

Diptford Parish Council Meeting

Diptford Parish Hall, Tuesday 17 June 2008 at 7.30pm

Presentation by Malcolm Elliot, Planning Team Leader (West) & Helen Smart, Enforcement Officer, SHDC
 Planning Enforcement was reactive, relying on local reports of possible breaches. Where a report was received, Helen would first establish if a breach had been committed and whether enforcement would be the most effective route. She relied on local sources to collect evidence, although this was often difficult where change of use had occurred. A Planning Contravention Notice would be served, asking questions specific to the breach and, if no reply was submitted, SHDC may apply to the Courts. The enforcement procedure could prove lengthy and this was exploited by people using the system.

Helen aimed to streamline the enforcement process and make it more accessible to Parish Councils and the public. A Planning Breach Notification Form had been devised which would soon be available for completion on line, and more structured progress systems would ensure that issues were not overlooked.

Councillors commented on the increase in retrospective planning applications. These often related to minor amendments to an existing planning permission and were required following a recent Court decision.

Questions from the Public – None

Police Report was read by the Chairman, which detailed the burglary of domestic oil. PCSO Vicky Gummow and PC Jacqui Hopper would be attending Diptford Fair in July to promote Neighbourhood Watch, provide crime prevention advice and consult parishioners to ensure that policing policies in the area focussed on the concerns and issues raised.

District Cllr Steer reported that the South West Regional Spatial Strategy had identified 51 permanent and 5 transit sites for travellers in the South Hams. This represented an increase of 20 sites, which would be located in the South Brent area. He noted the proposed closure of the Avonwick Post Office and highlighted the possibility that the shop may be lost as a result. Finally, the successful Diptford Horse Show was congratulated.

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Foster (Chairman), Hill, Savery & Walton; District Cllr Steer; 2 members of the public

08.027 Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs Franklin, Stow & Preston-Day; County Cllr Date

08.028 Declarations of interest in items on the Agenda - None

08.029 The Minutes of the Meetings held on the 19th May 2008, as previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman

08.030 Planning Review was updated (Appendix 08.030)

08.031 Planning Decisions – Noted

1. Amendment to approval 17/2131/07/F & 17/2132/07/LB for Listed Building Consent for rear extension to dwelling (addition of first floor bedroom) at Broadmead, Diptford Ref 17/0670/08/LB & 17/0671/08/F

Conditional Permission

08.032 Councillor Vacancy: Resolved to co-opt Bob Baggott

08.033 Amenity Trust – Cllr Foster reported that back payment of £300 license fees had been received, although the school had queried the period over which the fees were due. The Trust currently held two bank accounts and Cllr Foster would arrange for one account to be renamed the Diptford Amenity Working Group, which would be under the control of the Group. Cllr Foster would arrange for signing arrangements of the remaining Amenity Trust bank account to be the same as the Parish Council, and for account statements to be sent to the Clerk, who would maintain the accounts.

08.034 Finance

1. Cheques passed for payment:

Cheque	Description	VAT	Gross
0345	S Woodman – May pay		131.36
0346	S Woodman expenses: Internet/phone/computer £25, travel £17.20		42.20
	Total		173.56

2. The Financial Statement was received:**Financial Statement**

Lloyds Current Account to 19.5.08	5271.92
<i>Less</i> payments & unrepresented cheques	843.68
<i>Plus</i> uncleared receipts	0.00
Total	4428.24

Earmarked Reserves

P3 Footpaths	519.15
Playing Field	500.00
Parish Plan	193.43
Total	1212.58
Total Uncommitted funds	£3215.66

Finance Correspondence

3. To adopt the Financial Regulations – Deferred to the July Meeting

4. To review the 2008/9 Budget - Deferred to the July Meeting

08.035 Correspondence received

1. Local Government Review – The Boundary Committee was likely to publish one proposal for consultation, rather than the 2 or 3 originally envisaged
2. Post Office Closures – Including Avonwick. The Clerk would respond that the Avonwick Post Office included a shop which served Diptford and adjacent parishes. Without the Post Office, the shop may close. Diptford would suffer a significant loss in service and, since there was no bus, an increased reliance on cars with the associated rising fuel charges and cost to the environment.
3. DPFA AGM , Ipplepen 10 July – Cllrs Foster and Walton may attend, with any cost being met by the Diptford Amenity Working Group
4. South Devon AONB Management Plan Review 2009-2014 – Consultation deadline 10 September. AONB stands at local Agricultural shows and AONB Surgeries, Mondays (excl Bank Holidays) at Follaton House
5. BBC Radio Devon: Details of local sports and related entertainment planned to coincide with the Olympic Handover ceremony (August Bank Holiday weekend) - None
6. SHDC: New waste services leaflet & calendar
7. SHDC: New procedures for dealing with complaints about Councillors. All complaints would be considered by the assessment sub committee, who would decide if they should be referred to the local Standards Committee for investigation.
8. Devon Community Recycling & Composting Networks Conference, Totnes Civic Hall 21 June – No one would attend
9. Time for Life Community Mentoring service for over 50s – The Clerk would include details in the Newsletter

08.036 Reports on Meetings Attended Cllr Hill attended the Parish Hall AGM, in which he was elected Chairman.

08.037 Correspondence available at the Meeting – Noted

1. SHDC – Agenda & Minutes
2. Junk Mail, Spring 2008
3. Devon CC – Parish Paths Partnership, Spring Newsletter 2008
4. Village Green, June 2008
5. South Hams CVS – Voluntary Vine June-Aug 2008
6. Trade publications

Meeting ended 9.30pm

Next Meeting Tuesday 15 July 2008