

Diptford Parish Council News

August 2021

The Council enjoyed its first face-to-face meeting in the Village Hall for 16 months!

No members of the public were in attendance

South Hams District Council update

Cllr Pannell had provided the SHDC Report prior to the meeting. See Appendix 2

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

Devon County Council

Cllr Thomas (DCC) had given his apologies and sent an email regarding the recent unexpected road closures at Crabadon Cross:

In the light of Cllr Peach's email, I spoke at length to Nick Colton. Nick informs me that when the works are deemed to be an emergency – as this was – SWW have a statutory undertaking under emergency powers to shut the road. For the first part of the (official) closure, the diversion route had been checked and approved by county. I gather that the emergency extension over the last 2 days was run by the contractors, who have offered inappropriate verbal advice as to which roads to use. This has greatly exacerbated the problem. Nick recommends that the Parish write to SWW to complain and offer a local perspective as to the issues that have been encountered. On a personal note, I'm very sorry to hear that the works have been chaotic at best.

It was agreed that the clerk would send 2 letters to DCC and SWW detailing the chaos that ensued and requesting more considered examination of diversion routes.

Scheme of Delegation during the period when the Council was unable to hold meetings

The actions taken by the clerk under the scheme of delegation June and July 2021 as listed in App. 1

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

and it was resolved to end the temporary scheme of delegation to the clerk.

Diptford Playing Field

- Two quotations were considered for the replacement of the gate to the playing field. (The third quotation had not arrived in time for the meeting.)
 - It was agreed to go with the cheaper quote and that the clerk would ask contractor to proceed with work as a matter of urgency and to also request he repairs the panels at the top of the slide in the fort. (Identified in the monthly check)
- The faults identified in the monthly inspection in July were discussed and it was agreed to remove loose sleepers at the base of the fort and repair the board at the top of the climbing ramp. The other items have been checked and it was agreed to wait for the annual engineering check before committing to further work
- It was agreed that the tennis court improvement was a long-term project dependent on significant grant-funding.
- It was agreed to renew the maintenance contract with SHDC (This will be provided free of charge due to lack of provision 2020-2021 due to administrative error.)

Highways and Community Lengthsman

It was noted that The Lengthsman has been very busy this last month and agreed that he would be asked if he can do the road-side weeds through the village.

Planning applications

Two applications were considered and Council supported both.

Date of next meeting Tuesday 14th September 2021

Meeting closed at 8.08pm