

# Datchet Parish Council

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM, ON MONDAY 14<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020, AT 7.39PM

Present: Cllrs Mrs. L. O’Flynn (Chairman) T. O’Flynn, D. Loveridge, I. Thompson, E. Larcombe, I. Bacon, A. Corcoran, D. Buckley, A. Clemens, Mrs. M. Davies, P Hough and Mrs M Fitzgerald  
The Clerk Mrs K. Jones  
Apologies: Borough Councillors D. Cannon. There were 5 members of the public present.

**20.042. ANNOUNCEMENTS** – The Chairman advised members that because of the huge agenda tonight to please not repeat anything. Plenty of paperwork had been circulated in advanced for everyone.

**20.043. PUBLIC QUESTIONS** - NONE

**20.044. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS** Cllr. Loveridge interest on planning application 20/001790

**20.045. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2020**

The minutes were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

**20.046. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 18<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2020**

The minutes were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

**20.047. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MINUTES**

Pg 9. Cllr Corcoran pointed out it should be ‘pursing’ not ‘perusing’

Pg 12. Cllr Larcombe point 20.039. He had a meeting at Wraysbury Parish Council on 21<sup>st</sup> September, and will decide a date and let everyone know.

Cllr Hough stated councillors wanted to meet to discuss their role as trustees, and would like a date in the near future so they can understand what’s happening. After discussions it was **PROPOSED** by Cllr O’Flynn and **SECONDED** by Cllr Hough to have the meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2020 via Zoom starting at 19:00. **AGREED**

Cllr Hough point 20.038 Working Groups – ref item B he questioned has this happened. Cllr Thompson replied that he did not intend to do any changes at this moment.

**20.048. GENERAL**

**i. Chairman’s Report;** The Cordon Painting. A request has been received from the DVS that the Parish Council fund the cleaning of the painting at the same time that the repairs are carried out. The chairman invited Mrs. Clasper to explain. RBWM have agreed to pay £150 for repairs to the painting and £80 for the repairs to the frame. It was explained that the DVS had gifted the painting to DPC so the council are the owners. It would be beneficial to clean the painting and frame first before the repair works are carried out. The quote for this being £400 for the painting and £120 for the frame. Total £520. After discussions regarding the correct restoration of the painting to protect and restore the painting it was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Corcoran, **SECONDED** by Cllr Bacon and **RESOLVED** that DPC to pay for the cleaning cost in the sum of £520. The voting being:

**IN FAVOUR: 8                      AGAINST: 1                      ABSTAINING: 3**

**ii. Correspondence;** Swan Radio. The DHEF had agreed a grant of £800 to help towards their running cost so DPC did not need to consider this, this time.

**20.049. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

**i. To approve the Income & Expenditure Sheets.** The Lead Member for Finance presented the income and expenditure sheets for approval. Subject to questions asked and answers given it was **PROPOSED** by Cllr O’Flynn, **SECONDED** by Cllr Hough and **RESOLVED** that the payment sheets be approved and the income sheets be noted. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

**ii. To note the nationally agreed Pay Scales and ratify the changes.** It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr O’Flynn and **SECONDED** by Cllr Davies to note the new pay scales. **AGREED**

