

Datchet Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, ON MONDAY 14th March 2022 AT 19:05

Present: Cllr. Mrs. M. Davies, Cllr. E. Larcombe, Cllr D. Loveridge, Cllr I. Thompson, Cllr Mrs M. Fitzgerald, Clerk Mrs K. J. Jones and Ms J.H Jilani.
Apologies: Cllr. Mrs L O'Flynn, Cllr A. Clemens, Cllr I. Bacon, Cllr P. Bicknell, Cllr Mrs P. Barnes Taylor, Cllr. T. O'Flynn, Cllr. D. Buckley and Borough Cllr G. Muir and Cllr Cannon.

There were 3 members of the public present.

21.184 ANNOUNCEMENTS – The Clerk announced the Chairman is ill and has COVID. It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr. Thompson and **SECONDED** by Cllr. Mrs. M. Davies that Cllr. Larcombe be the Chairman for tonight's meeting. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

Cllr. Larcombe took the Chair.

21.185 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – A resident had submitted a question in reference to their email on the 24th February regarding a meeting on the Green, with councillors, to discuss the location of the newly planted Oak Tree and additional, appropriate, ways to memorialise the Queens reign. The Clerk advised the matter had been forwarded to the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Grounds Team for their attention, and the acting Chairman said this request will have to be carried forward to the next meeting.

21.186 DECLARATION OF INTEREST – None

21.187 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON 14TH MARCH 2022

Revision 2 of the minutes, were approved as a true record and signed by the acting Chairman. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

21.188 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MINUTES - None

21.189 GENERAL

Clerks report: Cllr. Bicknell had proposed that the Council raise the Ukrainian flag in the village. The Clerk suggested the council could also tie blue and yellow ribbons in trees to show support. Following discussions Cllr Thompson suggested the council tie ribbons to the Oak trees on Gossip Green and North Green, around the trunk. Cllr Mrs M. Davies advised she had got the material. It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr. Mrs. M. Davies and **SECONDED** by Cllr I. Thompson to put the ribbons around the trunk of the trees. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

21.190 EVENTS

i) The proposed schedule for the **Queens Platinum Jubilee** was circulated to the members. It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Mrs. M. Davies and **SECONDED** by Cllr I. Thompson, that the Council accept the schedule, and that delegated powers be given to the Queens Platinum Jubilee Working Group to finalise the details and the expenditure, within the budget that has been set. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

ii) **The Ellis Journey**- It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr I. Thompson and **SECONDED** by Cllr M. Davies that the Ellis Journey Event takes place on the Sunday 3rd July, on The Cut, as previously approved by the Borough. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

21.191 FINANCE

i) To approve the pink and green sheet. The Clerk explained there were 2 extra payments for the pink sheet, one for red telephone box and one for the deposit for John Hickman who will be singing at the Beacon event. It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Mrs. M. Davies and **SECONDED** by Cllr I Thompson that with these additions the pink sheet be approved and the green sheet be noted. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

ii) The Clerk advised that NALC had confirmed that all local council staff with a contractual entitlement will have a 1.75% increase applied to their pay scales, back dated to the 1st April 2021. **NOTED**

iii) Renewal of energy contract. The Clerk had circulated the report to members and after discussions, it was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Mrs. M. Davies and **SECONDED** by Cllr I. Thompson to give the Clerk and the Lead Member Finance delegated power to agree to the term with the broker.

21.192 PLANNING

App no: 22/00356 Ilona 39 High Street Datchet SL3 9EQ

Datchet Parish Council has **NO OBJECTION** to this application.

App no: 22/00344 35 Horton Road Datchet SL3 9EN

Datchet Parish Council has **OBJECTION** to this application. The replacement of the Chimney height to extend the roof line would not be in keeping with the historic street views within the adopted Datchet Design Guide. We would recommend as a compromise keeping the roof height and chimney position in the original place to keep the application in line with all properties in the street. Additionally, this property sits in the views of the Historic Conservation area and would be outside the existing design guide and the proposed roof height would lead to a negative precedent being set in one of the main roads leading into the conservation area.

App no: 22/00396 20 Beaulieu Close SL3 9DE

Datchet Parish Council has **OBJECTION** to this application. This tree has appeared to be subject to an ongoing reduction and potential damage by the homeowners over a number of years and we feel that this application should be referred to the tree officer for review of the health of the tree (see property history). This appears to be an established healthy tree, that sits within the established street views of these streets that come together at the junction. As a suggestion should this tree be felled is that a replacement tree is planted of similar size and quality to maintain the established benefit to the street and the residents as well as supporting the Borough's environmental and climate change policies. This property sits in the local Flood zone and any consideration for a reduction in natural drainage should also be a consideration.

