

Datchet Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM, ON TUESDAY 18th August 2020, AT 6.50PM

Present: Cllrs Mrs. L. O'Flynn (Chairman) T. O'Flynn, I. Thompson, E. Larcombe (part), I. Bacon, A. Corcoran, D. Buckley, A. Clemens, Mrs. M. Davies, P Hough and Mrs M Fitzgerald
Borough Councillors D. Cannon

The Clerk Mrs. K. Jones

Apologies: Cllrs Mrs P. Barnes-Taylor, Cllr. Loveridge, Cllr. Bicknell. **NOTE:** Cllr. Larcombe to leave early.

There were 3 members of the public present.

20.031. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

20.032. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS – Cllr. Clemens declared an interest in the football items on the agenda under Grounds.

Items carried forward from the meeting held on the 10th August 2020

20.033. Grounds.

- i. The Lead Member reported that orders for interim works to continue with grounds maintenance work had been placed and works started. There was a meeting scheduled this week to complete the work that needs to be done. The works would be contained within the budget set in November last year. He said Cllr. Clemens will instruct and arrange for the marking out of the football pitches. He thanked the clerk for her assistance in getting this off the ground quickly. Chairman added her thanks and asked how long the interim period would last. Cllr. Thompson confirmed 3 months, until mid-November when grounds work naturally drops off for the winter months. Extra orders can be placed as necessary. As concerns the long term he is working on a draft protocol document but this needs a meeting of the grounds team and the clerk before it can be released to all councillors. Cllr Buckley felt a working group for this would help to gain more support. Cllr. Hough asked regarding a timing plan and Cllr. Thompson confirmed that once he had spoken to others a timescale would come out, but he could not give this at the moment. Cllr Hough asked if we are paying more with the interim arrangement than we would have done with Mr. Stickland. Cllr. Thompson confirm no, the costings are level with what we have been paying or even slightly less. Clerk to circulate details of the interim orders. **CLERK**
- ii. Member discussed replacing the damaged/rotten riverside ropes with lightweight chains to deter the Canada Geese. The clerk explained that it was the swaying movement that deterred the geese and as long as the chain was light enough to move it would work the same as rope. It was **AGREED** for Cllr. Thompson to get samples and costs to bring back to council. Total length approx. 84 meters.
- iii. Members discussed the football fees for the 2020/2021 Season. Cllr. Thompson reported that another team had requested to use the pitches for Sunday matches but he had written back to them stating that due to the present F.A. rules on Covid, this was not possible. Cllr. Clemens was allowed to speak to outline the position in more detail and he explained that Datchet F.C. were likely have 2 adult and 1 children's team on a Sunday and all spectators have their temperature tested and recorded. Datchet F.C. will have a Covid officer to do this, but they would not cover another team and there were too many issues to bring other teams in: - Changing Rooms, goal posts, opening the parish yard. Cllr. Hough asked what the fees normally cover. Clerk stated grass cutting, marking out, and use of changing facilities. The teams put the goals up themselves. Further to discussions it was proposed by Cllr. Hough, seconded by Cllr. Bacon and **AGREED** to keep the fees the same as last year at £750 per adult team and children's team play for free.

20.034. Properties.

- i. The Lead member had sent out her report for the meeting on the 10th August and stated there were a few differences as things had progressed.
 - a. The Bridge Café was coming along well and the acrylic paint on the toilet wall had been removed and the wall was drying out.
 - b. She had contacted Andy Chalk re the split stone on the chapel and would take his advice on moving this item forward on all the coping stones.
 - c. 24a The Green was getting a new bathroom floor installed through the Letting Agent. Cllr. Buckley asked who would be responsible if there was another flood in the bathroom and the Lead member said it would be down to the Agent to resolve.
- ii. **Councilor questions** - Cllr. Buckley asked what the plan for re-opening the Café was. The Lead Member explained it would be down to the Management to do a risk assessment for public/staff safety. Cllr Corcoran asked regarding the quality of the proposed flooring in the bathroom and was the Agent paying and are they insured? The Lead Member confirmed that the survey established that there was no structural damage, the floor was sound, but it slopes. Cllr Corcoran asked why a full survey was not commissioned and the Lead Member said she had written everything down from her meeting with the surveyor. Cllr. Corcoran said he was not happy with the way this project has been taken forward and the only paperwork he had seen was rough drawings and the cost were adding up. Cllr. Hough asked if the Café would be able to open on the scheduled date of 3rd September. The Lead member replied it should be available, but the external drain pipe had been damaged by a delivery van or the waste cart and needed repairs. Cllr, Hough suggested a metal strap to protect it in the future. Also the toilet needed ventilation in the window as it could not open outwards. Options to be looked at including louvers and an electric vent. . Cllr, Hough asked if he could see information on the quotes and costs for the painting and the lead member agreed to circulate.

