

Diptford Parish Council Virtual Meeting

Tuesday 11th August 2020 7.00 pm

MINUTES

Present Franklin, (SF) (Chair), Baggott (BB), Hill (SH), Lethbridge (LL), Parker-Davidson (SPD), Hosking (DCC), and Smale (Clerk)

SHDC – Cllr Pannell sent his apologies and an email report prior to the meeting.

Things are beginning to quieten down generally so I don't think there is much to add to last month's report, apart from the news that the Leisure centres are beginning to open up again, see below.

2020/58 Apologies were received from Cllrs Foster, Peach and Crocker

2020/59 There were no declarations of interest and dispensations in items on the Agenda.

2020/60 It was resolved that no agenda items should be taken with the public excluded in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, S1(2).

2020/61 The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 14th July, as previously circulated, were confirmed and will be signed by the Chair

2020/62 The Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on the 12th May, as previously circulated, were confirmed and will be signed by the Chair

2020/63 The following update was received on the invasion of Rhododendron growth in Larcombe Woods causing concerns regarding bio-diversity in the area and access for walkers and riders:

SF had contacted the Trust who own some of the land and have cut back the growth in previous years. They are prepared to work with a group of volunteers to clear the path but this would need careful consideration due to health and safety considerations for any volunteers who would not be covered by insurance.

It was resolved that BB would take photos illustrating the issue and the matter would be referred to Highways.

2020/64 Highways and Community Lengthsman

- a) The Lengthsman continues to monitor and work on areas as and when needed. He has cleaned some signs and will be erecting the new notice-board which has now been delivered.
- b) The information from Highways regarding the web page that shows when a highway drain (gully) was last inspected and its frequency for cleaning as noted <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/maintaining-roads/flooding-and-drainage/report-standing-water-flooding-or-blocked-drains/>
- c) It was resolved that a letter would be sent to the owners of land where Japanese Balsam has been observed breaking through the tarmac outside the field
- d) CP has reported the damage to the grit bin between Crabadon Cross and Crabadon
- e) It was noted that patching work on the Curtisknowle to Gara bridge road is planned for Nov/Dec and that the contractor will ensure the surface will be gritted for horses too.
- f) It was noted that the temporary road signs that have appeared on the hill from 'Rannoch' to 'Broadmead' on New Road were causing an obstruction and the clerk would contact Highways
- g) It was noted that the "Dangerous Bridge" sign had disappeared from Oakenham Bridge. DPC are conscious that, although ownership of the bridge is complicated, the council has a duty of care knowing that the bridge is dangerous. It was resolved that the clerk would correspond with the landowner adjacent to the bridge to agree safety precautions.

Standing Orders were dropped at 7.30 for the update from Cllr Hosking (DCC):

- Progress on the design for improvements at Gara Bridge has been delayed by Coronavirus. A draft plan has been produced and is now with the Environment Agency and Conservation team at SHDC as it is a Listed Structure.
- Pleased to report funding support for the notice board for Diptford.
- Received a request for funding from the Friends of Diptford School, Roger Knight, and will be pleased to support this if the Parish Council agree this is a good cause to support. **DPC agreed it was.**

- Question regarding best communication channels in the parish in the event of a COVID outbreak. **It was agreed that communication would go on the parish website and alerts be sent to the Facebook Diptford Sustainability Group when new content is added.**
- Council have published their Local Outbreak Management Plan that will become operational in the event of an identified outbreak of Coronavirus.
- The Devon County Council held a virtual Full Council meeting on 23rd July 2020. It was the first time the technology had let Cllr Hosking down and it took 50 minutes to join the meeting.
- **Cllr Hosking will report the need for the grass at Shorter Cross to be cut again.**

Standing Orders were resumed at 7.45pm and Cllr Hosking left the meeting.

2020/65 Diptford Playing Field

a) Diptford Amenity Trust Accounts for the end of July were noted

Current account £4525.31

Savings £41.30

b) The following payments were approved

K Jane – Grasscutting July £85.00

Transfer to DPC for Maintenance check £60.00

2020/66 The following planning decisions made by SHDC were noted:

- a) 1253/20/ARC Field at Gladsfield Diptford TQ9 7PD Ms Jane Acton Application for approval of details reserved by condition 5 of planning consent 4100/18/FUL

Discharge of condition Approved

- b) Crabadon Manor Barn Crabadon Manor Diptford Totnes TQ9 7JZ Harefold Ltd Prior Approval Agricultural building to dwelling C3 GRID REFERENCE : (275267, 54655) Notification for prior approval for a proposed change of use of agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (use class C3) and for associated operational development (Class Q(a)&(b)) (Renewal of permission 3737/17/PDM)

Prior Approval Required and Given

2020/67 Finance

1. The following payments were approved and receipts noted:

Name	Description	Code	Amount
Smale		Clerk's Pay	299.25
HMRC		Clerk's tax	74.80
Smale	Zoom	Subscriptions	14.39
Smale	Hazard Tape	Clerk's Stationery / equipment	24.00
Smale		Clerk's Office (Phone / heating /)	16.00
Smale		Clerk's Expenses (Mileage)	13.30
Creative Solutions	Notice board £400 contribution from SHDC grants	Other Exp	657.18
Creative Solutions	Notice board	VAT	131.44
Wicksteed	Play park check	Amenity Trust	60.00
Wicksteed	Play park check	VAT	12.00
ICO		Other Exp	35.00

£60 transferred from Amenity Trust to pay for the Maintenance check.

2. The Financial Statement was received:

Current Account 31.07.2020	4855.15
MINUS Unpresented cheques	0

234.00	P3 - Footpath maintenance
800.00	Winter Emergency Planning

PLUS Uncleared receipts	0
Current Account	4855.15
Savings Accounts	6657.93
TOTAL FUNDS	11,513.08

2,593.33	Community lengthsman project
1,750.00	Amenity trust
1,280.60	Contingency
6,657.93	Total

Total uncommitted funds

£4855.15

2020/68 The website update was noted and it was resolved that this would be on the agenda for the September meeting

22nd July - *The new site will be ready for preview in about 2 weeks. Once the domain has been transferred to our hosting the site can go live any time after that. The site will be WCAG2.1 Level AA compliant and will include an Accessibility Statement in the required format. We can provide guidance to the clerk on maintaining compliance. Minutes, agendas, reports, etc., uploaded in PDF format require some basic checks to ensure compliance but we do not anticipate this being a problem. Training will be provided to the designated site administrator – normally the clerk – and reference guides are also available on-line in the site administration section.*

We would be happy to discuss WCAG and any other aspects of the new site directly with the clerk at any time.

2020/69 The response from Jameson Homes regarding the Wheat Park site was noted:

I understand and share the Councils disappointment but unfortunately these are strange times and this is where we are. We have however had the site tidied up which I trust will meet with the approval of the Council.

It was agreed that the site is still an eyesore and needs further attention. Clerk to liaise with SHDC to secure their support, BB to take photographs for the clerk to respond to Jameson Homes that further work is requested.

2020/70 The following correspondence was noted:

Rural Services Bulletin 7th 14th, 21st, 28th, July,

Devon Communities Together 8th, 10th, 15th, 16th 22nd, 23rd, 27th, 30th, July,

NALC Newsletter 8th 10th, 16th, 17th 24th, 28th, 30th, July

Cllr Smerdon – contacting your local police

DALC Newsletter 38

Parish Paths Partnership Newsletter

WARNING – Cold-calling tree surgeons targeting vulnerable residents

Devon County Council – 5 communications

South Hams District Council – 7 communications

Next meeting 8th September

Meeting closed at 8.10pm