- iii. It was also **PROPOSED** by Cllr Mrs. Davies and **SECONDED** by Cllr Hough to move from the NJC to NALC pay scales **AGREED**
- iv. The clerk advised members that last year she had obtained three quotes for providing internal auditing and the outcome had been to stay with Auditing Solutions. She asked if members were happy with this arrangement for 2020/21. It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr O'Flynn and **SECONDED** by Cllr Clemens to continue with Auditing Solutions for the financial year 2020/21. **AGREED**
- v. The Clerk advised members that she had written to Cllr. Ghattaura to advise that due to failure throughout a period of six consecutive months, from the date of his last attendance, to attend any meeting of the authority, without apologies being either sent or approved, he has automatically ceased to be a Datchet Parish Councillor with immediate effect. She had informed the Borough and was waiting for a response as to what course of action to take next.
- vi. **Update on the training budget.** The clerk explained that DPC had spent a total of £579.3 out of the training budget for 20/21. Leaving £620.70. Cllr. Buckley had requested to go on the NALC Rebuilding Communities training at £30 per session (£210 for the full week) and the Clerk had requested to go on the SLCC Virtual conference at £25+ vat. It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Mrs. O'Flynn, **SECONDED** by Cllr T. O'Flynn and **RESOLVED** for the Clerk to attend the SLCC conference and for Cllr Buckley to attend the Rebuilding Communities Course up to max of £210
- vii. **To consider the purchase of I.T. equipment to enable councillor's to participate in virtual meetings.** The Chairman suggested spending some of the Covid fund monies to assist members getting set up with IT. After discussions it was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Buckley, **SECONDED** by Cllr O'Flynn and **RESOLVED** to set up a £500 budget to help with a 'loan' of equipment for when councillors may need it. The voting being: IN FAVOUR: 8 AGAINST: 4
- viii. **To consider the Risk Assessment carried out for the safe reopening of the Parish Office.** A Risk Assessment document had been put together and circulated by Cllr Hough. Cllr Mrs. Davies had facilitated the PPI screens to be installed. Cllr O'Flynn thanked them both for the time taken to sort this out. Cllr Hough explained the R.A would not be enforced but rather was a guide. All councillors' are to stay away as much as possible and to work from home where can. If they need to go into the office they need to book an appointment but only 1 at a time. It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Hough and **SECONDED** by Cllr O'Flynn to agree the Risk Assessment subject to the notes above. **AGREED**
- ix. **To consider and agree the Councils response to the RBWM Community Governance Review.** After discussions all agreed the setting up of a new Windsor parish/town council was a good idea and they would support this. *Clerk to respond*
- x. **To consider and agree the Councils response to the RBWM Library opening hours consultation.** The chairman outlined the proposed cut in hours in that the Library would close on a Friday and Sunday, reducing down to 26 hours a week. Cllr Hough felt that closing on a Sunday was acceptable but asked if DPC could offer an incentive for the Library to stay open for at least 3 hours on a Friday, suggesting a rent reduction of £2,000. It was **AGREED** that Cllrs Hough and Corcoran to draft a letter for approval at the next meeting.

## **20.050. PLANNING**

- i. **To consider new applications** listed on the planning addendum and note planning decisions. Cllr. Buckley asked members if they had any further comments on his report which had been previously circulated. **ALL AGREED** with the recommendations, a summary of which is below, with more detailed comments on the planning sheet to be attached to these minutes.

### **Application 20/01839 - 8 Queens Road, Datchet, Slough SL3 9B.N**

**Objection** to this application on the grounds of the Developers non-compliance to original planning application and loss of Victorian character and conservation areas concerns. Ward Councillor, Cllr. Larcombe, to call this application in, for inspection

**Application 20/01996 - 10 Lawn Close, Datchet, Slough SL3 9JZ.**

**Objection** to this application on the grounds of overdevelopment of the site from boundary to boundary, which would set a precedent in that street and which would affect the character of the semi-detached property and the character of the street. If planning is to be reviewed or proposed we would like to see a reduced footprint and height with particular consideration to the character of the street and the majority of residences.

**Application 20/01862 - The Coach House, Windsor Road, Datchet, Slough SL3 9BT.**

**No Objection**

**Application 20/02166 - Land and Lakes East of Railway and West and North of Datchet Pumping Station, Horton Road, Datchet Slough.**

**Objection** to this application on the following grounds:

- i) Flooding and the impact on natural drainage in Flood zone 2 & 3.
- ii) The amount of parking allocated and the need for the volumes proposed.
- iii) Increase in hard standing and reduction in natural drainage in an area that is prone to annual flooding.
- iv) Green belt within the historic and picturesque village of Datchet to be protected for the benefit of residents. This particular site is listed as a wildlife site and protection of the biodiversity of this site should be given more weight.
- v) Poor accessibility location for transport links for visitors.

If planning was granted, we would like to request that strong controls are imposed to maintain the development to the approved plans and any changes be referred back to the Parish Council for local input to protect local residents, namely:

1. Controlled traffic movements on and off the site to support residents living close by.
2. Noise restrictions and limits set to supply protection to local residents
3. Views be to protected as this area sits directly on one of the main access routes into the historic village of Datchet.