App no: 22/00391 31 Montrose Avenue Datchet SL3 9NH

Datchet Parish Council has **NO OBJECTION** to this application.

App no: 22/00555 Westfields 48 Eton Road Datchet SL3 9AY

Datchet Parish Council has **NO OBJECTION** to this application.

App no: 22/00304 61 Beaulieu Close Datchet SL3 9DE

Datchet Parish Council has **NO OBJECTION** to this application.

App no: 22/00472 28 Beaulieu Close Datchet SL3 9DE

Datchet Parish Council has **NO OBJECTION** to this application

App no: 22/02309 31 Eton Close Datchet SL3 9BE

Datchet Parish Council has **NO OBJECTION** to this application.

App no: 22/00590 River Bank 9 Southlea Road Datchet SL3 9BY

Datchet Parish Council has an **OBJECTION** to this application. This application sits within a flood zone that is liable to flood and any removal of trees will affect local drainage and it would be our recommendation to replace any felled trees with similar size and benefit to maintain natural drainage of the ground. We would ask the officer to refer this application to the tree officer to advise on replacement trees to be planted to replace those being felled, this would be a compromise and maintain the natural drainage of the property. This property sits on a flood zone and any loss of natural drainage should be of concern and we would recommend replacement trees of similar size being planted to replace those being felled to maintain the existing level of natural drainage. Other than this the Parish Council would have no objection to this application.

App no: 22/00429 Flat 1 Riverbank 9 Southlea Road Datchet SL3 9BY

Datchet Parish Council has an **OBJECTION** to this application. –This application sits within a flood zone that is liable to flood and any removal of trees will affect local drainage and it would be our recommendation to replace any felled trees with similar size and benefit to maintain natural drainage of the ground. The reason for felling this tree is not in line with the Environmental and climate change policy of the Borough and the reasons given by the applicant to fell are not reasonable enough to fell an established tree. We would further recommend that this should be referred to the tree officer to find a compromise to increase the light without felling or losing the benefit of the tree mentioned in the plan as T1. Other than this the Parish Council would have no objection to this application.

App no: 22/00426 43 Horton Road Datchet SL3 9EP

Datchet Parish Council has **OBJECTION** to this application. The Parish Council have received concerns regarding the lawfulness of this development and would like to bring this to the officer's attention. We believe the resident has built a large rear extension without planning permission. The property has an approved side extension which was approved in 1994 No 94/oo287/full dated 5th May 1994. And is built. There is nothing on the file at RBWM relating to the recent works, this extension never came through our Council and has

no record at the Borough. At the time approx. 2years ago objections were made directly with the resident by other residents. The owner advised that it was approved by permitted development, with who was not clear. Only now are the owners trying to get some form of legality on their property extension, The property had its approved 30sq M for flooding in the 1994 works and any further development of flood zone would not be of concern. The property is within Zone 3 flood zone, and was flooded surrounded on two sides in 2014. There has been no Flood Risk Assessment registered relating to this build, so the Parish Council wish to make an objection to this certificate of lawfulness.

Councillors Questions on Planning

Cllr Thompson stated that the development at 31 Eton Close had gone ahead and no application had been received. This had been objected to by a number of residents as it was built with out notice and now, 2 years later, they have put in for a certificate of lawfulness. Cllr Larcombe stated that development at Liquid Leisure was going to a Planning Inquiry on the 29th March for 3 days and interested parties may attend and give their views. He also stated the garages at Penn Road are being used and abused. He requested that a search be done on land registry to find the owner. Cllr Loveridge requested the same for the cottage at the top of Mill Lane (number 3).

21.193 WARD COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr E. Larcombe advised that the RBWM budget has been approved.

Cllr I. Thompson stated he had not seen anything in the RBWM budget for flood defences and Cllr E. Larcombe advised they have put in £3 million a year, for the next 3 years for flood defences, which is clearly not enough.

He also raised residents' concerns about not having a local bus routes/service. This is a vital link for appointments at the doctor's surgery and pharmacy. A lot of elderly people have bus passes so would have been subsidised by RBWM but there is no service. He had spoken to Borough Cllr. Muir who would take this matter up.

