



Datchet Parish Council

1 Allen Way
Datchet
Berkshire
SL3 9HR

Web: www.datchetparishcouncil.gov.uk

Sonia Masikito - Clerk to the Council

Email: Clerk@datchetparishcouncil.gov.uk

Tel: 01753 773499

Mobile: 07862 013161

Minutes of a MEETING of DATCHET PARISH COUNCIL held in the VILLAGE HALL, DATCHET on MONDAY 11TH MARCH 2024, at 7.00pm

Present: 8 Members - Cllr D. Buckley (Chairman), Cllr M. Davies, Cllr I. Thompson, Cllr I. Bacon, Cllr D. Sanders, Cllr A Clemens, Cllr S. Young, Cllr C. Wise, Cllr E Larcombe joined the meeting at 9.36pm

In attendance: Mrs S. Masikito (Clerk), Ms C. Jeffries (Administrator)

Public: There were 7 members of the public present

23/209 APOLOGIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Apologies for absence were received from: Cllr E. Larcombe, Cllr S Glover, Borough Cllr Grove

Absent without apologies: Cllr T. O'Flynn, Cllr L. O'Flynn, Cllr D. Loveridge, Cllr P. Bicknell

23/210 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Resident 1 - Made an enquiry about petitions available to which the Chair advised there is one from Cllr E Larcombe and that he will be reading a statement regarding this on his behalf in the councillors report later on in the agenda.

Resident 2 - Wanted to discuss Cllr I Thompsons' flooding report from Jan/Feb in particular referring to the part beginning 'The Myrke stream overflowed covering part of Eton Road'. The resident said she regularly walks this route and takes photos for evidence and while agrees that the Myrke ditch wall does have some subsidence, states that the Myrke stream has never been out of its banks. She also referenced the part about the owners of Poplars putting in a temporary bund to the site and asked if this is a fact? Cllr I Thompson replied to the first point stating that when the Jubilee River gets high it does cause the Myrke stream to go over and joins with other ground water flooding also. In relation to Poplars it was discussed by Cllr I Thompson and Cllr D Buckley that this is an ongoing investigation and it is not confirmed there is a bund. Cllr Thompson will reply to the resident separately after the meeting and the resident can write in if wanting to take the matter further.

Resident 3 – Wanted to add on to what resident 2 was saying and said in Jan the water came through at Poplars when it got above 4.9m at Windsor Park. She said this time the water didn't get that high so wouldn't have come through there anyway.

23/211 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

23/212 MINUTES

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Datchet Parish Council meeting held on **Monday 12th February 2024** were approved as an accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.

23/213MINUTES

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on **Friday 5th January 2024** were approved as an accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.
Cllr M Davies abstained from voting.

23/214MINUTES

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Datchet Parish Council **Part ii** meeting held on Monday 12th February 2024 were approved as an accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.
Cllr A Clemens abstained from voting.

23/215MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

None.

23/216GENERAL

a. Chairmans Report

The Chairman reiterated what was said in his last report at the previous meeting on the borough's financial situation and how as a parish to move forward with this considering their situation may not change for at least another 10 years. Councillors discussed the need for good budgeting and financial management within the parish and devising a 3–5-year plan prioritizing the most important issues such as enforcement with parking and planning, speeding, road repairs etc...

ACTION: Chairman to present back at the next meeting the costs of picking up projects on hold within the borough.

b. Clerks report

RESOLVED: This had been circulated and there were no questions.

c. To note that the date for the April council meeting scheduled for Monday 15th April 2024 has now been changed to Monday 8th April 2024.

RESOLVED: This date change has been noted by all councillors.

ACTION: The parish office will update the website and noticeboards with the amended dates.

d. To note correspondence from RBWM director of Planning – Planning & Enforcement and Parish Councillor Conduct. (Circulated)

RESOLVED: The Chair reminded councillors to read their packs re code of conduct to refresh themselves. Cllr C Wise stated that she visited the car wash site as a resident as this was dated before her co-option and Cllr I Thompson said he would be objecting against the letter, they will both write in for the Clerk to follow up. The Chair felt this letter did not warrant any action and it had been noted.

ACTION: Clerk to follow up.

