

Datchet Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, ON MONDAY 11th April 2022 AT 19:10

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

There were 2 members of the public present.

21.202 ANNOUNCEMENT – The Clerk announced that the meeting tonight would not be recorded. Cllr. Larcombe had tried several times and could not find the problem. The Chairman passed on the Council's condolences to Cllr. Cannon for the recent loss of his mother.

21.203 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – The Chairman of the Datchet Neighbourhood Plan Group asked if any councillors were intending to respond to the consultation. The Chairman said she hoped they would but could not speak on their behalf.

21.204 DECLARATION OF INTEREST – None

21.205 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON 11TH APRIL 2022
All AGREED as true record and signed by the Chairman.

21.206 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MEETING

21.189 - The blue and yellow ribbons are in the office however no one has been able to put these up in support of the Ukraine yet.

21.193 - In the new Government Policy for bus services the Government is no longer funding RBWM for putting on any extra bus routes.

21.195 - Cllr. Thompson said the Village Green perimeter edging quotes will be coming in, along with quotes for the Recreational Ground paths. He also said temporary fencing had been put outside cemetery lodge driveway to shield it while waiting for repairs to the gate.

21.207 GENERAL

Chairmans report. (i) Review and discuss content for the Annual Parish Meeting on the 25th of April 2022. The Chairman said the APM is where Lead Members have the opportunity of speaking to the public about their Council activities over the past year, and where their questions can be answered. There will be a presentation from Alison Crampin regarding Datchet Neighbourhood Plan and possibly time to consider the need for co-option to bring the number of Council members up to our allocated fifteen.

Clerks report. The Clerk advised that after a poor response from local growers and nurseries she has found a new supplier for the council's bedding requirements. Davies Brothers of Burnham. They have been given the plans for the summer displays and are sourcing the plants. It is proposed to plant out 1 week earlier than normal so that plants are in for the Jubilee week. She also updated members regarding the hanging basket and asked if the council wanted to place the same order as last year. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk checks the numbers and gets an order raised for these.

21.208 THE QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE

Examples of party bags were passed around and shown to everyone. Cllr. Mrs. M. Davies ran through the list of activities which will be taking place on the day. The clerk advised publicity needs to go out to inform residents about the Party Bags for resident children, ages 5- 11.

Councillors Questions'

Cllr. I. Bacon asked if the Football Club were running the bar and if so, were they keeping the profits. Cllr. Mrs. M. Davies replied yes, and she was not sure if they were allowed to share any profit with the Council. Cllr. I Bacon asked what the Royal Stag P. H. thought about this. The Clerk advised that The Stag were being asked to stay open for the Beacon Event on the 2nd June to sell refreshments, as this was in the village centre, and the Football Club were being asked to run the bar for the picnic event on the Rec. on the 4th June.

The Clerk raised an idea, in the past for the Queens 90th Birthday we arranged an event titled "Clean for the Queen" where volunteers helped pick up litter and clean around the Village. The Council could arrange for something similar this time and ask the local scouts, brownies and local businesses to help clean the white posts in the village and riverside. Cllr. Thompson said by May he was hoping to have the new RTV which could do this work in half a day.

21.209 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

To approve the income and expenditure sheets. It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr. Mrs. L. O’Flynn, **SECONDED** by Cllr I. Thompson and **AGREED BY ALL** that the sheets be approved.

Update on the Renewal of the Energy Contract.

The Clerk advised the along with the Lead Member for finance they had negotiated a new 24-month term for electricity with SSE, through Utility Aid, who are an affiliated partner with NALC. The new cost is £12,624.67 per annum which is an increase of £7,243.09.

She also advised that the first half of the Precept had been paid in the sum of £72,265.50.

21.210 PLANNING

App no: 22/00643 232 Horton Road Datchet SL3 9HL

Datchet Parish Council has **OBJECTION** to this application.

App no: 22/00268 3 Montrose Avenue Datchet SL3 9NH

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

App no: 22/00656 1 Eton Close SL3

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

App no: 22/00646 11 Agar Place Datchet SL3 9AH

Datchet Parish Council has issued **OBJECTION** to this application.