**Application 20/02170 - 72 London Road, Datchet, Slough SL3 9LQ**

**Objection** to this application on the following grounds:

Over development of existing plot beyond all back-garden boundaries and beyond the existing footprint of the original property.

**Application 20/02171 – Blakeney Cottage, Horton Road, Datchet Slough SL3 9EN.**

**No Objection**

**Application 20/001790 – Land At Datchet Common, Horton Road, Datchet Slough.** Response deferred to the Full Council meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> October to allow for the gathering of all information, research and residents' comments, to enable members to fully review this in detail before reaching a decision.

**Application 20/02127 – Costa Coffee, The Green, Datchet, Slough SL3 9BJ**

**No Objection** to this application on the basis to support a local business. The Parish Council's points of concerns are listed but are set aside as a single one off decision with clear criteria to not allow a precedent to be set. If planning was approved it should be subject to input by the conservation and listed buildings team at RBWM

**Application 20/02262 – Pasha Lodge, 42 London Road, Datchet, Slough SL3 9JN**

**Objection** on the following grounds:

1. The property borders the Datchet Conservation Area on its Frontage and is clearly over development of the existing plot.
2. There is no mitigating provision for the impact to the established Conservation Area, in particular to the Front Gate elevation.
3. There is no significant difference to previously refused planning application 19/03178/FULL.

- ii. **Planning General** – The councils’ response to the Joint Minerals and Waste Plan, regulation 19 consultation to be deferred to Octobers meeting, Cllr Buckley will send out review and the clerk will circulate original letter.

#### **20.051 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT**

Cllr Larcombe reported on the CITFA report issued to the Borough and the fact that the new leader of the Council has talked about a new open / honest environment with both councillors’ and officers undergoing re-training. Some of the problems had arisen because of ‘confused responsibilities’ and £300,000 of expenditure did not go through the proper process of approval. He hoped to see improvements. Cllr Bacon asked if they knew why the government turned down the RTS levy request from RBWM, to which Cllr Larcombe replied no.

#### **20.052. GROUNDS**

- i) The Lead Member, Cllr Thompson, summarized his reported on Grounds and asked for questions. Cllr Hough asked for reports in advance so have time to understand them, this is part of the Standing Orders. He also asked for a time plan for new Grounds Maintenance contract. Cllr Thompson replied not at the moment, but we have interim measures in place. This required input from Cllr’s. Loveridge and Clemens then he would will bring this back to the Clerk. Best case scenario 3 months, worst case early part of next year.  
Cllr Corcoran asked for time to read and absorb the report before the meeting He commented that we need the rope for the flag for Remembrance Day. Cllr Thompson stated that the scissor lift was needed for this and he will look into it.

#### **ii) Christmas lights and Christmas tree for 2020:**

The Clerk had received a quote from Lamps and Tubes, who store the Christmas lights we have already purchased, to check and install these for 2020. This is £3,850.00 plus vat and includes; 17no. Single Decorations, 4no. Double Decorations, 1no. Triple decoration, 1no. Large Tree mistletoe lights and 1no. Small Tree mistletoe lights. After discussions it was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Bacon, **SECONDED** by Cllr Clemens and **RESOLVED** to proceed with the same lights as last year, and look at new ones for 2021, Total £3,850. **AGREED BY ALL**

The Clerk had received a quote from Windowflowers for a complete Christmas tree package for this year for the delivery, installation, and lights for a 19ft Norway Spruce. Including the clear away at the end of the season the cost of the package is £1779.00 + VAT. It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Clemens, **SECONDED** by Cllr O’Flynn and **RESOLVED** to place an order in the sum of £1,779 + vat for the Christmas tree package from Windowflowers. **AGREED BY ALL**

- iii) **To consider request from the British Legion to use War Memorial Green for Remembrance Day:** After discussions regarding there being no service in the church or parade this year, it was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Clemens and **SECONDED** by Cllr Corcoran to give the British Legion permission to use the Greens this year, with them to do the risk assessments etc. **AGREED By All**

