT MINUTES

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

12.06.1 **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllrs Baggott.

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

12.06.3 **The minutes of the meeting held on the 8 May 2018 were confirmed and signed by the Chair as a true record.**

12.06.4 **Diptford Playing Field**

Diptford Amenity Trust Current account £135.44 Savings account £5,030.53.

It was agreed to transfer £5,000 from the savings account to the current account to enable the easier management of the funds. The savings account no longer has a different rate of savings than the current account.

It has been difficult getting volunteers to cut the grass. The clerk will draft an appeal for the Parish Newsletter.

Cllr Hill has had training on using the John Deere ride on mower.

It was agreed to book two places on the DCC free course on using strimmers on 10 July.

The ride on mower is currently stored safely. It may be possible to store it in a local barn and use a key case to unlock it. Cllr Hill will check with the owners of the barn.

The TAP Funding was discussed and ways to increase the accessibility of the Playing Fields. A picnic table and bench may encourage relatives or residents to sit and enjoy the playing field. Rubber matting at the entrance may help access. Rubber chips could also be put down around the equipment to suppress weeds as it is very hard to trim around the equipment. The Clerk will check with the Playing Field Group.

It was agreed to spray weedkiller around the Skate Park late one evening so the chemicals had dispersed by the morning.

12.06.5 **Planning Applications**

1373/18/LBC Coachmans Cottage, Ashwell House, Halwell, TQ9 7LB

Listed building consent application for change of use of barn from office to ancillary/holiday cottage and improvements works. **No Objection** but the property should remain ancillary to the main building.

1238/18/HHO Green Acre, Diptford, Devon, TQ9 7NU

Householder application for single storey, partial replacement, extension to the side, general refurbishment and construction of new three bay garage.

No Objection

1573/18/FUL Mobile home at Sx743557, Mount Zion Mill, Diptford, TQ9 7NG

Retrospective application for stationing of a mobile home

Object Concerns about the creeping development of the site and the size of the structures. Cllrs would encourage enforcement action to be taken immediately.

1520/18/FUL Gara Lodge, Gara Bridge, Diptford, TQ9 7JT

Retrospective application for ablution block to serve camping and caravanning site.

Object on the grounds that it does harm to the neighbouring property and AONB. Concerns about the location of the structure and drainage. The outflow should not be near the main stream to the river, which already floods. The structure should be in keeping with the AONB and local environment.

Planning decisions by South Hams District Council

1226/18/PDM Old Barn, Thornlands, TQ9 7NF

Prior approval required and refused

0842/18/ARC Ashwell Court, TQ9 7LB

Discharge of condition approved

0950/18/ARC Ashwell Court, TQ9 7LB

Discharge of condition approved

0643/18/HHO 7 Church Park Close, Diptford, TQ9 7PH

Conditional approval

0841/18/PDM Barn at Higher Ashwell Farm, Halwell, TQ9 7LB

Prior approval required and given

0893/18/PDM The Cabin, Murtwell Farm, Diptford, TQ9 7NQ

Prior approval required and refused

There was a discussion about on-going planning enforcement. It was noted that some cases are very long standing and one dates from 2010. Cllr Steer will chase these and ask the Enforcement Officer to provide an update to the Parish Council if necessary.

Planning enforcement will be placed on the Parish Council agenda in months 3,6,9 and 12, (June is month 3).

12.06.6 P3, footpaths & highways

The Clerk has a new contact in DEFRA and a further letter has been sent regarding mud on the road in winter.

A site meeting will be arranged at Larcombe Quarry to look at possible improvements to the path.

A letter and email have been received from the school with regard to parking and school run difficulties. There are very few options for parking. Cllrs discussed the options. It was agreed to set up a separate meeting with the Headteacher, Lizzie Lethbridge. In the meantime Cllr Lethbridge (no relation) will be the Parish Council representative in any discussions with the school.

Concerns were raised about the condition of the Glebe wall. Overhanging vegetation is a road hazard. The Clerk will write to the Rvd David Sayle asking him to pass on concerns to the Diocese.

