

# **Diptford Parish Council Meeting**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

**Diptford Village Hall**

## **MINUTES**

**Present** Cllrs Foster (Chair) (JF), Franklin (Vice Chair) (SF), Lethbridge (LL), Parker-Davidson (SPD), Crocker (TC), Peach (CP), Hill (SH), Baggott (BB), Smerdon (PS) (SHDC), Cllrs Thomas (DT) (DCC), and Ali Kohler (Clerk)

**No members of the public were present**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2022 117 Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Pannell (GP)(SHDC)**

### **Matters arising**

Use of the parish hall – Concern was raised about the unavailability to the community, in view that the school still has an ongoing booking daily for the hall. The Parish Council were reassured that due to some repairs being carried out at the school, the school's need for the full-time daily use of the parish hall had reduced, although they have kept their booking ongoing at present. Anyone who wishes to book the parish hall during the daytime, please book in the normal way, with as much notice as can be given, so that the school can be consulted if the hall is being used by them at that time.

The Parish Council will write to the Academy for an update on the repairs at the school, as no further update has been given to the Parish Council since they were first informed that major damage had occurred to classrooms due to storm damage and the school then had to book the parish hall to use as a classroom whilst waiting for repairs to be carried out.

Graveyard – A health and safety issue has been raised by parishioners who are wishing to visit graves in the graveyard. Currently access is difficult and a concern due to lack of maintenance in the graveyard for those visiting the graveyard. Parish Council to send a letter to Ruth Parker-Davidson to request if there is anything that can be done to make access to the graveyard safer and can this be raised at the next meeting of the Parochial Church Council.

### **County Councillors Report.**

Cllr Thomas updated the meeting with information on the emergency repairs at Gara Bridge. There has had to be an emergency closure at Gara Bridge to complete repairs after damage was inspected by the Council Inspector and it was deemed that Gara Bridge to be unsafe. On a positive note, a recharge will be raised against the driver who caused the damage as it was all captured by the camera which was previously installed. The report Cllr Thomas provided covers a media release covering the poor financial situation of Devon County Council.

**See appendix 1** <https://www.diptfordparishcouncil.org/meetings.php>

Cllr Thomas left the meeting

### **South Hams District Councillors Report**

Cllr Smerdon advised all to take note of the brown bin arrangements in his report which have been updated due to moving back into SHDC control. Full details are in his report.

**See appendix 2** <https://www.diptfordparishcouncil.org/meetings.php>

Cllr Smerdon left the meeting

**2022 118 Declarations of Interest – none declared**

**2022 119      The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022, as previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chair**

**2022 120      Diptford Playing Field**

**a)      To receive the financial statement for Diptford Amenity Trust**  
**Current Account: £1,376.27                      Savings Account: £46.30**

The condition of the play equipment was discussed, due to the age of the equipment and the repairs which are needed. This is being reviewed on going and will be discussed with the new committee which manages the playing field

The AGM of the Diptford Amenity Trust will be held immediately after this parish council meeting.

**b) Tennis Courts** – the parish council are currently waiting on update from the new committee. Grants to be investigated to re-instate the tennis courts.

**2022 121      Highways and Community Lengthsman**

Gara Bridge repairs advised by Cllr Thomas (see minute under County Councillors Report).

**2022 122      Planning**

a) Planning applications considered – none to consider

b) Planning applications to note:

1. 3372/22/ARC. Application Type: Approval of Details Reserved by Conditions. Location: Crabdon Cottage, Halwell, TQ9 7JZ. Application for approval of details reserved by condition 6 (surface water drainage) of planning consent 0090/19/FUL. Applicant name: Mr and Mrs K Sanders.
2. 2815/22/ARC Location: Barn adjacent to Robins Nest, Cross Farm, Diptford, TQ9 7NU Applicant name: Mr James Bell. Application type: Approval of Details Reserved by Conditions (discharge) Proposal: Application for approval of details reserved by condition 3 (surface water) and 7 (landscaping) of planning application 4240/18/FUL.  
**Decision: Discharge of condition Approved.**
3. 3372/22ARC. Location: Crabdon Cottage, Halwell, TQ9 7JZ. Approval of details reserved by conditions (discharge). Proposal: Application for approval of details reserved by condition 6 (surface water drainage) of planning consent 0090/19/FUL.  
**Decision: Discharge of condition Approved.**

c) Planning applications withdrawn:

1. 1870/21/ARC Location: Mow Cottage, Diptford Cross, Diptford TQ9 7NU. Application type: Approval of Details Reserved by Conditions (discharge). Proposal: Approval of Details Reserved by Conditions (part) 1,2,4 and 5 on Approved Application 2102/19/HHO. **Decision: Withdrawn 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

**2022 123      Finance**

**1. The following payments were approved:**

payments

A Kohler – Clerks Office - £16.00

A Kohler – Mileage/Parking - £18.45

A Kohler – Stationary - £4.00

HMRC – Clerk PAYE - £121.40

A Kohler – Salary October 2022 - £486.31

receipts

Interest received £0.62

## 2. The Financial Statement was received:

Current Account 31st October 2022	£8,776.48	£344	P3 - Footpath maintenance
MINUS Unpresented: Clerk's expenses	£38.45	£1000	Winter Emergency Planning
PLUS, Uncleared receipts	£0.00	£5283	Community lengthsman project
Current Account	£8,738.03	£2,426	Amenity trust
Savings Accounts	£14,690.56	£2,865	Contingency
TOTAL FUNDS	£23,428.59	£11,918	Total

**Total uncommitted funds £ 11,510.59**

### **2022 124 Precept/Budget Information/ Financial Planning**

Clerk to liaise with Cllr Baggott.

### **2022 125 Glebe Land**

Site visit has been requested with Emily Rix of Savills with Cllr Foster and Cllr Parker- Davidson.

### **2022 126 Graveyard**

There has been no update on the closure of the graveyard. Clerk to chase this matter for an update. All correspondence regarding the closure of the graveyard to be copied to the District and County Councillors

**2022 127 Correspondence** - There has been correspondence with Emily Rix (Savills) to bring her up to speed with the Glebe Land issues which are still ongoing.

### **2022 128 Clerk Review**

Clerk's appraisal took place on 17<sup>th</sup> October with Cllr Foster (Chair) and Cllr Franklin (Vice Chair). After a positive appraisal clerk's salary was increased from SCP 9 - £11.05 per hour to SCP 18 - £13.21 per hour backdated to August 2022 this is after the completion of 6 months employment. Note these salary scales are at NALC salary scales for 2021/2022 as NALC salary scales for 2022/2023 are not yet published.

It was also agreed at the appraisal to support the Clerk to gain the CILCA qualification via 2 additional hours per week to assist with study and the cost of the course from November 2022. The CILCA course should take approximately 1 year.

**2022 129 Arrangements over the festive period** – The Christmas Tree has been ordered and the previous year's decorations are in good order.

**2022 130 Coronation of King Charles III** – Celebrations to be considered at future meetings now that the coronation has been announced as Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

### **2022 131 To set date for Annual Parish Council Meeting**

Clerk to check if we can have the Annual Parish Council Meeting can be held in April 2023 instead of May 2023.

**2022 132 Any Other Business**

1. Ploughing of Lanes – This has not been carried out for quite some time, due to the issue of the Bobcat not having anywhere to dispose of residue which is disturbed and needs cleared off the lanes once ploughed. Item to be on January 2023 Parish Council Meeting Agenda.
2. Clerk to write to Planning Enforcement to check why there are so many old standing planning enforcement cases still on the list. Do these need to remain on the list as active or can they be removed rather than be noted every month.

**Next Meeting:**

**Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022, 7pm**

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