

Datchet Parish Council

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

NOTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, ALLEN WAY, ON MONDAY 25th APRIL 2022 AT 7.10PM

Present: Cllr. Mrs. L. O'Flynn, (Chairman) Cllr. Mrs. M. Davies, Cllr. D. Buckley
In the Public: Cllr. E. Larcombe, Cllr. Mrs. M. Fitzgerald, Cllr. I. Bacon.
The Clerk Mrs. K. Jones, and Assistant Clerk Ms. J. H. Jilani
There were 8 members of the public present, including the Guest Speakers for the Datchet Neighbourhood Plan Group.

APM/1 INTRODUCTION

The Chairman, Cllr. Mrs. L. O Flynn, welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that this meeting is for the Lead Members to report on what work has been carried out during the last year and to give members of the public the chance to ask questions. She also welcomed the guest speaker, The Chairman of the Datchet Neighbourhood Plan Group. (DNPG)

APM/2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. I. Thompson, Cllr. A. Clemens, Cllr. T. O Flynn, Cllr. Mrs. P. B Taylor, and Cllr D. Loveridge

APM/3 TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION BY DATCHET NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN GROUP

The Chairman of DNPG, Alison Crampin, showed the presentation on the Neighbourhood Plan, including why we need a plan, the benefits of having a plan, how it has been developed and how the group have used the information collected. She advised that it would be good if the Parish Council would spread the word about the plan and current consultation and support the group. She asked if anyone had any questions.

Cllr I. Bacon asked how long will it take the different regulations to go through?

Chairman of the DNPG said it entirely depends if the plan needs a Strategic Environmental assessment (SEA) or a habitat assessment. The DNPG will work with advisors to see what amendments are required, then hopefully the plan will be ratified and sent to RBWM who then take over. She felt that the referendum on the plan is around six months away. She asked if DPC councillors' were going to respond?

Cllr. D. Buckley advised that he will cover this in his planning report later on tonight. He said all councillors are aware of the Neighbourhood Plan and have been asked to respond on numerous occasions.

A member of public asked for clarification on the Neighbourhood Plan in that it has been done by a group of volunteers, but at the end of the day it does not go anywhere unless it is ratified by the Parish Council and the Council support it. He was advised that this was correct.

The Chairman of the DNPG said that councillors can support the plan by coming to the drop-in sessions, spreading the word to parishioners, commenting on the context, and promoting the plan especially in relation to highways and footpaths. She said that chapter 10 of the plan contained a lot of issues that people had raised which are not covered by the plan itself but which the Parish Council could look at and take forward.

APM/4 NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 29TH OF APRIL 2021 FOR INFORMATION ONLY.

APM/5 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Chairman Cllr. Mrs. L. O'Flynn read out her report. A copy is available from the office.

APM/6 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCIL LEAD/DEPUTY MEMBERS

The Chairman advised that Cllr. T. O’Flynn was ill and as such there was no report from him on Finance and Administration.

She was asked to read out Cllr. Thompsons report on Grounds and Flooding because he was not available to make the meeting. A copy of these is available from the office.

Cllr. Mrs. M. Davies read out her report on Properties. A copy is available from the office.

Cllr. Clemens was also not able to make the meeting, and as such there was no report on Events.

On being asked, the Chairman allowed the public to ask questions on the reports just given.

Public Questions Grounds:

A member of public asked regarding the Council’s major projects which appeared to be proceeding despite several things having not been discussed at Council meetings. The Chairman responded that the Council is waiting for more information and it can not make any decisions until information is put forward.

Cllr. D. Buckley read out his report on Planning. A copy is available from the office.

Cllr. Mrs. M. Davies made a comment that she would would like to see the Parish Councillor’s get extra powers to make their own decisions as she felt the council had no support from the Borough. Cllr. Buckley said Cllr. Larcombe is very active, however could not comment on the others as we do not get any support from them.

Public Questions on Planning

A member of public said they believed the Borough has a requirement for 14,000 new houses and where will they be putting them?

Public Questions on Properties

A member of public asked a question regarding the library roof. Why did the whole roof need to be fixed? He advised that an independent surveyor should be asked to do a survey of the roof to see exactly what works are required.

APM/7 REPORTS OF THE BOROUGH COUNCILLORS (CLLRS LARCOMBE, MUIR AND CANNON)

Cllr. Larcombe’s report was shared at the meeting and a copy is available in the office.

A member of public asked if Cllr. Larcombe had a date for the new Planning Hearing for Liquid Leisure. He advised it will now be held on the 8th of November.

APM/8 PUBLIC QUESTION

A member of the public stated that back in 2000, when she was the Chairman, she with another member of public arranged for the Beating of the Bounds which should be done every 25 years. She asked, can DPC please start considering this as they will need land owners’ permission.

Another member of public felt that there had been no proper promotion of the Annual Parish Meeting, and why was no preparation done for this? Only one councillor had submitted his reports in advance. Also, the monthly Council meetings always start late and the attendance is always low.

The Meeting Closed at 21:00

----- CHAIRMAN