

Diptford Parish Council Virtual Meeting

Tuesday 9th March 2021 7.00 pm

MINUTES

This meeting started at 7.25pm following the Amenity Trust meeting.

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

2 members of the public were in attendance

2021/23 Apologies for late arrival were received from SPD

Report from District Councillors (PS)(GP)

See app. 1

PS left at 7.34pm

Report from DCC Councillor (RH)

- First case of COVID recorded in Devon on 1st March 2020 – one year ago
- Significant roadworks at the junction of the A379 and A3121 will result in road closures and diversions for 6-12 months
- SF noted street lights in Diptford have been replaced
- CP requested an update on the Gara Bridge situation. Recent damage has caused significant expense which could have been avoided if the works had not been delayed. **RH reminded Council that due to COVID there had been lots of staff deployment and shortages but he will chase up.**
- Agreement that litter seemed to be an escalating problem

RH left at 7.43pm

Open Forum

The recently published feasibility study for The Primrose Trail was discussed with input from 2 members of the public. Summary of concerns:

- It would have significant impact on the environment and local people
- That it would increase visitors to the area
- That it cites support of DPC who only agreed in principal to the project before having full details
- Diversions are on “quiet” lanes that are not quiet
- There are no parking places or facilities in the central area of the trail where people are likely to gravitate to start their activity
- Loss of privacy for properties on the proposed route

Although it was acknowledged that developments in Diptford parish would be in the future it was agreed that the clerk would draft a letter for all Councillors to comment on expressing concerns about the project and that this would be distributed to all organisations cited in the study.

SPD arrived 8.05pm

GP left 8.05pm

TC reported that there had been several complaints about noise coming from Sterts Quarry Farm

2021/23a Declaration of interest was received from TC for agenda item 2021 27b)

2021/24 In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, S1(2), the Council determined no items should be taken with the public excluded.

2021/25 The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 9th Feb. 2021, as previously circulated, were confirmed and will be signed by the Chair

- Progress of issues with the new email addresses – SPD reported that he is exploring options to be able to align to outlook accounts.

2021/26 Highways and Community Lengthsman

- a) Clerk to chase up the work requested to alleviate the problem of flooding & blocked drains in the area of Oakham Bridge, Beneknowle and Old Bridge.
- b) No update on the road sweeping situation
- c) It was agreed to renew the Lengthsman contract from 1st April 2021 for 1 year
- d) The on-going problems with damage to Gara Bridge had been discussed with RH earlier

2021/27 The following Planning Applications were considered:

- a) **0415/21/HHO** Peter Loveland Householder application for change of roof to pitch and finish, proposed dormer and new rooflights to front and rear, small extension to rear of property Avon Rise Diptford TQ9 7NZ
Agreed to support this subject to the removal of the unauthorised out-buildings on the site. The tree house in particular overlooks the neighbouring garden invading their privacy and interrupting their peaceful enjoyment of their garden.

TC left the meeting

- b) **0429/21/OPA** Outline application with all matters reserved for construction of agricultural worker's dwelling Coombeshead Farm, Diptford TQ9 7NP

All agreed to support this application

TC returned to the meeting

2021/28 The following planning decision made by SHDC was noted

3965/20/HHO Copse End Curtisknowle TQ9 7JX Mr M Jarrold Householder application for demolition of existing sun room and single garage to create extended kitchen/diner & utility. Erection of new double garage in garden.

DECISION: Conditional Approval

2021/29 Finance

1. The following payments were approved

S Smale	Clerk's Pay	342.77
S Smale	Clerk's Office (Phone / heating /)	16.00
Modbury Parish Council	Contrib. to Internal Controls training	6.00

2. The Financial Statement was received

Current Account End Feb 2021	5,400.91	184.00	P3 - Footpath maintenance
MINUS Unpresented: Smale salary and office Training	364.77	800.00	Winter Emergency Planning
PLUS Uncleared receipts	0	1,883.33	Community lengthsman project
Current Account	5036.14	1,696.00	Amenity trust
Savings Accounts	6,358.48	1,795.15	Contingency
TOTAL FUNDS	11,394.62	6358.48	Total

Total uncommitted funds £ 5036.14

2021/30 General Power of Competence (Paper distributed previously)

- a) It was agreed that the Parish Council meets the criteria for eligibility (two thirds elected members and CiLCA qualified Clerk)
- b) It was agreed to adopt the General Power of Competence

2021/31 It was agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting and AGM on 13th April. (Addendum – The AGM will now be held on 5th May to fall within legal statute and it will be an ordinary meeting in April)

Clerk to invite SHDC recycling team to the annual meeting as the main feature and all Diptford groups to either submit a short report or do a brief presentation. The Annual meeting will start at 6.30pm and the ordinary meeting will follow.

Meeting closed at 8.48pm

Date of next meeting 13th April