

Diptford Parish Council Meeting

Diptford Village Hall, Monday 3rd March 2008 at 7.30pm

Police Report – A letter from Chief Constable Stephen Otter explained that a budget increase of 4.39% next year was needed to put an extra 200 officers back on the front line. This amounted to a 7.94% increase in the police element of the Council Tax

Reports from District and County Councillors – District Cllr Steer had submitted a report advising that:

1. He had complained about the state of the roads and Devon County Highways had assured him that action would be taken.
2. The Council Tax Setting Panel had noted that some town and parish councils had increased their precepts by considerably more than the District Council
3. He had attended a meeting in South Molton about Oak Meadow – an estate of 35 homes built to high environmental standards which were managed by Devon & Cornwall Housing Association.

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Foster (Chairman), Franklin, Hill, Savery & Stow, 1 member of the public

08.001 Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs Preston-Day, Haddy & Walton and District Cllr Steer

08.002 Declarations of interest in items on the Agenda - None

08.003 The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 4th February 2008, as previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman

08.004 Planning Applications received

1. Provision of horse exercise area at Field west of Beech Grove at SX758540, Beech Grove, Halwell Ref 17/0204/08/F Mr K Hoare **No objection**
2. Listed Building Consent for replacement of two windows, re-roofing of shed/garage and demolition of lean-to shed at Church House, Diptford Ref 17/0202/08/LB Mr R Chambers & Ms W Effer **Support**

Planning Decisions – Noted

3. Retrospective application for construction of garden summer house at Larcombe Corner, Diptford Ref 17/2651/07/F **Condition Approval**
4. Conversion and extension of existing outbuilding to provide storage and holiday let/ancillary domestic accommodation at Higher Beenleigh Barn, Diptford Ref 17/2596/07/F **Refuse**

08.005 P3 and Footpaths – Forestry thinning works were being undertaken at Broadleigh (from Wheeldon to Curtisknowle) over the next month.

08.006 Parish Plan – A response from Devon County Housing Enabler Sue Hitchcock was awaited before the Housing Needs Survey could progress. Feedback on the Emergency Plan was awaited from Avonwick .

08.007 Playing Field – The new constitution for the Playing Field Group was noted, in which the Group would act independently, with its own bank account, within the framework of the Trust. The constitution of the Diptford Amenity Trust would be revisited and it was intended to hold Trust meetings in February and September each year, before the Parish Council Meeting. The Clerk would submit the Trust's Annual Update to the Charity Commission. ROSPA had been instructed to carry out an inspection of the playing field in March.

08.008 Minutes – Unapproved Minutes would be displayed on the noticeboard and on the website, with a clear explanation of their status. The Clerk would submit an article on the meeting in the Parish News and on the website, detailing where the unapproved minutes could be viewed.

08.009 Finance

1. The following cheques were passed for payment:

Cheque	Description	VAT	Gross
0333	S Woodman expenses: Internet/phone £18.75, stamps £6, travel £16, stationery/Memory stick £18.23	2.71	58.98
0334	S Woodman – February pay		86.50
	Total		145.48

Receipts:

Receipt	Description	VAT	Gross
	None		0.00

2. The Financial Statement was received:

Financial Statement

Lloyds Current Account to 19.1.08	3715.55
<i>Less</i> payments & unrepresented cheques	277.42
<i>Plus</i> uncleared receipts	0
Total	3438.13

Earmarked Reserves

P3 Footpaths	284.15
Playing Field	500.00
Parish Plan	193.43
Total	977.58

Total Uncommitted funds £2460.55

Finance Correspondence

3. Audit Commission – Alun Williams had been appointed for a five year period commencing with the 2007/8 accounts. Annual fees to 2011/12 for the £5,001-£10,000 Income/expenditure band will be £120

4. Grant funding: Resolved to grant the Computer Club £120 towards telephone rental

08.010 Correspondence received

1. CCD: Devon Association of Community Buildings Access Project – Website to be launched on the 3.4.08, with training sessions for Hall Committees. Details were passed to Diptford Village Hall Committee
2. SHDC: Parish Remuneration Panel – **Resolved that Councillors may claim a travel allowance in connection with approved duties. The current mileage rate was 40p/mile.**
3. SHDC: Responding to Major Emergencies Leaflet – Noted
4. SHDC: Local Government Review, Devon – Noted. Cllr Franklin may attend the Listening Event held by Devon County Council at Christow on the 20th March.

08.011 Reports on Meetings Attended

1. Devon Communities in Action: Workshop – The Clerk reported that the website www.communitiesinaction.org.uk had been set up to analyse the content of community plans and make the information widely accessible. Details of the Diptford Parish Plan were already displayed on the website and the Clerk would be responsible for uploading information onto the website.

08.012 Correspondence available at the Meeting – Noted

1. SHDC – Agenda & Minutes
2. DCC – My Devon: Local services at your fingertips

08.013 Date of next meetings

Monday 21st April

Monday 19th May – Including the Annual Parish Meeting, followed by Annual Parish Council Meeting. Cllr Hill would ask Devon County Housing Enabler Sue Hitchcock to give a presentation on the housing needs survey.

Meeting ended 9.15pm

Date of next Meeting 21.4.08

Please note that these are draft minutes and may be subject to amendment at the next Parish Council Meeting.