

Diptford Parish Council Meeting

Diptford Village Hall

Tuesday 18 October 2011 at 7.30pm

Report by Amelia Eyston and George Lacon on the School Federation The Totnes Village Schools Federation would be established from 31st October and comprise the primary schools of Berry Pomeroy, Stoke Gabriel, Broadhempston, Landscope, Harbertonford & Diptford. The Federation will have 23 governors, and Diptford will have a school committee, initially consisting of the existing governors. Amelia Eyston would continue to keep the Parish Council informed of progress.

The schools had completed the purchase of the field, and Cllr Steer would perform the opening ceremony on the 14th November. George Lacon would be retiring and Councillors thanked him for being an excellent Chairman.

Questions from the Public

1. Mr & Mrs Lucas, the owners of Manor House, complained at the heavy-handed way in which SHDC placed a TPO on their entire woods. They explained that they were only carrying out selective felling to open up the canopy and allow light to increase the diversity of ground flora, as recommended by Devon Biodiversity Records Centre's County Wildlife Site Monitoring report.
2. Mr & Mrs Soper, the planning applicants at Little Larcombe Farm, explained their proposals.
3. A request had been received that the trees bordering the playing field be trimmed to improve the amenity of adjoining cottages. Councillors considered that the horse chestnut should be retained, but the ash and sycamore trees should be felled, and a quotation from the tree surgeon was awaited. The neighbours would be asked for a contribution towards the cost of the felling.

Police Report One crime was recorded in September, for the theft of 2 outboard engines. A new 101 number had been introduced for reporting non-urgent calls, costing 15p per call from landlines and mobiles. Police Authority Liaison Meetings would no longer be held, and local concerns should be raised through the neighbourhood policing team. Police Street Surgeries would be held in Diptford Square from 8.30-9.30am on Monday, 7 November & 12 December.

Report from District Councillor Steer The S106 Agreement had been finalised for Sherford, and it was likely that the proportion of affordable housing would again be reduced. A planning application was being submitted for the proposed wind turbine at Harbertonford and Cllr Steer would ensure that Diptford was consulted. Tor Homes was proposing to amalgamate with Devon & Cornwall Housing Association, and SHDC representation would be reduced as a result. Farmers were warned against using red diesel when helping the community, and MPs were being lobbied as the 'Big Community' objectives were being thwarted. Cllr Steer confirmed that Locality funding up to £200 would be available for road gritting in the Parish.

MINUTES

Present Cllrs Franklin (Vice Chairman), Baggett, Crocker & Peach; District Cllr Steer; 7 Members of public

11.099 Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs Foster, Gopal & Savery

11.100 To note declarations of interest in items on the Agenda None

11.101 The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 13.9.11, as previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Vice Chairman

11.102 Planning Applications

1. Erection of a dwelling (revised scheme for planning permission 17/1597/09/O at Little Larcome Farm, Diptford Ref 17/2343/11F Mr & Mrs R Soper **Support**
2. Listed building consent to replace roof covering to protect part cob walls at Cleave Farm, Moreleigh Ref 17/2350/11/LB Mr W Johnson **No objection. Slate preferred**
3. Householder application for amendments to planning approval reference 17/2083/04/F to change pitched roof to rear extension to flat roof to act as balcony, omit door from elevation and add obscured glass window, replace window with door in rear elevation, alter position of window in front elevation at 1 Wheat Park, Diptford Ref 17/2434/11/F Mr N Booth **No objection**
4. Erection of toolshed and polytunnels for agricultural use. Planting of copse and hedge species. Provision of storage for 12,000 litres of rainwater at Land at SX 7531 5729, Thorn Farm, Diptford Ref 17/2442/11/F Dr M Fairtlough **No objection, subject to a condition requiring that the water storage containers be screened to reduce visual impact**

5. New dwelling & garage (demolition of bungalow & garage) at Daisy Hills, Diptford Ref 23/2518/11 Mr & Mrs A Langley **Object. Prominent site - intrusive on the skyline; over development of site.**
6. Tree Preservation Order at Manor House, Diptford **Object. Evidence that the current owners are carrying out work in accordance with the Devon Biodiversity Records Centre's County Wildlife Site Monitoring report. A generic TPO is unnecessary, unless applied to other woods of significant importance along the Avon Valley**