- iv) **To consider a permanent bench to honor the work of the NHS and Key workers during the recent pandemic:** Members had been circulated a picture of the proposed bench in blue metal work. Cllr Corcoran questioned if this was appropriate, the Green being a conservation area. He suggested an alternative possibility being the drinking fountain on North Green. He proposed getting a quote to get it working again and it could then be a memorial ‘thank you’. He was advised by Cllr O’Flynn for the need of a risk assessment on a public drinking fountain. Cllr Buckley suggested a general Covid plaque for NHS, Key Workers and the public show had helped out during the pandemic. Cllr Larcombe and Corcoran to investigate further.

- v) **To agree the Councils response to the RBWM Environment and Climate Strategy consultation:** A response is needed by RBWM by 29<sup>th</sup> September. Cllr Corcoran has sent through a draft response for comments. Members **AGREED** for the clerk to send this through to the Borough. *Clerk*

#### **20.053 PROPERTIES**

The Chairman stated she was very impressed with the standard of work at the Bridge Café. Cllr Hough commented the Bridge Café was looking impressive but he questioned the costs. **PAGE 16**

Due to the time, it being 21:56, It was PROPOSED by Cllr Hough and SECONDED by Cllr T. O'Flynn to adjourn the meeting and reconvene on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 19:00 to deal with the remainder of the agenda  
AGREED BY ALL

## **Datchet Parish Council Meeting Reconvened on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 19:00 Via Zoom.**

Present: Cllrs Mrs O'Flynn, T. O'Flynn, E. Larcombe, A. Corcoran, I. Bacon  
The Clerk Mrs K Jones

Apologies: Cllrs I. Thompson, A. Clemens, P. Hough, Mrs M. Fitzgerald and Mrs M. Davies  
There was 4 members of the public present

### **20.054 PROPERTIES CONTINUED**

The Lead Member had previously circulated a comprehensive report which the Chairman summarized. The main work was at the Bridge Café where restoration work was being carried out on the sash windows upstairs and waiting for the plaster to dry downstairs before putting the final coat on. Cllr Corcoran had the following questions from reading emails. 1) Was the painting for both inside and out covered by the £2,500 or is there a 2<sup>nd</sup> quote for painting by the same person? He felt there was a discrepancy and the possibility that more is being charged. He asked about the Cemetery Lodge and the Chairman advised there was nothing to yet report.

**20.055 HIGHWAYS & GENERAL PURPOSES.** As no Lead Member present no report was given. Cllr Corcoran stated he was interested to start looking into a 20mph speed limit for the village and would like support from Highways for this to be added to the next agenda. The Chairman stated he would need to talk to the Borough and Cllrs Mrs. Fitzgerald and Buckley first.

**20.056 FLOODING.** No Lead Member for flooding present.

Cllr Corcoran stated it had been agreed to combine the 2 flooding groups into 1 even though Cllr Thompson had earlier said no to this. Clerk to make sure the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting is a combined one. *Clerk* Cllr Bacon asked why the Government had turned down the flood 'levy' that RBWM wanted. Cllr Larcombe stated this will be on RTS report.

Cllr Larcombe stated that the Myrke stream is being contaminated with sewage and is full to the brim with weed growth. Water level monitoring is substandard as wiring not up to scratch. Cllr Corcoran supported the poor quality of this and exposed wiring.

Cllr Larcombe asked for his report to council on the RTS to go on the DPC website. Cllr Corcoran suggested a page for all councillor's reports so the public can see what they are doing. Cllr Bacon said the revised Standing Orders pushed for reports early and agreed there should be a page set up for these. Cllrs Bacon, Buckley and T.O'Flynn to make a standard template for reports and *Clerk to investigate putting on website.*

Cllr Larcombe summarized his reported on the River Thames Scheme partnership funding and asked for questions.

Cllr Bacon asked why did the Government turn the levy down? Cllr Larcombe responded this happened during discussion and debate, there are no minutes or report and the Parish Council was not officially informed.

