

Diptford Parish Council Virtual Meeting

Tuesday 13th October 2020 7.00 pm

MINUTES

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

2020/85 Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Baggott and Smerdon.

1 member of the public was present throughout the meeting. 2 members of the public joined later for agenda item 2020/93.

SF welcomed Steve Mullineaux from SHDC who gave a presentation on the new recycling service. **(See App.1)**

Answers to questions following the presentation:

There will be smaller versions of lorries for the narrower lanes

Assisted collections will remain

The food-waste caddies are bigger and stronger than current provision and can be locked. There has been no trouble with wild animals interfering with them during the night in other areas of the county where the system is already in place.

Agreement that the lack of nationally agreed protocols for recycling makes it difficult for visitors and 2nd home owners to follow the rules but there is going to be greater emphasis on enforcement to try and combat disregard for the recycling rules – property owners will be targeted rather than the visitors.

S Mullineaux reminded council of the phenomenal increased workload the council has been dealing with due to COVID-19. Last year during 1 weekend in August 3.5 tonnes of waste was collected from the 843 litter bins in the area. During the same weekend this year it had increased to 12.5 tonnes. (Domestic waste had also increased significantly.)

SF thanked Steve Mullineaux who left at 7.34pm. JF took the chair.

Reports from District and County Councillors – see appendices 2 and 3

Cllr Hosking explained that there was a combined effort to improve the situation at Short Cross and with the recent spate of accidents he would be surprised if this matter was not progressed quickly. Cllrs expressed concern that the latest plans to improve the situation at Gara Bridge left an opportunity for vehicles to use the grass area. (These plans still need to go out for consultation)

Ash Die-back - JF commented that some local farmers had received letters to remove some trees within 6 months. (Trees had been identified in an earlier survey)

Cllr Hosking left at 7.45pm

2020/86 There were no declarations of interest and dispensations in items on the Agenda.

2020/87 There were no items to be taken with the public excluded in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, S1(2).

2020/88 **The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 8th Sept., as previously circulated, were confirmed and will be signed by the Chair with the amendment from CP:**

CP pointed out that the ecology report noted there is Barn Owl in the vicinity yet did not consider the building work would cause a disturbance. Agreed that the driveway onto the road is potentially dangerous and suggested that visibility at the entrance be improved.

2020/89 **To receive an update about the progress of resolutions from the last meeting**

- Email from A Mangnall (MP) re road reclassification:

There is currently no government consultation on this issue, the last was in 2012 and the report was issued in 2013:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/49845/consultation-responses.pdf

Devon County Council contributed to the consultation. DCC's website has quite a comprehensive website dedicated to speed limits in the area, that may be of interest to you

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/search/?q=speed+limits#gsc.tab=0&gsc.q=speed%20limits&gsc.page=1>

- The new notice -board has been erected and is currently locked whilst the foundations settle. Reminder that this is for community use and not commercial purposes. **SF thanked SPD and J. Widdicombe.**
- The website will be transferred to its new host this week and will soon be up and running
- The SATNAV documentation was noted. The local clerks' forum will be discussing this issue at their meeting later this month and clerk will feedback.
- The response from DCC re Unmetalled Road Curtisknowle to Broadley was noted: Green Lanes are one of the few highways in the area that DCC do not look after but we do look after the first surfaced section so have an interest there. Unfortunately, at this time there is nothing allocated for new signing schemes but it would be worthwhile seeking the opinion of our Public Rights of Way team to see if they can offer any advice. It may be that something along the lines of an "Unsuitable for motor vehicles" sign could be erected at a later date if there is room for one
- It was noted that Diptford now has a new Tree Warden: Will Young. Details are on the website.

2020/90 **Highways and Community Lengthsman**

- a) The Lengthsman has been very busy constantly monitoring signs and drainage and doing remedial work before situations deteriorate.
- b) Highways – there had been a report on a branch falling from a tree on the Playing Field hedge and concern that the tree was a hazard. A tree surgeon and the Lengthsman have assessed the tree and, although it was agreed it was unsightly, the general view is that it is no more dangerous than any other tree in stormy conditions.

