

# Diptford Annual Parish Meeting

## Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 7pm

### DRAFT MINUTES

**Present:** Cllrs Foster (Chair), Baggott, Crocker, Hill, Parker Davidson & Peach; 5 public; Maxine Kennedy, Project Coordinator for Dementia Friendly Parishes around the Yealm; Jane Sullivan, co-ordinator, South Brent and District Caring

**17.AP1. Apologies for absence** were accepted from Cllr Franklin & Lethbridge, G Hyde, J Hill, N Hill, PC J Marshall, SHDC Cllr Smerdon.

#### **17.AP 2. Introduction by Chairman Cllr John Foster**

**17.AP 3. The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting** held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2016, as previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman

#### **17.AP 4. Dementia Friendly Parishes** - Presentation by Maxine Kennedy, Project Coordinator for Dementia Friendly Parishes around the Yealm

No one plans for dementia, although one in three of us develop dementia, and it is now the number one killer.

The project includes 5 Parish Council and is in its fifth year. The wider Four Rivers initiative includes 27 Parishes and invites people to share knowledge and experiences.

The aim is to be proactive by recognising the diversity of individuals with dementia and their carers, promoting inclusion in all areas of community life and respecting individual's decisions and life choices. It recognises that you cannot change a person with dementia, but you can change their experiences within their community.

This is achieved through direct work with about 70 families; work within the community; encouraging and supporting families, providing a point of contact for families, businesses and agencies; running public awareness sessions; and running a diary of events, including afternoon tea, gentle exercise group, arts & crafts, shared reading and community singing.

Details are given on Facebook and a conference will be held in October.

Jane Sullivan introduced herself as the co-ordinator, South Brent and District Caring, which included Diptford. Volunteers were needed.

#### **17.AP 5. Police Report** None

#### **17.AP 6. Reports from District & County Councillors**

**SDHC Cllr Steer** highlighted the Joint Local Plan preparation. The Local Authority Controlled Council had not proceeded. The new DCC Cllr Hosking would be covering an extensive area.

#### **17.AP 7. Reports from local groups**

**Tree Warden Beverley Sugden** reported on recent clarification on the role of Tree Warden as the main contact in relation to TPOs. Hedge trees were important, together with the replacement of trees following ash dieback. Kathy Birkin was recognised for tree planting in the Parish and her time as Tree Warden.

**The Circle in the Square** planting programme was detailed by Beverley Sugden and Carole Partridge.

**Neighbourhood Watch** saw a continuing stream of crimes in the area, together with a growing list of phone and email scams, including a break-in at Creber, fake Lloyds Bank letters, spoof Amazon order email confirmations, rogue traders, replacement window cold callers and tool/knife doorstep sharpeners.

Police alerts are passed on to the co-ordinators and Diptford Village Website. NHW co-ordinators were thanked for their help, and parishioners were urged to keep vigilant and let co-ordinators know of any suspicious activity in the area.

**Diptford Short Mat Bowls Club** meets every Wednesday evening in the Parish Hall and has been running for 17 years, with a thriving membership. It raised funding for the Devon Air Ambulance, and matches included the South Hams Short Mat League (third division), SHSMBA Knock-out Tournament, Devon County Trials and local charity tournaments. New members are very welcome and events are detailed in the Parish Magazine.

**The Computer Club** started in 2007, with sessions every Wednesday from 10am-midday at a cost of £2, including refreshments. The Club covers a wide catchment area, with one-to-one volunteers solving problems and a free skype, email and phone helpline. Other groups, such as the Young Farmers, also use the facilities and everyone is welcome.

The Club has laptops and desktop computers. Funding from the Devon County Foundation had enabled the purchase of a printer and super-fast broadband

**Diptford Village Hall** was a registered charity, with funding from hall hire and the solar panels (which currently yielded £2,000pa), resulting in a small surplus. Over the year, £6,500 had been spent on replacing kitchen equipment. The school was the main user, for meals and the gymn, and low charges had attracted other local groups, including keep fit. The hall remained the focal point for the community.

**17.AP8 Questions and issues raised by Parishioners**

Cllr Foster reported that the owner of Backfield would be presenting her proposals at the July Parish Council Meeting. The owners of an unsafe wall at Church Park Close had been alerted to the hazard.

*Meeting ended 8pm*