

Diptford Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 5th September 2017 at 7.35pm

Questions from the Public Complaints had been received about chickens escaping onto the lane from Lower Farleigh Farm, and the complainant would be advised to contact the owner direct.

SHDC Cllr Steer highlighted the One Council consultation.

DCC Cllr Hosking reported that:

- Cockwells Nursery lay within Harbertonford Parish, outside his jurisdiction.
- A scheme to protect Gara Bridge was being prepared. Cllr Hosking would prefer bollards. If a weight restriction was imposed, traffic would divert to Bickham Bridge, which would also suffer damage. Weight restriction signage needed cleaning, for which DCC Locality of about £600 may be available.
- Weight restriction signage on the South Brent to Avonwick and California Cross to Morleigh roads would be considered where there were safety issues.
- DCC had been asked to help improve Broadband speeds in parts of Diptford, and Sarah Wollaston MP had provided support. Although Connecting Devon & Somerset vouchers were available, no supplier could provide the service locally.

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Cllr Foster (Chair), Crocker, Franklin, Lethbridge & Parker Davidson; SHDC Cllr Steer, DCC Cllr Hosking & Zoe Oldman

17.090 Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs Baggott, Hill & Peach

17.091 To note declarations of interest and Dispensations in items on the Agenda None

17.092 The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 8.8.17, as previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman

17.093 Planning Applications

1. Householder application for extension of pitch roof over garage and utility. Rear extension to create extended sun room and kitchen/diner at 5 Church Park Close, Diptford Ref 1916/17/HHO Mrs F Scharenguivel **Support**

Planning Decisions Noted

2. Removal of Devon bank at Old Barn, Thornlands, Diptford **No further action**

3. Listed Building consent for replacement windows at Broadmead, Diptford Ref 2014/17/LBC

Conditional permission

4. New access to dwelling at Lower Horner, Diptford Ref 0568/17/FUL **Conditional permission**

5. Householder application for extension to existing dwelling at Omaka, Nr Diptford Ref 1969/17/HHO

Conditional approval

17.094 P3, footpaths & highways

1. Highway Maintenance Community Enhancement Fund £1020 for the Community Lengthsman Service.

Cllr Crocker would undertake an assessment of highway requirements, in conjunction with Community Lengthsman JK Thurlborn. It was noted that weeds needed clearing along the wall opposite Rannoch, the buddle hole in Mill Lane was blocked and signage needed cleaning. Match funding would be sought, including £300 SHDC Locality Funding plus DCC Locality Funding.

DCC Highways had been advised that the grass at Shorter Cross needed cutting to improve visibility. Subsidence outside Whitegates, Holsome Lane had been reported as it was a hazard to cyclists.

None of the hedgerows identified at the August meeting had been cut back, and the issue would be considered at the October Meeting.

17.095 Finance

1. Cheques approved for payment:

Cheque	Description	VAT	Gross
0819	S Woodman – August pay		179.90
0820	S Woodman – Travel £40.50, Office £41.39. Laptop £389.97	65.20	471.86
0821	K Jane – Grass cutting		100.00
Receipts			
BGC	Santander – Interest August		0.09

2. The Financial Statement was received

Lloyds Current Account to 21.7.17	5679.63
<i>Less</i> payments & unrepresented cheques	1918.45
<i>Plus</i> uncleared receipts	0.00
Total Current Account	3761.18
Santander Account to 7.8.17	1020.75
Total funds	4781.93

Earmarked Reserves

P3 Footpaths	74.29
Winter Emergency Planning	800.00
Community Lengthsman	1020.00
Office Equipment	185.03
Total Reserves	2079.32
Total uncommitted funds	2702.61

3. Verification of bank statements and reconciliations – deferred to the October Meeting

4. Resolved to grant Diptford PCC £100 towards the Parish Magazine (*Chq 822*)

5. Resolved to create an Office Equipment Reserve with the balance of the Transparency Code funding

6. Grant Thornton had concluded the external audit, and the annual return was in accordance with proper practices, with no matters giving cause for concern.

17.096 Diptford Playing Field

1. Land sale – Cllr Steer had advised that the sale of public land must be advertised, and the Clerk would request confirmation of the legal requirements from DALC. John Parker had offered to remove a tree leaning on the northern boundary, and Cllr Foster had given consent.

2. Grass cutting arrangements: No change was proposed to the current arrangement of once per month (max 8 cuts) from April, plus additional strimming of areas not accessible by mower

3. Residents of cottages to the west of the Playing Field had requested that tree growth along the tennis court be reduced, and quotations had been obtained. Cllr Foster would inspect the site with Mike Cox and Jeremy Balfour, and it was suggested that the trees be felled and replaced by saplings. The Parish Council would contribute towards the cost of the work as part of its £1287 TAP Award for ‘Environmental improvement and maintenance works’, which must be claimed by 2.2.18.

17.097 Correspondence received

1. SHDC: Consultation on the proposal for One Council for South Hams & West Devon. Cllrs Foster, Franklin & Parker Davidson would attend the Meeting for Town & Parish Councils at Rattery Village Hall 7-8.30 on Thursday 14 September.

Resolved to delegate to John Foster the submission of the Council’s formal response on whether the Parish Council supported the proposal, and any comments, concerns or alternatives to creating one new Council

2. Plymouth & South West Devon Joint Local Plan – submitted to Planning Inspectorate

3. Devon Community Resilience Forum, Kennford 22.11.17 – Attendance to be considered at the October Meeting

4. DALC training: The Clerk would attend the Budgets & Precepts course, 17 Oct 10am-1pm, Exeter £25+VAT

5. SHDC: Open Space, Sport & Recreation – S106 Contributions would be more readily available where an Open Space, Sport & Recreation Plan had been prepared, and the preparation of an OSSR Plan would be considered at the October Meeting. It was noted that the planning application opposite Wheat Park, for which there would have been £10,000 S106 funding, had expired

17.098 Reports on Meetings Attended None**17.099 Correspondence available at the Meeting**

1. DALC Annual Report 2016/17

2. Clerks & Councils Direct, Sept 2017

Meeting ended 9pm

Date of next Meeting 10.10.17