

Diptford Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 14th January 2025

Diptford Village Hall

MINUTES

Present Cllrs, Franklin (Chair) (SF), Crocker (TC), Peach (CP), Carroll (LC), Hill (SH), Paterson (GP), Thomas (DT) (DCC), Hancock (DH) and Ali Kohler (Clerk)

Three members of the public attended

2025 001 Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Parker-Davidson (Vice Chair) (STD), Lethbridge (LL), and Pannell (GP) (SHDC),

Matters arising.

County Councillors Report.

See appendix 1 <https://www.diptfordparishcouncil.org/meetings.php>.

South Hams District Councillors Report

See appendix 2 <https://www.diptfordparishcouncil.org/meetings.php>.

Open Forum

2025 002 Declarations of interest Cllrs Franklin, Hill and Carroll declared an interest in the first item under planning.

2025 003 The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 10th December 2025, as previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

2025 004 Diptford Playing Field

**a) To receive the financial statement for Diptford Amenity Trust
Current Account: £1,876.94 Savings Account: £16,331.97**

Receipts

Interest received - £11.63

Payments

Paypal - £0.01

Transfers In

Donation Paypal giving - £60.00

Transfers Out

£40 to savings account

b) Play park - Cllr Hill met with Mike Cox of the playing field group. They are looking to restructure the group as it is not particularly active currently. The playing field group are still looking to be involved in the clean ups and fundraising, and this will be discussed at their AGM. Cllr Hill will advise on a structure which meets with all the correct criteria with the Parish Council, Charities Commission, etc

Standing orders were suspended for a question from a member of the public regarding the MUGA works to be done at the playing field.

Standing orders were resumed.

c) **Grants and Fundraising** – Cllr Thomas (DT) (DCC) has agreed to a £500 locality grant. Clerk to email Cllrs Guy and Hancock for locality grants of £250 each. A grant application has been submitted to Devon Community Foundation. Gift Aid is now up and running for the Amenity Trust.

d) **Trees** – 3 quotes were obtained for the agreed tree works required for the Monterey Pine. It was agreed that the works should be awarded to A J Paine. The other trees in the playpark are to be assessed and any works required will be discussed at the February parish council meeting.

Standing orders were suspended for a question from a member of the public regarding the tree works.

Standing orders were resumed.

e) **MUGA** – works to begin on the MUGA at the beginning of March weather conditions permitting.

Cllr Hancock (DH) (SHDC) left the meeting

2025 005 Highways and Community Lengthsman

a) **Lengthsman** – No additional works noted.

b) **Highways** – works were conducted to clear the blocked drain, dig out the ditch and add stream ballast to Millers Lane, Gara Woods, to be completed under P3 budget.

2025 006 Planning

Standing orders suspended as planning applicant addressed the parish council reference planning application 3761/24/VAR.

Standing orders resumed.

a) Planning applications considered:

1. Reference: 3761/24/VAR – Application for variation of conditions. Site Address: Barn Adjacent to Robins Nest, Diptford. Proposal: Application for variation of condition 1 (approved drawings) if planning consent 2304/23/VAR for change to house roof. **Comment – The parish council object to this variation as the change to the degree of angle of the roof ridge height is disproportionate to neighbouring properties. The angle of the roof ridge has already been agreed and approved, and this variation would not make any difference to workings of the roof.**

2. Reference: 3859/24/ARC – Approval if details reserved by conditions. Site Address: Woodside Cottage, Diptford, TQ9 7NQ. Proposal: application for approval of details reserved by condition 7 (Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan) of planning consent 1225/24/FUL. **No consultation is required for this approval of details reserved by conditions.**

3. Reference: 3953/24/PDM – Approval of details reserved by conditions. Site Address: Simpson Farm, Diptford, TQ9 7NF. Proposal: Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed change of use of agricultural buildings/barns to 5 NO dwelling house (class C3) & for associated developments (Class Q (a+b)) – **The parish council is concerned about an issue over flooding at the entrance to the site, if works go ahead. The parish council has previously raised concerns of a blocked buddleholes and particular attention to drainage requirements.**

b) Planning decisions:

1. None

c) Planning Applications Withdrawn

1. None

d) Planning Appeals

1. Reference: APP/K1128/C/24/3351249 - Murtwell House, Diptford – An objection was noted on the appeal for this planning appeal on the grounds again that the location is unsuitable and the access to the area would not be able to cope with the increased traffic to the area. The yurt is not suitable for permanent accommodation for staff (as it has been used) due to having no sanitary facilities and no running water.

2025 007 Finance

1. The following payments were approved:

Payments

A Kohler – Clerks Office - £16.00
A Kohler – Mileage/Parking - £9.00
A Kohler – Stationary - £4.00
J & JM Widdicombe – January 25 payment - £150.00
HMRC – Clerk PAYE - £129.40
A Kohler – Salary December 24 – £380.49

Receipts

Interest received - £7.82

£150.00 for lengthsmen December 24 payment (now paid by monthly standing order)

2. The Financial Statement was received:

Current Account 8 th January 2025	£9,230.56
MINUS Unpresented: Clerk's expenses	£29.00
PLUS, Uncleared receipts	£0.00
Current Account	£9,201.56
Savings Accounts	£9,929.90
TOTAL FUNDS	£19,131.46

£344.00	P3 - Footpath maintenance
£1,000.00	Winter Emergency Planning
£3,576.60	Community lengthsman project
£600.13	Amenity trust
£4,409.17	Contingency
£9,929.90	Total

Total uncommitted funds £9,740.45

2025 008 Glebe Land

No update

2025 009 Graveyard

No update

2025 010 Correspondence

1. Email regarding playing field trees – dealt with under Amenity Trust
2. Precept grant request – River Avon Champions – to be invited to come and give a talk to the Parish Council Annual Meeting
3. Thank you letter from South Hams CAB for their grant.
4. Four Rivers Dementia to come and talk at a parish council meeting – invitation to be declined due to visiting parish council meeting last year to give a talk. Also the parish also has a Dementia Champion.

2025 011 P3 Parish Paths

No update

2025 012 Airband Broadband

Cllr Peach has contacted Caroline Voaden MP as no response has been received from Cllr Rufus Gilbert (DCC).

2025 013 Precept 2025/26

The precept for 2025/26 was agreed with an increase of £5.26 per property (Band D) bring the cost to £79.27 per property annually (Band D).

2025 014 Defibrillator Locations and details

All required information has been received and sent off to be updated.

2025 015 Any other business

Councillor emails

Cllr Sue Franklin (Chair) – sue.franklin@diptfordparishcouncil.org

Cllr Steven Parker Davidson (vice Chair) –

steven.parker.davidson@diptfordparishcouncil.org

Cllr Steve Hill – steve.hill@diptfordparishcouncil.org

Cllr Trevor Crocker – trevor.crocker@diptfordparishcouncil.org

Cllr Louise Lethbridge – louise.lethbridge@diptfordparishcouncil.org

Cllr Chris Peach – chris.peach@diptfordparishcouncil.org

Cllr Lucy Carrol – lucy.carrol@diptfordparishcouncil.org

Cllr Gavin Paterson – gavin.paterson@diptfordparishcouncil.org

Ali Kohler (Clerk) – clerk@diptfordparishcouncil.org

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Next Meeting:

12th March 2025 at 7pm

8th April 2025 at 7pm