JF to seek 1 further assessment from a tree surgeon and, if work is considered necessary, will obtain a quote. It was agreed that if the tree was considered a danger work would be commissioned immediately.

2020/91 **The planning decision made by SHDC was noted:**

- a) 2481/20/ARC Butterdown Banks Diptford TQ9 7NZ S Shaw Application for approval of details reserved by condition 3 of householder consent 0759/20/HHO

DECISION: Discharge of condition Approved

ClIr Pannell left at 8.08pm

2020/92 Finance

1. To following payments were approved and receipts noted:

Name	Invoice No.	Description	OUT	IN
S Smale	2020/19	Clerk's Pay	422.86	
HMRC	2020/19	Clerk's tax	12.00	
Wicksteed	2020/20	Amenity Trust Playpark inspection	60.00	
Wicksteed	2020/20	VAT	12.00	
T		Transfer from Amenity Trust		60.00
SHDC	2020/21	Amenity Trust Playpark maintenance and inspection	210.00	
SHDC	2020/21	VAT	42.00	
T		Transfer from Amenity Trust		210.00
S Smale	2020/22	Expenses	29.50	
B Sugden	2020/23	Diptford Square planting	52.88	

2. The Financial Statement was received:

Current Account 4.10.2020	9003.66	184.00	P3 - Footpath maintenance
MINUS Unpresented cheques	0	800.00	Winter Emergency Planning
PLUS Uncleared receipts	0	2,523.33	Community lengthsman project
Current Account	9003.66	1,750.00	Amenity trust
Savings Accounts	6,538.21	1,280.88	Contingency
TOTAL FUNDS	15,541.87	6,538.21	Total

Total uncommitted funds £9003.66

3. The national salary award of 2.75% and the clerk's increase in salary from £10.79 per hour to £11.08 (back-dated to 1st April) and the agreed additional day's leave was noted. (Back-pay included in Sept. salary)
4. The purchase of the Christmas tree was approved and JF to source.

2020/93 Diptford Playing Field

a) The Diptford Amenity Trust Accounts end September were noted:

Current £4295.31 Savings £41.30

b) The following payment was agreed:

K Jane £85.00 Grass-cutting

Standing orders were dropped at 8.14 to welcome Inga Ziemina to present her proposal for **tennis coaching** in the Parish and welcome input from Mike Cox representing the Playing Field group.

c) The following was agreed:

- It was a positive thing for the parish
- That Inga proceed with her proposal using a notice to advise when coaching sessions are available and the courts in use. This will be reviewed at the end of the season.
- That Inga research possible booking systems
- That there will be no fixed charge for the use of the courts but that Inga would contribute to the Playing Field fund proportionate to the sessions provided
- That Mike Cox would discuss applying to the Lottery Fund for a grant to refurbish the courts and possibly convert to multi-purpose use with the Playing Field committee. It was hoped that this would improve facilities for teenagers and adults.

Inga left at 8.35pm

LL to discuss increased use of the playing field with the school

d) The Wicksteed annual inspection report was considered and it was agreed that remedial work would be done on the slide in the multi-play unit and that, on the whole, it was a very positive report following a quiet year when minimal maintenance work has been done.

Mike Cox left at 8.41pm and standing orders were re-instated.

2020/94 The following correspondence was noted:

66 emails and newsletters from the following organisations:

Devon Association of Local Councils (DALC)

Devon County Council

Devon Communities Together

Diptford School

National Association of Local Councils (NALC)

Rural Services Network

South Hams District Council

And:

B Sugden – Tubs in Diptford Square

TRO – Proposed road closure on Etheridge to slipperstone via murtwell on 06/01

Invitation to CAB South Hams AGM

SF thanked B Sugden for her work on the village tubs

Meeting closed at 8.46pm

Next meetings Tuesday 10th November 7pm (Amenity Trust) followed by Council meeting.