Cllr. Mrs. M Davies

20.035. Highways and General Purposes.

- i The Lead Member raised concerns about the damage being caused to The Bridge café by the newly raised pedestrian crossing, which causes heavy vehicles to make the building vibrate. She asked to work with the Village Center Conservation Group to try and get HGV diverted from the center of Datchet. Cllr Thompson said RBWM had come back with a document from the Ministry of Transport suggesting extending the platform between the keep left signs so HGV axels would be level when they pass the café. Cllr. Buckley said as deputy Lead member he was happy to put something together to present to council including suggestions of a 20MPH speed limit. Cllr. Clemens raised the problems of speeding and the fact that most of the CCTV cameras are not working. The Chairman said she would raise this at the NAG meeting.

20.036. Flooding.

- i. Cllr. Thompson raised the RTS and concerns over the lack of funding from RBWM who are now blaming the Government for this. Cllr. Thompson felt that residents have been let down so badly because of RBWM cabinet actions.
- ii. Local flood alleviation schemes – the CCTV of the barrel arch shows deterioration and damage over time. The second half of this scheme is the Recreation Ground Ditch which deals with the soak away and dispersal of water. The E.A. are supportive with the intention of this scheme and when we can meet again propose a presentation with experts present. Cllr. Corcoran felt it was important to look at all the water coming into Datchet as brooks were likely to be silted up and was not convinced spending £'s on the Rec. Ditch was the best way to spend the money. Cllr Buckley said he would support getting the working group going as a priority to look at this and Cllr Thompson said the group membership needed to be reviewed.

20.037. Events

- i. The Lead member had sent out his report for the meeting on the 10th August and asked for any questions. He was keen to get scheme going for tree planting, cycle parking and electric vehicle charging points and asked for ideas for the September Agenda.
- ii. V.J Day was disappointing as the grounds were not up to scratch and there was no flag as the line was broken. He felt we had let ourselves down.

- Cllr Clemens said it was marked but was not publicized and DPC need to work more closely with the British Legion on these events. He felt it was crucial to mark November 11th properly with a big event.
- iii. Christmas Event – Clerk to put the Christmas lights and the tree on the September Agenda. **CLERK**
 - iv. Cllr. Clemens suggested a music event in the village for next year.

20.038 Working Groups

Members reviewed the current list of DPC working groups.

- a. **Village Centre and Conservation Area Working Group.** Following discussions, and since it was felt that Lead Members were dealing with the current problems, it was **Proposed** by Cllr. L O’Flynn and **Seconded** by Cllr. Hough to suspend this Group and reconvene it if needed. **ALL IN FAVOUR**
- b. **Storm Water and Flood Defense Working Groups.** It was **Proposed** by Cllr. Hough and **Seconded** by Cllr. Clemens to merge these two groups and review the membership. **ALL IN FAVOUR**
- c. **Cemetery Working Group.** It was **Proposed** by Cllr Hough and **Seconded** by Cllr. L O’Flynn to close this group and reconvene it when needed. **ALL IN FAVOUR**
- d. **Willowfields and Land at Mill Place Working group.** It was **Proposed** by Cllr Hough and **Seconded** by Cllr. L O’Flynn to close this working group **ALL IN FAVOUR**
- e. **Environmental Awareness Working Group.** New group which Cllr Bacon would like to join. Apart from that no changes. **AGREED**
- f. **Forward Plan Working Group.** New group so no changes. **AGREED**
- g. **Standing Orders Working Group.** Once bought back to Council to finalise group to close **AGREED**

20.039 Governance and Management of the DRCCT

Cllr. Hough asked for this item to be on the agenda to gain a better understanding of the responsibilities a councilor has as a trustee. He asked that DPC write to the Charity Commission to state that the council as a body is the sole trustee of the DRCCT and not the names that appear on the C.C. web site (Cllr. Larcombe and T. O’Flynn) this needs to be corrected. Cllr Mrs. Davies explained that on the original trust deed (1976) there were two named trustees rather than a long list, the Chairman and Treasurer, and that is why it was done this way. Cllr Hough felt that a meeting of the Trustees should be called to agree the detail. Cllr Mrs. Davies said that there would be a meeting of all the Trustees to go through the end of year accounts and other decisions that have to be made. Cllr Buckley asked for a date. Cllr T O’Flynn suggested the 21st September at 7pm, by Zoom.

20.040 Items required for the next Agenda

1. Positioning and placement of new trees, cycle parking racks and electric vehicle charging points. Cllr. Corcoran. To speak with the clerk in the first instance as to what can do and bring a plan to council.
2. Tree Charter. Cllr. Corcoran
3. Village Greens and cycle rest stops. Cllr. Corcoran
4. 20MPH speed Limit. Cllr Corcoran
5. RBWM Climate consultation document. Cllr Corcoran
6. Review outside spaces in the village for public use. Cllr Buckley, to produce a report.

20.041 Councilors Questions

Cllr Corcoran – asked regarding the future of Datchet Youth Club, still to be confirmed and ‘walk around’ the village with PCSO Les Bradfield if anyone else is interested.

MEETING CLOSED AT 21:12

**THE NEXT FULL COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD 14TH SEPTEMBER 2020
VIRTUALLY BY ZOOM**

CHAIRMAN