Planning Decisions

7. Agricultural Determination for Prior notification for proposed erection of barn for storage of hay and farm machinery together with solar panels on south facing roof. The barn will also be used for temporary accommodation to house sick, giving birth or newly born animals at Stert Quarry Farm, Diptford Ref 17/2243/11/AG **Prior approval of the siting, design and external appearance of the barn is not required**
8. Demolition of existing barns and shelters and erection of replacement barn to use as stables at Land at SX758 534, Farleigh Meadows, Higher Farleigh, Moreleigh Ref 17/1854/11/F **Conditional permission**

Planning Correspondence

9. Decision notice: Resubmission of 17_23/0721/11/F for retrospective permission for wildlife pond at Daisyhills, Diptford Ref 17_23/1656/11/F **Conditional permission**
10. Alleged unauthorised mobile home used as staff toilets/rest room at Creber Industrial Units, Diptford – Mobile home must be removed by 5.1.12

11.103 P3 & Footpaths – Cllr Franklin and the Clerk would attend the P3 Christmas Workshop at Kenton on the 18 November.

11.104 Emergency Planning:

Resolved to purchase through DCC a Fuji towable spreader with flashing light attachment at a cost of £1312 (+VAT), including delivery charge. Funding would be requested from DCC and local businesses

Resolved to request a grit bin at Horner Tongue at a cost of £300. Grit sacks would be requested above the bridge at Curtisknowle.

11.105 2012/3 Precept - Parish Councillors requested funding for the Queens Diamond Jubilee celebrations, including a street party and celebration mugs for the children; and for replacement seats in the square.

11.106 Christmas lights arrangements – Cllrs Crocker & Foster would carry out safety checks on the lights. The tree was kindly being provided by Mr & Mrs Waterman, and should be erected by the first weekend in December.

11.107 Finance

1. Cheques passed for payment:

Cheque	Description	VAT	Gross
0499	S Woodman – Oct pay		141.41
0500	S Woodman expenses: Office £25.00, travel £37.80	1.66	62.80
0501	Audit Commission	24.00	144.00

2. The Financial Statement was received

Lloyds Current Account to 22.9.11	2810.69
Less payments & unrepresented cheques	454.26
Plus uncleared receipts	0.00
Total Lloyds Current Account	2356.43
Santander Account to 6.9.11	3509.55
Total funds	5865.98

Earmarked Reserves

P3 Footpaths	428.25
Amenity Trust	0.00
Parish Plan	193.43
Total Reserves	621.68
Total uncommitted funds	£5244.30

It was noted that the Zurich Municipal 'All Risks' Policy on the Playing Field had not been renewed, as previously discussed

Finance Correspondence

3. Audit Commission: 2010/11 Audit completed in accordance with proper practices

11.108 Correspondence received

1. Boundary Commission for England: 2013 Review of Parliamentary constituencies in England – Totnes constituency would become Totnes & Ivybridge constituency. Consultation until 5.12.11
2. SHDC: Totnes & Surrounding Area Parish Cluster Meeting 7pm 23.11.11 – No agenda items would be submitted. Cllr Foster may attend
3. SHDC: Outcome of Super Cluster Meeting & update on devolved services – Noted
4. DALC Training events: Cllr Crocker would attend the New Councillor Short Course, South Brent 6.30pm-9pm 2.11.11 at a cost of £25+VAT
5. Police: 101 New national police non-emergency phone number – Noted

6. DCC: Your Community Your Choice – Public Meeting 6.30pm 10.11.11 Totnes Civic Hall. Noted
7. Met Office Weather Survey – Cllr Peach would complete
8. Queen’s Diamon Jubilee Beacons 4.6.12 – Details were referred to the Steering Meeting.

11.109 Reports on Meetings Attended The Clerk, Cllrs Franklin & Peach had attended the SHDC Development Management presentation. New planning guidelines were not covered. Following advice at the presentation, the Clerk would consult Planning Officers on issues affecting planning applications prior to the Parish Council Meeting

11.110 Correspondence available at the Meeting – Noted

1. DALC Annual Report 2010-2011
2. NALC: How to respond to planning applications – an 8-step guide

Meeting ended 10.05pm

Date of next Meeting 15.11.11