23/217PLANNING

a. To agree responses to new applications listed on the attached planning addendum and note Planning Decisions (*Paper Circulated*)

24/00364 Permitted Development Extended	96 London Road Datchet Slough SL3 9LH	Single storey rear extension no greater than 6.00m in depth, 3.50m high with an eaves height of 2.96m	Objection - Loss of natural light to neighbouring properties, no flood risk assessment, the property sits in the Datchet flood plain. We also request that the planning officer considers Dat 2e, Dat 10f and Dat 2g for this application.
24/00382 Discharge of Condition	Land at Datchet Common Horton Road Datchet Slough	Details required by Condition 14 (Internal Access Road) of planning permission 20/01790/FULL for the Use of the land as a Gypsy and Traveller site consisting of 6no. residential pitches, 3 no. semi-detached amenity buildings, 1 no. wardens block and play area	No Objection
24/00054 Works To Trees In Conservation Area	6 The Avenue Datchet Slough SL3 9DH	(T1) London plane – Crown lift to 5m. Provide 2m clearance from phone line. Remove low, already shortened limb at 5m to east. Reduce low limb to west, growing nearest south east corner of building, back to previous reduction points.	No Objection subject to review by Tree officer and conservation officer for input.
24/00441 Full	Elder Tree Cottage 23 High Street Datchet Slough SL3 9EQ	Two storey side/rear extension, replacement rear mono pitched roof and alterations to fenestration.	Objection - located in conservation area and amongst multiple listed buildings and within the Datchet Conservation area . Depth of application extends to far to the rear which necessitates the removal of an established tree (TPO). Refer to adopted Datchet design guide and adopted neighbourhood plan. Should the planning officer be inclined to approve we would seek a condition to be set to refer this application to the conservation and tree officers.

The Chair allowed questions from the public on the following applications;

24/00364 – Resident expressed her views on this application by saying the parish may want to add them as this is a fourth attempt to get this application through. Request to look at Dat 2e, Dat

10f and Dat 2g. **Cllr D Buckley has taken this on board and happy to add and says consistency is key.**

24/00382 – Resident could not see on the original plan if the new road surface is permeable.

Cllr D Buckley said it was not but would have been covered in one of the other conditions in the original application.

24/00054 – Jo suggests subject to Arboriculturist.

Cllr D Buckley confirmed he had already put this in his comments.

24/00441 – Resident said the next door is a listed building and because of its age does not have any footings. She stated any ground work could have a major impact.

Cllr D Buckley said the parishes' recommendation is to object and has referred it to listed buildings.

Members noted the Borough Council decisions as per planning addendum that was circulated.

RESOLVED: The recommendations made were approved. This was **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.**

b. Other planning matters, including any new

i) 106 Allocations

None.

ii) Enforcement Matter

The chair advised there had been no change but borough Councillor's are actively working through the list with resident's and business's trying to work through them.

There had been some successes including London Road that had enforcement and has been told to remove nearly 25% of the development that has already been done.

c. To receive and update on AL39 (Cllr Buckley)

The chair confirmed that the barrister's advice on this had been forwarded to all councillors and the recommendation is if we took a judicial review we would fail. However, a recent successful case in Cornwall may mean that if advice is correct, we could have success in the fact they cannot start application until they can satisfy that they can complete this condition on the ecology report. It is still ongoing and he is awaiting a call this week to clarify and will bring back to the next council meeting.

d. Councillor's Questions

Cllr I Bacon queried the report and felt it seemed as though the default was to agree with what has happened rather than turning it over.

Cllr D Buckley said the only way it can be turned over is if the condition is not satisfied and therefore not lawful for the application to go ahead. He confirmed there is still a chance for this to happen.

23/218 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

a. To approve income and expenditure – Chairman to sign pink sheet (Paper-for information only)

RESOLVED: The income and expenditure reports were approved.

This was **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.**

b. Councillor's questions

None.

23/219 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

The Chair read Cllr E Larcombe's report in his absence. He spoke on his petition for equitable planning, construction, maintenance, and management of land drainage infrastructure which is on the RBWM website. He thanked those that had already signed and added it was still open until the 19th March if people still wanted to add their name. The petition can be considered at

the next available RBWM Council Meeting after closure. He also gave an update on the RTS by saying some members of the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee visited Datchet last week in order to see the Jubilee River for themselves and that RBWM had issued a Press Release last week confirming their request for the re-introduction of Channel One (with full Government funding) into the River Thames Scheme.

23/220 GROUNDS:

- a. Lead Councillors report (Paper Circulated - for information only)

The Lead Councillors report had been circulated and no questions were asked.

- b. To consider request from Recycling Solutions for possibility of Datchet Village Hall hosting a clothing bank in the car park (Paper Circulated - for information only)

DECISION: After a short debate it was decided that as much as everyone would like to support the charity the introduction of more recycling bins would attract more problems going forward with fly-tippers for example. A vote was taken and all were AGAINST This was UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.

- c. To consider the **Wild** about Datchet Banner Request from Monday 11th March to 24th March and also, a 2-week period in April from the 15th April to 27th April.