Cllr Bacon suggested a combined report from Datchet, Horton, and Wraysbury Parishes and maybe Old Windsor too. Cllr Larcombe supported a joint response but stated it was 'too early' at the moment. Also, the Borough are not looking after ordinary water courses as they have been left to decay. Cllr O'Flynn asked if there was a plan for what might happen rather than wait and see.

Cllr Buckley stated Datchet suffers from annual flooding which will only get worst with the climate change. Need to be as pro active as can for residents. RBWM not going to do anything so need to re-establish the flood group between the parishes. He suggested for the Chairman to follow this up with Cllr Thompson.

### **20.057 EVENTS**

i) Cllr Corcoran requested the use of the Village Hall foyer for the Outreach Post Office. Discussions were had regarding the costs, other venues, limits on days, and Covid restrictions.

- ii) Regarding the Ellis Journey, there will be a 125year +1 celebration next year, and will need road closures. Cllr Corcoran will talk to the Borough to get the ball rolling. The Chairman advised to wait until nearer the time, although Cllr Larcombe recommended to put this in early to get agreement.
- iii) Remembrance Sunday – Previously agreed to RBL use of the Greens
- iv) Christmas on the Green – Cllr. Corcoran asked for ideas for a small display possibility with a small choirs and a stall with hot drinks, keeping it very minimal. Cllr Buckley expressed concerns this will bring people together which is wrong at the moment. Cannot encourage crowds as we cannot control this. The Tree will attract people on its own.

#### **20.058 WORKING GROUPS**

- i) All have received the first draft of the Standing Orders. Cllr Mrs. O’Flynn would like feedback from all councillor’s to be raised at the next meeting. The questions from Cllr Hough to be circulate to the Standing Orders Working Group for answers.
- ii) Cllr Corcoran – The EA Working Group letter had received general support for items. He will be doing a walk around to look at potential positions for tree planting, cycle racks and E.V. charging points. He would like to get views and opinions and involve the EA groups on locations, and sizes etc. Cllr Bacon suggested the electric vehicle charging could be at the garage. Cllr T. O’Flynn suggested an ‘outline plan’ then gather more detail. Cllr, Corcoran and the clerk had attended the woodland trust seminar. Strategic plan working group had circulated their proposal which fundamentally had 3 aspects. A wish list, project plan and routine things. Questions to be taken at the next meeting.

#### **20.059 NOTICE OF ITEMS REQUIRED FOR THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING**

- Cllr Larcombe – Motion about 20mph speed limit. DPC to request the RBWM to initial consultation in respect of 20mph speed limit in the village.
- Cllr Larcombe –Motion and look at the 4 villages of Datchet, Horton, Wraysbury and Old Windsor working together with the objective of reinstating Channel 1 of the RTS
- Cllr Corcoran – no ‘idling’ signs whilst waiting for trains
- Cllr Buckley – Working Group between Parishes on CCTV

#### **20.060 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

- i) A resident asked for clarity from Cllr Larcombe to find out why the Government turned down the flooding Levy. Cllr. Larcombe said he was waiting to be told, so far there was only a verbal announcement and will have to wait until November for the Scrutiny Committee.
- ii) A resident asked regarding the Barrel Arch. It has been inspected and problems discovered is Cllr Larcombe getting a copy of the report on the condition and what the Borough are going to do about it. Cllr Larcombe advised he had asked for a copy of the report and the CCTV footage that goes with it. Chairman stated that once the structural engineer has this we will get a copy. A Resident suggested putting in a FOI request to get a copy. RTS can also ask for a FOI to discover why the government didn’t fund. Cllr Buckley believes public have already done this request and suggested for DPC to do likewise.
- iii) Cllr Bacon asked the councillors if the DRCCT meeting will be going ahead on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Larcombe advised its not, to which he was told it’s not acceptable to not let others know.
- iv) A member of the public asked if the public can attend the E.A. walk on Tuesday and was advised not at this stage, but maybe can do a 2<sup>nd</sup> walk.

MEETING CLOSED AT 20:28

**THE NEXT FULL COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD 12<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2020  
VIRTUALLY BY ZOOM**

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CHAIRMAN

Distribution:  
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KJJ..DPC.14.09.20

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