- **Borough Local Plan Policy NR1 and revision of F1 Appendix 1** (Cllr Larcombe)

Cllr Larcombe advised that at the last cabinet meeting Policy F1, which states 30 sqm maximum for new development on the flood plain, was done away with and no details are in the new BLP. He had complained about this and taken a “call for action” Cllr. Mrs. M. Davies asked if there was any size to the new measurements. Cllr. Larcombe confirmed that there is not. Cllr I. Thompson expressed his concerns for having no guidelines to the planning especially as Datchet is in the Flood Zone. Cllr. Larcombe suggested the council bring it up at the next Flood Liaison meeting. The Clerk should write and ask them what will replace Policy F1, as without it this could mean properties on the flood plain could have an extension of 8m deep by the total width of the property (80sqm).

21.211 WARD COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr. Larcombe updated everyone on the frontage of Tesco in that it is appalling, there is no grass, but all mud. The Clerk should bring this to their attention.

Cllr. Larcombe said there was no update on the historical child abuse issue.

21.212 PROPERTIES

Cllr. Mrs. M. Davies report was circulated and the library roof was discussed. She said we are in the same position as at the last meeting. She said her recommendation was for company A. After discussions it was decided to bring this back to the next meeting to allow for further background checks on company B, then a recommendation could be made.

To receive an update from Assistant Clerk regarding valuations of the properties

The Assistant Clerk had all the valuations done of the properties owned by DPC. She advised the prices have significantly gone up compared to the last time the valuation was done which was back in 1996. The total now is £5, 621,000.000 whereas the previous valuation was £2, 562,937.000.

Councillors’ questions

Cllr. Larcombe updated the members regarding the emersion heating in the changing rooms and stated that this had been fixed. Having looked at the meter readings it looked like these had been left on for weeks at a time which has been part of the problem. He advised the council to fit an electronic timer, outside the unit, which can be set and activated by a finger press. This would switch off the water 2 hours after being activated and would make significant savings.

21.213 GROUNDS

Cllr. I. Thompson had circulated his report and no questions were asked.

- **Quotes received for the improvement of the perimeter edge to Jubilee Green as phase one of the works.**

Cllr. Thompson had spoken to two contractors but when he asked for the company details and performance they did not come back to him. The Clerk suggested they sit down after the Easter Break to put documents together for obtaining three quotes.

- **To consider the quotes and designs received for the replacement of play equipment items and agree the way forward.**

On the 31st of January the Clerk wrote to 6 play companies to invite them to quote for the replacement of 4 items of play equipment that have either become beyond repair, obsolete, so that spare parts can no longer be sourced or have been removed due to vandalism (2 springers). Five companies came out to visit the play areas and four have responded with design and quotes as on display at the meeting. £17,000.00 was put in the 2022/23 budget as a ball park figure, and the quotes have come back as follows: -

- 1- Play dale £20,612.60
- 2- Proludic three options: £20,000 - £21,398.47 - £28,656.47
- 3- Sutcliffe Leisure £30,121.65
- 4- Sovereign Play £29,697.40
- 5- Kompan not received at the time of writing

It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr. Mrs. L. O' Flynn, and **SECONDED** by Cllr Mrs. M. Davies that the Clerk and the Lead Member for Grounds be given delegated powers to place an order with the company offering the best value for money in terms of the equipment and activities provided. The extra monies to come from what is left in the 106 funds. **ALL IN FAVOUR.**

- **To receive a report from the Clerk on the quote received to survey the parish owned trees in summer this year, and agree the way forward.**

The clerk advised that a quote for the tree survey work, required for insurance purposes, for all of the council sites had been received.

Group 1- the Cut, the cemetery and the riverside- 65 trees, 2 groups and 2 hedges. Survey and Prepare the reports with tress schedule and tree location plan £1,525 plus VAT O. S. Master map plans, £56.00 plus VAT.

Group2- Recreation Ground, Sabatini land, green lane and Surgery car park – 98 trees and 2 groups. Survey and prepare the reports with tree schedule and tree location plan £2,335.00 plus, vat. O.S Mastermap plans, £161.00 plus vat.

Grand total £4,077.00

She advised that there is £4,000 in the budget for this work but it will also have to cover for the specialist survey on the Major Oak towards the end of the year. The recommendation is to stick with tree survey.com as they know our trees and have all the paper work on them from the past 5/6 years. The Council could seek another quote but it would mean a lot of extra work showing another company around all the sites and passing over previous reports.

