

Diptford Parish Council Meeting

Diptford Parish Hall, Tuesday 21 October 2008 at 7.30pm

Presentation by Tony Callcut, Headteacher Diptford Primary School Tony Callcut introduced his school as vibrant, with great children and a dedicated staff. Pupil numbers were stable and, in January 2009, there would be 73 pupils. Due to the demographics of Diptford, most pupils were drawn from outside the village.

The number of after school clubs had increased, including sailing, surfing, football, netball, yoga and recorder. In addition, the school cultivated an allotment opposite the church, owned by the Diocesan Council, and would shortly raise 4 chickens. Help was needed from the community in cultivating the allotment and using the produce.

ICT skills were being developed, with a school website, to which it was intended to link their digital weather station. It was suggested that a link be provided to the Diptford Community Website.

Teachers were brought in to teach ukulele and dance, and it was intended to hold a carol concert. As an Eco School, pupils were learning to save waste through recycling.

Tony Callcut appreciated the role of the school in the community and welcomed visits to the school. Involvement with the community had included: dance in the village hall; assemblies in the church; sport on the recreation field; joining in the beating of the bounds and apple pressing day; and WI involvement in helping children with cooking skills, arts and crafts. Councillors suggested that the school may also be interested in short mat bowls, curling and tennis. The school was keen to be involved in community events, which could be promoted through the school

Following the retirement of the cook, the provision of school dinners needed to be resolved. Local tendering had been unsuccessful and DCC had recently agreed to waive its £14,000 charge and provide meals to March 2009.

The children will therefore be able to enjoy a Christmas lunch.

Another problem related to the loss of the school bus (now replaced by taxis) which caused difficulties in arranging transport to events. A school minibus had been considered, but maintenance costs would be high. Parents would be made aware, through the school newsletter, of inconsiderate parking and would be encouraged to share lifts.

Police Report One burglary had occurred over the last month and PC Hopper suggested the use of timers for lights and the radio now that it was getting dark earlier. Parishioners should be vigilant and take the registration numbers of visitors to the area. To avoid fuel thefts, driveway alarms and fuel alarms (triggered when the level of fuel dropped suddenly) were available through the internet and advice was available from Totnes Police Station. The Police could be involved where school parking caused an obstruction, but the SHDC Traffic Enforcement Officers were now responsible for illegal parking on double yellow lines. They could also provide education at the school on parking, cycling and road safety.

Reports from District and County Councillors County Cllr Date undertook to investigate the transport and catering problems of the school and was advised that the lights at the Plymouth Road junction remained green for too short a period.

District Cllr Steer advised that the Community Policy Development Group was introducing an Antisocial Policy which, once confirmed by the Executive Committee, would relate to all Housing Association tenants. He confirmed that the £1.25m invested in the (UK registered) Icelandic bank would not impact on service delivery. Traffic Enforcement Officers would be asked to visit the school at the start and finish of the day to issue warnings to park responsibly. New Planning Regulations had been introduced from the 1st October.

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Foster(Chairman), Franklin, Baggot, Chapell, Savery, Stow & Hill; SHDC Cllr Steer; DCC Cllr Date

08.066 Amanda Chapell was co-opted and completed the Declaration of Acceptance

08.067 Apologies for absence were noted from Cllr Walton

08.068 To note declarations of interest in items on the Agenda None

08.069 The Minutes of the Meetings held on the 16th September 2008, as previously circulated, were amended and signed by the Chairman

08.070 Planning Applications received

1. Two storey extension to dwelling to provide entrance lobby, extended lounge, bedroom & bathroom at Larcombe Cottage, Diptford Ref 17/1740/08/F Dr P Vellapillai & Mrs P Rogers **Withdrawn**

Observations on planning applications considered at the Diptford Parish Council Meeting held on 16.9.08 were ratified

2. Erection of single storey timber framed glazed conservatory at Laurel Cottage, Diptford Ref 17/1718/08/F Mr R Hewett **No objection**

Planning Decisions – Noted

3. Replacement PVCu windows at The Old Bakehouse, Diptford Ref 17/1566/08/F **Permission**

4. Retrospective alterations to planning consent 17/2140/05 at Moonriver Cottage, 3 Gara Bridge Cottages, Gara Bridge Ref 17/1520/08/F **Permission**

5. Alterations to existing vehicular and pedestrian entrances at Fair View House, Diptford Ref 17/1430/08/F **Permission**

6. Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling at Sunrise, Holsome Lane, Diptford Ref 17/1573/08/F **Withdrawn**

08.071 Entrance to Recreation Field: Speeding & signage – The adjoining owner had kindly agreed to the erection of a warning sign on the side of his shed. Cllrs Walton & Foster would ask the school to hold a competition to design a sign for the entrance to the recreation field.

