

# Diptford Parish Council Virtual Meeting

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 7.00 pm

## MINUTES (DRAFT)

**Present** Cllrs Franklin, (SF) (Chair) Baggott (BB), Hill (SH), Lethbridge (LL), Parker-Davidson (SPD), Peach (CP), Hosking (RH) (DCC), Smerdon (PS)(SHDC), Pannell (GP) (SHDC) and Sally Smale (Clerk)

**No members of the public were in attendance**

**2021/01** Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Foster

### **Report from District Councillors (PS and GP)**

#### **See App. 2**

In addition to the items in the appendix Councillors fed back from a meeting attended during the afternoon regarding the vaccine programme in South Hams. The Centre is at St Boniface House near Buckfastleigh. There will also be 2 large scale testing sites in Plymouth and Exeter which is hoped will reduce any pressure on the smaller local sites. Devon aims to roll out testing for people without symptoms but working on the frontline. CP fed back on the unsuitability of St. Boniface House due to poor signposting and inadequate parking. BB highlighted the greater flexibility of the Additional Restrictions Grant which will hopefully make it more accessible for businesses who have fallen through the gap in previous schemes.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-youre-eligible-for-the-coronavirus-additional-restrictions-grant>

### **Public Forum**

SF brought to the attention of Council that there had been a case of severe vandalism on a property in the parish followed by malicious correspondence. DPC sympathises but can do nothing as a corporate body. It was agreed that this was a police matter.

### **Report from County Councillor (RH)**

#### **See App. 1**

It was agreed that the work to repair the dip in the road between Avonwick and Diptford was of excellent quality and RH agreed to request the signs now be removed.

RH confirmed there was no news about work at Gara Bridge and welcomed the news that the DCC Lengthsman was planning some work in the parish.

**2021/02** There were no declarations of interest in items on the Agenda.

**2021/03** It was agreed that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, S1(2), no items should be taken with the public excluded.

**2021/04** The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> Dec 2020, as previously circulated, were confirmed and will be signed by the Chair

Clerk requested progress on use of the new email addresses and confirmed she had had a few difficulties. **It was agreed that SPD would discuss the issues with WesternWeb.** Councillors will continue to use current addresses in the interim.

### **2021/05** Diptford Playing Field

a) The Financial statement for Diptford Amenity Trust was received

Current account £3770.31

Savings account £41.30

b) SH reported that the courts had been treated but weather conditions had prevented a sweep and negated the treatment. The courts are currently closed due to COVID-19 and it was agreed to put this on hold until the closure is due to end.

c) The clerk has not received a formal quote for the work on the tree in the playing field and **it was agreed to contact another tree surgeon.**

### **2021/06** Highways and Community Lengthsman

a) **Lengthsman** - CP reported a prompt and efficient response to an urgent call to do flood prevention work on the road from Morleigh down to Gara Bridge.

**b) Road-sweeping**

It was agreed to hire Cranheath Transport for an 8 hour day to sweep the roads at a cost of £830+VAT

TC to provide area for tipping

**Priority areas:**

Coombeshead Cross to Bickham Bridge

**1 mile**

Diptford Village – Holsome Lane to Diptford Cott ( In particular – just south of Overavon towards Diptford Cott)

**1 mile**

Diptford boundary (Holsome Park Farm) to Diptford Cross in the village – passing places are very overgrown.

The road from Curtisknowle to Crabadon Cross, in particular the stretch between Copse End/Curtisknowle

House to Lanquillet which is approx **half a mile**.

Road from New Rectory corner to Brushford (**approx.. 0.7 miles**)

**TC to liaise with Cranheath to agree priority areas if not all of the above can be done in the 8 hours**

**Clerk to inform DCC of intentions.**

**2021/07 The following Planning Application was considered****a)3965/20/HHO**

Householder application for demolition of existing sun room and single garage to create extended kitchen/diner & utility. Erection of new double garage in garden.

Copse End Curtisknowle TQ9 7JX

**Support****2021/08 Finance****1. To following payments were agreed and receipts noted**

S Smale	2020/31	Clerk's Expenses (Mileage)	13.50
S Smale	2020/31	Clerk's Office (Phone / heating /)	16.00
S Smale	2020/32	Clerk's Pay	382.11
HMRC	2020/32	Clerk's tax	2.00
Widdicombe	2020/33	Lengthsman	200.00
VAT	2020/33	VAT	40.00 34.80 plus 1.20 VAT
DALC	2020/34	Budget training shared with MPC and RPC	

Parochial Church Council 2020/35 Graveyard Maintenance £400

The request for a contribution of £100 towards the Parish Newsletter was deferred to the Feb. meeting pending further information

Clerk to bring request for contribution to Parish Hall broadband to next meeting

**Receipts**

VAT income to end of November £566.48

**2. The Financial Statement was received**

Current Account End Dec 2020	7231.83	184.00	P3 - Footpath maintenance
MINUS Unpresented cheques	0	800.00	Winter Emergency Planning
PLUS Uncleared receipts	0	2,183.33	Community lengthsman project
Current Account	7231.83	1,696.00	Amenity trust
Savings Accounts	6358.37	1,495.04	Contingency
TOTAL FUNDS	13,590.20	6358.37	Total

**Total uncommitted funds £ 7231.83**

**3. The following grant funding for 2021-2022 was agreed:**

- CAB - £100
- Parish Hall - £200
- Graveyard maintenance - £475

Mobile Library – clerk to bring to next meeting for grant funding of £50. in this financial year

**4. Proposed by SF, seconded by LL and all in favour that the budget proposal (circulated previously) as proposed by BB and detailed in App. 3 be agreed.**

**5. Proposed by SF, seconded by LL and all in favour that the precept demand of £13,100 be agreed.**

The Band D parish rate will be £50.19.

This is an increase of £11.85 (in comparison to 2020/21)

**2021/09      The DPC Community Notice board and Community Information Website Policy (Distributed previously) was agreed and it was noted that the website and board were for information and not commercial advertising. It was agreed that SPD would purchase a key safe for agreed community groups to have access to the board.**

**2021/10      The Country File planting project was considered and LL informed Council that they were donating the 7 trees eligible to the school under this scheme and no further action was required.**

**The following Correspondence was noted:**

- a) SHDC – Have your say – Opportunity to help shape housing priorities consultation
- b) Cllr Hosking – COVID-19 updates.
- c) School Newsletters
- d) Natural England survey regarding the Countryside Code.

It was noted that the village Christmas tree had been damaged in the storm and remedial work had been done by Cllr Crocker and Graham Lethbridge but that the lights were damaged and would need replacing next year.

SF thanked everyone involved in erecting, decorating and repairing the tree and to the Bakers for providing an electric source.

Meeting closed at 9 pm.

**Next meeting Tuesday Feb 9<sup>th</sup> 2021 at 7 pm.**