It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr. Mrs. M Davies, **SECONDED** by Cllr. I. Bacon and **AGREED** that Standing Orders be suspended and the Clerk authorised to place an order with Tree Survey.com. for this work. **ALL IN FAVOUR.**

- **To consider the quote received for string lights on the Riverside frontage for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and beyond.**

The Clerk and Cllr. I. Thompson had met with the Council's provider of seasonal lighting, Lamps and Tubes, at Datchet Riverside to discuss the option of getting string lighting installed in time for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The lights will run in zig zag pattern between the lines of Horse Chestnut trees They will be golf ball type, 1w, in a warm white colour at 0.5mt spacing. All power will come from the local lamp column via a new high-level weather-proof socket controlled via a safety RCBO and there will be a digital timeclock in the base of the column so that the switching on and off time can be set. Total project price is £3295.20 + vat.

It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr. I. Thompson, **SECONDED** by Cllr. I. Bacon and **AGREED** that this installation proceeds as soon as possible so that it will be proven and tested in time for the Jubilee the above. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

- **To consider and agree the Cemetery fees and charges for the period of 01-4-22 to 31-3-23 note DPC figures have not changed since 2018.**

The Finance Assistants report was circulated regarding the new scale of charges, worked out to be in line with other, neighbouring authorities. Following discussions, it was **PROPOSED** by Cllr. Larcombe, **SECONDED** by Cllr. Mrs. L O' Flynn and **AGREED** that the new fees as in the report be adopted. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

Councillors Questions

Cllr. I. Thompson advised the chains on the river front are completed. The bases of the bins are going in next week. The Queen's Birthday is on the 21st April and we will fly the Jubilee flag from then until the Jubilee, apart from St Georges day.

Cllr Larcombe said that the new oak trees needed watering, and he was concerned about the amount of weed killer used around the greens. Also, that the quad bikes had been back out on the Rec. He informed Council of the new concrete Man Hole cover on Memorial Green and asked if permission had been given for this. Cllr. Thompson to investigate.

21.214 HIGHWAYS AND GENERAL PURPOSES No report

Ownership of Penn Road garages, Datchet. Fly tipping

Cllr. Larcombe advised that he had asked the Clerk to get the names of the owners of the garages from Land Registry. Once he had these details, he will speak to them himself to resolve this fly tipping matter.

It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr. Larcombe and **SECONDED** by Cllr. Mrs. L. O’Flynn for the Clerk to get the details of all the garages owners from Land Registry. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS

Cllr Thompson said there was a list of items created by Cllr. Mrs. M. Fitzgerald regarding highways and they still have not been discussed. He said something needs to be done and the Clerk advised these should be discuss at the Working Group meeting.

21.215 FLOOD AND DRAINAGE

Cllr I. Thompsons report was circulated and he asked if anyone had any questions. There were none. He advised of contact from Scott Salmon at the E.A. reference SSE grant application and he had spoken with Jane Dawson at Old Windsor P. C. In the past DPC were awarded £12,000 through this grant, some of which was used for a professional survey of the Rec. Ditch and Common Brook. He asked for ideas as to what else the council could apply for. Cllr Thompson said he is meeting Mr Ben Crampin, who is a new employee at RBWM, for flooding issues. He will bring DPC up to date with the Barrel Arch, Common Brook and Rec Ditch.

COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS

Cllr. Mrs. L. O’Flynn asked if there was any guidance as to what sort of project the SSE grant is for. Cllr. Thompson said mainly flooding but the project to re-profile and lower the water level in the Rec. Ditch may be applicable as it would assist flood levels.

21.216 To receive reports from Working Groups and consider any recommendations. None

21.217 Notice of any items required for the next Council meeting for full discussion.

The library roof tenders need to be discussed again.

21.218 Councillors questions or comments

Cllr Larcombe advised that the Liquid Leisure Planning Inquiry was cancelled as the inspector had caught COVID. The BLP has received a “letter before action” from the solicitors of the group who wants a judicial review.

21.219 Public Questions None

THE CHAIR MOVED TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING

THIS PART OF THE MEETING CLOSED AT 21:02PM

THE NEXT FULL COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THE 9TH MAY 2022

CHAIRMAN

Distribution: All Councillors, Datchet Parish Council Website

KJ.JHJ.DPC.11.04.22