DECISION: The banner was *AGREED* for Wild About Datchet for both dates requested. This was proposed by Cllr A Clemens, seconded by Cllr S Young and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED. Cllr M Davies abstained from voting.

- d. To consider the St. Bernard's Prep School Banner Request from around mid-April, exact dates TBC

DECISION: After a brief discussion among the Councillors, it was decided *AGAINST* the school from having a banner on this occasion as it was felt the banner should be used to advertise village/community events in Datchet and not for commercial use. This was proposed by Cllr I Thompson, seconded by Cllr A Clemens and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED. Cllr M Davies abstained from voting.

ACTION: Clerk to check if there is a banner policy in place.

- e. To consider Cllr I Thompsons' proposal for the volunteer group to clean and paint the white posts – **Deferred until the next meeting.**

- f. To discuss the recent meeting held regarding furthering the community orchard application (Cllr S Glover) - **Deferred until the next meeting.**

- g. To consider the quote provided by Window flowers for hanging baskets for 2024 (Paper Circulated - for information only)

DECISION: It was decided to *AGREE* the cost for the hanging baskets for 2024. This was proposed by Cllr I Thompson, seconded by Cllr C Wise and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.

- h. Councillor's questions

Cllr A Clemens complimented the recent works carried out to The Green to which Cllr Thompson said they have been unable to complete due to some work that needed to be carried out by Highways.

ACTION: Clerk to report the problem to Highways.

23/221 CEMETERY

- a. Lead Councillors report – **No report.**

- b. To appoint Cllr C. Wise as Deputy Lead Member for Cemetery who has put herself forward.

DECISION: The council were happy for Cllr C Wise to be appointed. This was proposed by Cllr D Buckley, seconded by Cllr I Thompson and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.

ACTION: Cllr C Wise to contact the lead member.

- c. Councillor's questions

None.

23/222 PROPERTIES:

- a. Lead councillors report (For information only)
Cllr D Sanders reiterated he had been working on a list of contractors with the Clerk but is struggling to find local trades people that have insurance cover with a minimum of £5million.
- b. To consider the appointment of new solicitors to deal with lease renewals and rent reviews for all properties, (*Paper Circulated - for information only*)

DECISION: It was *AGREED* to appoint new solicitors to help deal with the lease renewals and rent reviews and bring back the terms of reference in the next meeting. This was proposed by Cllr D Sanders, seconded by Cllr M Davies and **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.**

ACTION: Add terms of engagement to next month's agenda

- c. Councillor's Questions

Cllr I. Bacon & Cllr A Clemens asked Cllr D Sanders to look at our insurance to cover the extra for contractors for it to remain possible to keep local. Cllr S Young said she is happy to look through our public liability insurance details to see what is covered. Cllr I Thompson having same problem in Grounds and put forward a suggestion to contact the borough regarding their contractors. Cllr M Davies happy to do what is needed to keep costs down.

23/223HIGHWAYS

- a. To appoint Cllr C. Wise as Lead for Member for Highways who has put herself forward to take over the role.

DECISION: This was *AGREED* AND the Chair welcomed Cllr C Wise for putting herself forward to be appointed. This was proposed by Cllr D Buckley, seconded by Cllr A Clemens and **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.**

- b. Councillor's Questions

None.

23/224FLOODING

- a. Lead councillors report (Paper - For information only)

Cllr I Thompson welcomed questions regarding his report but wanted to follow on from Cllr E Larcombe's report to speak on the issues relevant to the RTS. He wanted to reiterate that the 4 councils have put their weight together behind their suggestions of the RTS so we need to acknowledge their input also. The two issues being; restoring CH1 back into the RTS project and agreeing that the RTS national infrastructure project be funded by central government. The proposal is backed up by the councils involved and there will be a meeting this week between the EA managers of the scheme and Cllr E Larcombe regarding the issues. He explained the pressure now is going forward to inject some movement into the scheme and it needs to be done at national level.

- b. Councillor's Questions.

Cllr M Davies wanted to say a big thank you to Cllr E Larcombe who has been pushing at this for years to get this funded by the government. Cllr A Clemens said he was not aware this had been approved yet and it still had a long way to go. The chair said these were all positive moves.

23/225EVENTS

- a. Lead councillors report (For information only)

Cllr A Clemens reported on three upcoming events. He spoke with regards to The Ellis journey, saying Cllr I Thompson is heavily involved with this and he will also ask Cllr S Glover to liaise for any help needed. Cllr S Glover will also help with the D-Day event in his absence along with Cllr D Buckley. He mentioned there will not be any big summer event this year

but will look at doing one for next year. Regarding Christmas on the Green, he said the proposed date still remains 30th November but is awaiting an update from the church as there is discussions as to whether the vent will take place this year.

b. Councillor's Questions

None.

