

Diptford Virtual Annual Parish Meeting

Tuesday 13th April 2021 6.30 pm

NOTES

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.

Natalie Johnson from SHDC was present to do a brief presentation on the new recycling service

1. Cllr Foster (Chair of Diptford Parish Council) addressed the assembly:

- It has been a strange and exceptional year – all the council meetings have been held virtually via Zoom.
- Thanks to all the Councillors for their attendance
- Thanks to the clerk for making the arrangements for the meetings
- We have come out the other end of a difficult year stronger than before

2. Presentation from Natalie Johnson (SHDC) regarding the new waste and recycling service

- The presentation can be viewed on DPC website – Annual meeting reports:

<https://www.diptfordparishcouncil.org/meetings.php>

The scheme was introduced to DPC about 6 months ago and now it has started a staged roll-out. Diptford residences will start receiving their new containers from 19th April 2021 onwards. Collections will start week commencing 26th April 2021.

Additional information on the new service: www.southhams.gov.uk/newservice

To report a missed collection: www.southhams.gov.uk/missedcollection

For general enquiries on the waste and recycling collection service: www.southhams.gov.uk/wastequestion

NJ will check that the vehicles will fit under the arch at Curtisnowle

NJ confirmed there was mixed feedback regarding the new service which encourages greater participation from residents

SF and CP praised SHDC worker Stuart

3. RH (Devon County Councillor) report

See Annual Meeting Reports on DPC website

4. South Hams District Councillor updates (GP and PS)

See Annual Meeting Reports on DPC website

5. Presentations from representatives of Diptford societies and organisations:

a) Jodie Churchward – Acting Head Diptford School

The school started the year providing home learning support during the first lock-down. Sept. was spent preparing for the 2nd lock-down and so better prepared with live stream lessons and pre-recorded lessons. This has resulted in the pupils returning on 8th March with less educational time lost.

Pupils are enjoying the new playground equipment

Focus for the school coming out of lock-down is to improve links with the community

b) Roger Knight (FODS)

FODS is a separate organisation from the school and working very closely with it.

Teachers have done an incredible job – not just teaching but supporting families

Strange year with many activities curtailed by COVID

Very successful fund-raising year enabling installation of play equipment and outdoor stage – lots of local donations and support in kind.

Thanks to Louise Lethbridge for tireless fund-raising activity and negotiations with equipment providers.

Thanks to SHDC and DCC councillors for their donations

Focus this year is to support younger learners by providing outdoor covered learning areas and to link in with the wider community.

Hope to run the duck race this year.

c) Report from Diptford WI (Read by SF)

As with most groups there is very little to report for the last year. Needless to say, we have not been able to meet since March 2020.

However we have all kept in close contact with each other either on our chatlist, WhatsApp or on Zoom. We did have a slight respite last summer when we met in differing groups of 6 in a garden.

During the year we have given all the members Christmas cards and Easter cards both with chocolates to cheer everyone up. We did have a happy time with one of our members having her 100th birthday and equally some sad times when members have passed away.

During last year we had collected over £1000 for our charity, Devon Freewheelers, we were due to give this at our AGM in May but with Covid they were desperate so we passed this on straight away.

At Christmas and again at Easter we collected items for Totnes Food Bank and took two boot-fuls both times for which they were very grateful. We are hoping to repeat this in July.

On the 22nd April we are doing a socially distanced litter pick around the village. Weather permitting!

Although we haven't had our usual times together we have not been totally isolated and like everyone else are really looking forward to being normal again.

Pat Sampford, President Diptford W.I.

d) Report from Focus Tennis (Read by the clerk)

Tennis court is safe to play on when dry. So probably for the Spring/Summer use only at the moment.

2- children's coaching on Tuesday mornings

3- beginners adult coaching could potentially start on Tuesday mornings as well

4- individual and shared lessons can be booked on demand

See you on court!

JF thanked Jodie and Roger for attending and the meeting closed at 7.30pm