12.06.7 Defibrillator

Cllr Peach has identified a site. It was agreed that an electrician's quote for the installation of the defibrillator was too expensive. Cllr Hill will provide details of the electrician used by the Parish Hall. Almost all the funding is in place – if the Parish Council pays the VAT (which it can reclaim) only £44 and the electrician's fee is needed.

It was agreed that the Clerk will submit a bid to the Diptford Community Fund and write an appeal for the Parish Newsletter. Concerns were expressed about the length of time it takes to get a decision from the Community Fund – if submitted in June approval would be given in October and funded in November or December. The Clerk will write a letter to the Community Fund expressing concerns at the length of time taken to reach a decision and pay funds.

12.06.8 Community Lengthsman

It was agreed that the Community Lengthsman is doing an excellent job. However, the Parish Council needs more regular accounting information. Cllr Hill will discuss this with the Community Lengthsman and a procedure will be put in place.

The Clerk will seek match funding for the £1000 provided by the DCC Highways Maintenance and Community Enhancement Fund for Community Lengthsman services.

12.06.09 Finance

1. To approve cheques for payment:

Cheque	Description	VAT	Gross
872	Clerk's May expenses - Office £16, mileage £28.80		44.80
873	Clerk's May salary		332.75
874	P & MA Services Repair to ride on mower	101.30	607.80
875	Cllr S Hill Diesel for Ride on mower		30.71
Receipts			
BGC	HMRC – VAT refund		968.96
TFR	Rotary Club of Totnes (defibrillator)		250

All the cheques were agreed for payment including the two which had been received after the agenda was published.

2. To receive the Financial Statement

Lloyds Current Account to 01.06.18	7719.33
<i>Less</i> payments & unrepresented cheques ¹	408.26
<i>Plus</i> uncleared receipts	0
	7311.07
Total Current Account	7311.07
Lloyds Saving account to 01.06.18	1031.42
Total funds	8342.49

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

Total uncommitted funds £5012.20

Councillors Franklin and Foster signed the forms to enable the Clerk to have internet banking for the Amenity Trust account as well as the Parish Council account.

Cllr Baggott will be carrying out the quarterly bank reconciliation separately on the 26 June.

¹ This amount is not included in the financial statement as it was agreed that it would be reimbursed by the Amenity Trust. The Clerk will arrange a bank transfer from the Amenity Trust to the Parish Council account.

12.06.10 Website

The Clerk had investigated options for the website. It may be difficult to move away from WordPress. Cllr Hill and the Clerk will investigate this further.

12.06.11 General Data Protection Regulation

The Clerk will work with Cllr Parker Davidson to draft a Data Protection Policy as recommended by NALC.

12.06.12 Correspondence received

Funding opportunities

- Amazon Smile
Cllrs agreed to take this forward
- SeaMoor Lotto
Cllrs felt that it would be hard to sell enough tickets and not take this forward at the moment
- The Police and Crime Commissioner Small Grants Scheme
This doesn't cover dog fouling which is one of the major problems in the village
- Prince's Trust Grant Giving programme – deadline 14 June
It was agreed that there wasn't enough time to develop a good application

DCMS Gigabit broadband voucher scheme – Cllr Franklin will take this forward.

SHDC Consultation on increases to parking charges – Cllrs had no comment

DEFRA Consultation on Third Tranche of Marine Conservation Zones – Cllrs had no comment

DCC Consultation on Mobile Library and Outreach Service. It was agreed that this may be important to residents and the Clerk will write some text for the Parish News. Posters will be placed on the noticeboard and website. If DCC can provide leaflets Cllrs will mailshot the village where possible.

12.06.13 Correspondence available at the meeting

The Alzheimer Society have published a new dementia friendly rural communities guide. Cllr Parker Davidson will be the parish contact and has a hard copy of the guide. Please contact the Clerk for an electronic copy.

12.06.14 Reports on meetings attended

Cllr Parker Davidson had attended a meeting on GDPR.

12.06.15 Any other business

The school is looking for a community representative. Cllr Lethbridge will suggest they put an appeal in the Parish News.

Meeting ended 9.20 p.m.

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