23/226WORKING GROUPS

a. To receive reports from working groups (If necessary)

None.

b. To receive and approve the terms of reference for the Strategic Plan Working Group

Cllr S Young advised they have set up the framework to formulate a 3yr -5yr strategic plan to work on key principles for the parish and the wider community.

DECISION: The terms of reference were APPROVED. This was proposed by Cllr S Young, seconded by Cllr A Clemens and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.

c. To receive and approve the terms of reference for the Datchet Neighbourhood Plan Delivery and Monitoring Group (DMG)

DECISION: The terms of reference were APPROVED. This was proposed by Cllr D Buckley, seconded by Cllr A Clemens and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.

d. Councillor's Questions

Cllr S Young asked who was on the DNP group to ensure there would be no duplication between the Strategic plan and the Neighbourhood plan. This was confirmed by the Clerk as Cllr Larcombe and Cllr T O'Flynn as well as members of the public from the DNP.

The chair proposed to extend the meeting by a further 30 minutes.

This was UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.

23/227COMMITTEES -

a. To receive reports from committees (if necessary)

Nothing to report

b. Councillors Questions

None.

23/228COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Cllr A Clemens spoke regarding the new Defibrillator unit at the chapel and asked if it was ok to publicise this on the Datchet Eye. The Chair confirmed he was able to do so.

23/229COUNCILLOR CO-OPTIONS

i. To receive applications for the office of Parish Councillor and to ask pre-set questions as per the co-option policy to the candidates. (Paper Circulated)

ii. To resolve to co-opt candidate(s) to fill the existing vacancy(ies)'. The vote to co-opt or not to co-opt candidates will be taken without further debate.

iii. To receive co-opted councilor's declaration of acceptance of office.

Candidate was unable to attend the meeting - Deferred until the next meeting.

23/230PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: (Only for clarification relating to matters discussed on the agenda and limited to 2 minutes a person and 10 minutes maximum total)

Resident spoke reference the banners and asked them to be mindful that it's a conservation area so therefore should be within conservation keeping. She also asked if the parish council

would see a full costing of painting the posts before that was to go ahead. Regarding insurance she asked if our current grounds contractor had the required public liability. **The Chair took note of the conservation area and confirmed Cllr I Thompson would be bringing back the costs for the posts. In relation to the insurance, he informed the resident she will receive a reply in writing.**

Another resident also spoke regarding the banners and said both the Church Fayre and Datchet Fete encourage small businesses and worries our policy will put a stop to this. **The Chair replied he hoped it wouldn't as would not be the best policy.**

Resident discussed Wild About Datchet's forthcoming Heat Pump event and said it is totally non-commercial and will be a Q&A session. He could not give dates for 2nd event as it is a bio-diversity event with several parties involved and he needed to coordinate with all of them on the date. He explained Wild About Datchet is made from volunteers who want to work alongside the parish and the borough to improve the environment and community. **The Chair thanked him for clarifying and for his help with the councillors and informed without dates for the banners in the future, we will not be able to bring this to council.**

Resident wanted to discuss the AL39 Ecology report and commented the 'flood measures' condition also needs to be met before works can start. **The chair said this was a very good point.**

Resident spoke regarding the parking enforcement by the shops and asked if there is anywhere to report the cars that are always illegally parked by the railway crossing. **The Chair asked the resident to use the 'Report-It' system on the RBWM website.** She also asked for an update on the situation with the barge. **Cllr I Thompson said the situation is on-going and there is an insurance claim being processed. He also stated the EA is aware but the barge is unable to be moved while the river is red boarded.**

23/231 THE NEXT MEETING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY 08th April 2024

23/232 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC – PART II

The Chairman will move that the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by virtue of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

a. Budget Process & Transparency

The chairman explained the reason for the meeting.

Cllr D Buckley (chairman) declared an interest in this meeting as he is the chair for the finance committee, he relinquished his position and requested for another councillor to assume the role of chairman. Cllr I Thompson offered to chair the meeting and was appointed as chair.

The chair (Cllr I Thompson) asked the councillor to go over her concerns. After discussion the meeting was resolved as follows;

RESOLVED: All documents were available in the Dropbox for all councillors to view prior to January 2024 parish council meeting. The budget was adequality scrutinised by the finance committee, Lead members, RFO and Finance officer.

Meeting Closed at: 9.45pm

X

Chairman