Cllr I. Thompson advised he had a meeting with the parking officer from RBWM in Datchet Library. They are looking to have an app system set up for payments for local parking. The first one hour could be free. However, in this app system, the app takes the money for the hour and when one put the details of when the parking is finished the app refunds the money back after 48 hours. In the long run this system will not be suitable. Because if we are parking on a Friday, we would not get our money back until the next opening day.

21.194 PROPERTIES

Cllr Mrs M. Davies asked if the tenders for the library roof could be agreed tonight. The acting Chair asked that this matter be deferred to the next meeting of the Council when there would be more councillors present, so as not to take advantage of low numbers. Cllr Mrs M. Davies said she was happy to do this.

Cllr Larcombe reported he had been asked to look at the water heating system in the changing rooms. 1 heater was working but 2 were not as the thermostats had melted. The emersion heaters are 6 KW and the thermostats are only 3KW. Cllr Davies advised she is getting quotes to get these replaced and the system fixed and will check out the Kilo Watts. She stated that one of the water tanks may need replacing at the end of the football season.

21.195 GROUNDS

Cllr Thompson had circulated his report and asked if anyone had any questions.

Perimeter Edge to Village Greens, The Clerk had prepared 3 options for the previous meeting and explained that option 2 showed a single line of granite setts to the rear of the gravel.

Following discussion, it was **PROPOSED** by Cllr I Thompson and **SECONDED** by Cllr D Loveridge to get quotes for option 2 and split the quote into areas so the work can be phased.

ALL IN FAVOUR

21.196 HIGHWAYS/GENERAL PURPOSES

Cllr Thompson advised that Cllr Mrs. M. Fitzgerald had put together a list of issues which need attention with the intention to pass this onto Cllr's Bicknell and Buckley tonight, but since they have apologised and the rest of the members are not here, he would share the list in due course.

21.197 FLOOD AND DRAINAGE

Cllr Thompson's report was circulated, the Borough is engaging an engineer to oversee projects in Datchet, but we need them to report back to DPC. There were talks about a circular from the Conservative Party, talking about the BLP but nothing relevant to flood protection was mentioned, which is a clear issue to the three Parishes. Cllr Thompson asked Cllr Larcombe to take it up at Borough level. Cllr E. Larcombe stated the Borough had agreed 80 homes on London Road, and 124 in Horton Road but had not promised improvements to land drainage and infrastructure. They cannot even look after their existing ditches.

Cllr Thompson stated that 2 developments in Datchet had been turned down due to incorrect assessment of the water heights on the 1 in 100 years flood event and asked why has this not been looked into again in relation to new information from the EA. He asked Cllr Larcombe to look into this.

21.198 WORKING GROUP REPORT None

21.199 NOTICE OF THINGS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

- Library roof tenders to be reviewed
- Quotes for village perimeter edges
- Play area refurbishment quotes

21.200 COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

Cllr Mrs. M. Davies asked Cllr Thompson when will the fence at Cemetery Lodge be fixed? He advised instead of wooden posts; we are looking for steel posts. Once the gate is repaired, which will take about 4 to 6 weeks, the fence can be repaired. The Clerk advised that once the work is complete the tenant needs to be advised to park within the curtilage of the lodge and not in the cemetery grounds.

21.201 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Cllr E. Larcombe invited the Chairman of Datchet Neighbourhood Plan to speak about the

DNP. She advised she has been delivering leaflets regarding the consultation, and letters had been sent to Councillors inviting them to attend the drop-in session and comment on the local plan. There was also an article in The Link magazine.

A resident asked if Ellis Journey could come back onto the central green. Cllr Thompson said the problem is with the Borough, and the Organisers require the event to be on The Cut, it is their requirement not DPC's.

The resident then asked about the insulation of the library roof. He mentioned as energy costs are going up, is the library roof being insulated? Cllr Mrs. M. Davies said that insulation will be going in after the roof is done.

Cllr M. Davies mentioned that Cllr Bacon was looking into solar energy and was doing a report. However, he stopped because the storage batteries were too expensive, however she said that this should be for the council to decide further.

She also mentioned we are doing everything possible to make all DPC properties complaint with the new regulation which are coming in.

The resident offered to assist with information on new technology re energy and emersion heaters, and was happy to send information to Cllr Mrs. M. Davies.

The meeting closed 20:41pm

THE NEXT FULL COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD 11th APRIL 2022

CHAIRMAN