

Diptford Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 12th July 2022

Diptford Village Hall

MINUTES

Present Cllrs Foster (Chair) (JF), Franklin (Vice Chair) (SF), Baggott (BB), Hill (SH), Lethbridge (LL), Thomas (DT) (DCC), Smerdon (PS)(SHDC) and Ali Kohler (Clerk)

Four members of the public attended, including Nicky Dunford CEO of the Link Academy Trust.

2022 74` Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Peach (CP), Crocker (TC), Parker-Davidson (SPD) and Pannell (GP) (SHDC),

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

Matters arising

Diptford C Of E Primary School

The Parish Council meeting was attended by the CEO of the Link Academy of which Diptford C of E Primary school is part. Concerned parents of pupils attending the school also attended. During the bad storms earlier this year, two of the classrooms at the school were irreparably damaged and were rendered unusable as a result. Currently there has been no update from the Link Academy as to when the situation will be resolved. Although the work is classed as priority one, the Link Academy does not appear to be keen to spend the reserves it has, replacing or repairing the classrooms due to the anticipated cost of around £400,000. Currently the Link Academy has a bid in for central funding to do the works, even though it has sufficient reserves to fund the works. As a result of two classrooms out of use, the school has had to use the Diptford Parish Hall as a replacement classroom. Unfortunately, the school cannot continue to use the Parish Hall indefinitely, as other groups wish to use it in the daytime. The CEO of the Link Academy stated that they should not need the Parish Hall after Christmas as something should be resolved by that time, although no definite answer regarding the solution was given. Parents attending the meeting voiced their concerns and were especially concerned that some parents might withdraw their children from the school or not enrol their children due to the inadequate classroom facilities.

Noise Disturbances

The reporting of noise disturbance has been brought to the attention of the Parish Council and advice sought. Noise nuisance is not something that the Parish Council deals with as the Environmental Health Team of South Hams District Council cover it. Any instance of noise nuisance should be reported to South Hams District Council as soon as possible after it has occurred, so that an investigation can be carried out if deemed necessary. Note unfortunately South Hams does not have an out of hours team to deal with calls when disturbances occur out with the normal working day. The Parish Council is happy to listen to any concerns that parishioners may have but are unable to take any action.

County Councillor Report

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

South Hams District Councillor Report

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

Cllr Thomas and Cllr Smerdon left the meeting

2022 75 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hill declared an interest in the Cross Farm planning application.

2022 76 The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 14th June 2022, as previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chair

2022 77 Diptford Playing Field

a) The financial statement for Diptford Amenity Trust will be updated when access is gained to the bank accounts which is currently being dealt with. Below are the last figures recorded

Current Account: £1020.31

Savings Account: £46.30

b) There was a meeting held prior to the parish council meeting to discuss the reviewing of the playing fields committee. More information will follow as the details of the new proposed committee are confirmed.

c) Devon Community Fund is to be approached to see if there is the possibility of some grant funding to restore the tennis courts to a useable condition and other funding options are also being investigated.

2022 78 Highways and Community Lengthsman

a) The patching works from Coombes Head Cross to Diptford has now been completed and there is now a requirement for the Lengthsman to clean out the buddleholes

b) There was nothing to report for Highways.

2022 79 Planning

a) Planning applications to consider

1. None to consider

b) Planning applications to note:

1. 1988/22/ARC – Application type: approval of details reserved by conditions (discharge). Application, for approval of details reserved by conditions 3(surface water drainage), 7 (landscaping), 10 (slates) and 11 (render) of planning consent. 4240/18/FUL. Robins Nest, Cross Farm, Diptford TQ9 7NU.

Note the Parish Council are unhappy with the plans for the drainage and support local residents' concerns. The Parish Council also support, that local residents, wish to have a meeting with the planning officer over the drainage plans. Cllr Smerdon to be copied into the email to planning

2. 1557/22/VAR – Application type: variation or removal of condition. Application for variation for variation of condition 2 (approved) plans of planning consent 2699/20/FUL

c) Planning applications withdrawn:

None to note.

2022 80 Finance

1. The following payments were approved:

A Kohler – Clerks Office - £16.00

A Kohler – Mileage - £9.00

A Kohler – Stationary - £4.00
 HMRC – Clerk PAYE - £76.70
 A Kohler – Salary June 2022 - £306.47
 Alison Marshall (Internal Auditor) - £100

Transfer to Reserves

Lengthsman - £1500
 Winter emergency Planning - £200
 Contingency - £1000

Note: Amenity Trust Transfer still to be done as issues accessing bank account.

2. The Financial Statement was received:

Current Account 7 th July 2022	£7597.90	£184	P3 - Footpath maintenance
MINUS Unpresented: R Paul – xmas tree - 100.00	£100.00	£1000	Winter Emergency Planning
PLUS, Uncleared receipts	£0.00	£5283	Community lengthsman project
Current Account	£7497.90	£2,196	Amenity trust
Savings Accounts	£12688.83	£2865	Contingency
TOTAL FUNDS	£20,186.73	£11528	Total

Total uncommitted funds £ 8658.73

2022 81 Correspondence

Correspondence received was dealt with under matters arising

2022 82 Playing Fields

There is a new proposed committee being set up to look after the playing fields. Robert Worms has been proposed as Chair and Ralph Mortimer as Secretary of the new committee. More information to follow as the committee is finalised.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday 9th August 2022, 7pm, Village Hall