Chris Watkins of Devon County Highways Traffic Management had explained that liaison with the police was maintained through the SCARF site, in which readings were monitored. Where a problem was identified enforcement action was taken, such as traffic calming measures. PC Jacqui Hopper had advised that the location was not suitable for the handheld speed detector and offered to provide Diptford Primary School with road safety advice. She suggested that improved signage may help.

08.072 Christmas Lights – Ken Creeber had been instructed to refurbish the existing lights and buy additional lights. Mrs Clayden, The Rising Sun, Diptford had agreed to provide the electricity supply and the lights would be illuminated over a longer period. The Christmas tree would be erected on the 12/13th December

Resolved to spend up to £100 on additional Christmas lights and to reimburse Mrs Clayden £5 for the electricity supply

08.073 Amenity Trust – The insurance was renewed at a cost of £121.65, with the next payment due in April 2009 and the ROSPA inspection in February. A Trust Meeting would be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 18th November to adopt the Constitution.

08.074 P3 & Footpaths – Drainage work had been carried out and all the paths were now in good condition. A footpath over one ploughed field required reinstatement.

08.075 Finance

1. Cheques passed for payment:

Cheque	Description	VAT	Gross
0356	S Woodman expenses: Internet/phone/computer £25, travel £17.20, stationery £2.50, postage £6.48, HMRC (PAYE) £96.12	0.37	147.30
0357	S Woodman – September pay		128.16
0358	James Baron (P3 works)	21.00	141.00
	Total	21.37	416.46

Receipts

Description	VAT	Gross
SHDC – 2 nd Precept 08/09		2250.00

2. The Financial Statement was received

Financial Statement

Lloyds Current Account to 30.9.08	5959.75
<i>Less</i> payments & unrepresented cheques	416.46
<i>Plus</i> uncleared receipts	0.00
Total	5543.29

Earmarked Reserves

P3 Footpaths	399.15
Playing Field	1000.00
Parish Plan	193.43
Total	1592.58

Total Uncommitted funds £3950.71

Finance Correspondence

3. The Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2008 had been certified by the Audit Commission

4. **Resolved to open an Alliance & Leicester Commercial Bank interest-bearing account.**

08.076 Correspondence received

1. SHDC Budget consultation meeting with Town & Parish Council, 7pm Wed 12 November Follaton House – Cllr Foster would attend

2. DPFA: Making sport & play accessible & inclusive for all Workshop, 8.12.08 Rattery– No one would attend

3. SHDC Parish Cluster Meeting 7pm Wed 22 October Follaton House – Cllrs Hill, Franklin & Foster would attend
4. DCC: Commons Act 2006 – Devon CC had been selected as a Commons Registration Authority
5. South West Devon Waste Partnership: Proposal for the sustainable management of South West Devon’s non-recyclable waste 2014-2038 – Roadshow 4-8pm Thurs 23 October The Watermark, Ivybridge
6. Energy Descent Pathways Project – No presentation would be requested
7. Devon Community Foundation – Grassroots Grants of £250-£5000 available to voluntary community groups
8. Her Majesty’s Courts Service: Offer to make a presentation from the ‘Magistrates in the Community’ team – A presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting would be requested
9. Communities & Local Government: The making and enforcement of byelaws Consultation – No comments submitted
10. South Hams Local Development Framework – Affordable Housing DPD & Supplementary Planning Document had been adopted
11. CCD: Support for community good growing projects – details would be passed to the school
12. BT – Adopt-a-Kiosk and Sponsored Kiosk schemes. The public phone outside the school was not eligible and the Gara Bridge phone kiosk was not threatened with closure.

08.077 Reports on Meetings Attended None

08.078 Correspondence available at the Meeting – Noted

1. SHDC – Agenda & Minutes, Magazine
2. South Hams CVS – Voluntary Vine, Sept-Nov 08

Meeting ended 9.20pm

Date of next Meeting 18.11.08