

Datchet Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM, ON MONDAY 13th July 2020, AT 7.35PM

Present: Cllrs Mrs. L. O’Flynn (Chairman) T. O’Flynn, I. Thompson, E. Larcombe, D. Loveridge, I. Bacon, A. Corcoran, D. Buckley, A. Clemens, P. Bicknell, and P Hough.
Borough Councillors D. Cannon and G Muir
The Clerk Mrs K. Jones

Apologies: Cllrs Mrs P. Barnes-Taylor and Mrs M. Davies.

There were 7 members of the public present.

20.001. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

20.002. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- A representative of the Village Society asked for an update on the Datchet Milestone and the Cemetery Chapel stone repairs. The Clerk advised that stonemason had not been able to secure the stone to repair the base of the milestone as the quarry have a backlog due to the Covid situation. Cllr Hough asked if there was a timescale and was advised that it all depended on the quarry. Cllr Thompson advised that the council was still waiting for a price for the stone repairs at the Chapel and this had all stopped due to Covid.
- A resident asked if the council had sent a response to the Appeal against the enforcement order on the land adjacent to Mill Place and if so what was said. Cllr Buckley confirmed that the council had responded and had asked for clarification on the site area as it was not clear on the documents and needed more information before it could make a decision.
- A resident asked if the council were aware of the recent anti-social behavior at The Stag P.H. and how could the problems be tackled. The Chairman confirmed that the council were aware and Borough Councilor D. Cannon explained that this is a licensing matter and an issue for the police, not the Parish Council. Cllr Bacon said it was a wider ‘Datchet’ problem with anti-social behavior in the car parks, the Doctors surgery undercroft, the Recreation Ground, not just the Pub. He asked what the police are doing about the bigger problem. The Chairman said she would raise the concerns through the Neighbourhood Action Group. Cllr Corcoran offered to help to get the NAG up and running again to action these problems. He was informed that the group already exists and covers all three villages. The Chairman will contact to arrange a meeting as soon as possible.

20.003. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS - None

20.004. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9TH MARCH 2020

The minutes were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. **All in Favour**

20.005. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MINUTES

Page 40 Minute 19.160 The clerk advised that the PINs Inspector’s office had responded to this matter stating – *“The drafting error was on page 17 of the decision letter and relates to the list of appearances at the appeal Hearing. Cllr Ian Thompson was incorrectly recorded as appearing for the appellant. Cllr Thompson is now correctly listed as speaking on behalf of Datchet Parish Council.”*

20.006. GENERAL

- Chairman’s Report;** The Chairman advised that due to the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown a lot of activity had been held and it had been a matter of just keeping things ticking over. Property and Grounds work had been held up as the supply chain for goods/materials had been affected.
- Clerks Report;** The Clerk read out her report on the decisions made under delegated powers from the 10/03/20 to 12/07/20, during which the Council was not allowed to meet due to Government Guidance on the Covid-19 pandemic. (report to be attached to these minutes) Subject to questions asked and answers given, **MEMBERS AGREED to RATIFY the decisions made.**

iii. **Covid-19 Community Emergency Fund;** Following discussion on this item in the clerks report above it was **AGREED** to leave the £10,000 funding in place until after Christmas 2020 as it was too early to assess where needs are. Cllr Bacon also advised that the working group on Standing Orders was looking into the Council's ability to give monies to charities and this may well change.

iv. **Correspondence** – None.

20.007. Finance & Administration

- i. **Lead Councillor's Report (Cllr T O'Flynn)** The Lead member thanked the deputy, Cllr Hough, for an excellent job on the excel budget spread sheet, and asked if there were any questions. Cllr. Bacon had an observation in that the expenditure over income came to negative £223,857 and taking this off the £357,000 available at the beginning of the year would mean the carry-over to 21/22 was only of £123,000. He felt that this years' budget needed to be looked at again as, in his opinion, it is unsustainable especially as the council would not be getting the same amount if 106 monies as previously. Cllr Buckley advised that this was because there was a lot of one off expenditure catching up with old projects that had be carried forward and that the amount of CIL / 106 monies will change. The Clerk advised that when Council agreed to the 20/21 budget it was with the knowledge that it was using this money held in the accounts instead of putting the Precept up. Cllr. Hough advised that the issue is the projects that have sat around and not been started, moving forward to 22/23 then the over-spend is down. He recommended a review of the budget over the next 6 weeks to report back in late August / early September. He will email all Lead Members to ask them to review their budgets for a report by the end of the second quarter. *Cllr. Hough*
- ii. **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 Bacon and **RESOLVED** that the income and payment sheets be approved *ALL IN FAVOUR*
- iii. **To note and approve the Year End Accounts 2019/2020;** The Lead member for Finance presented the Year End Accounts which had been previously circulated by the Clerk. No questions were asked. It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr O'Flynn, **SECONDED** by Cllr Hough and **RESOLVED** that the Year End Accounts be approved. *ALL IN FAVOUR*
- iv. **To note and approve the Internal Auditors report;** The Clerk asked if there were any questions on the report which she had previously circulated. She raised the recommendation that the Council should formally request the DRCCT arrange for an audit of their accounts to support their annual return to the Charity Commission. Cllr Larcombe confirmed that the DRCCT had this in hand. It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr O'Flynn, **SECONDED** by Cllr Hough and **RESOLVED** that the Internal Auditors report be **APPROVED** and the recommendations noted. *ALL IN FAVOUR*
- v. **To note and Approve the Annual Return Documents (AGAR) including;**
 - a. **The Annual Government Statement;** The Clerk asked if there were any questions on the statement which she had previously circulated. There were none. It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr O'Flynn, **SECONDED** by Cllr Bacon and **RESOLVED** that the Annual Government Statement be **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.
 - b. **The Accounting Statements;** The Clerk asked if there were any questions on the statements which she had previously circulated. There were none. It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr O'Flynn, **SECONDED** by Cllr Hough and **RESOLVED** that the Accounting Statements be **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

20.008. Borough Councillor's Report - Cllr. D Cannon reported the following;

- TVP have a new Inspector and Sargent for the area with a new P.C starting soon. Names to be confirmed. He has met with them and raised local ASB issues, including the situation at the Stag P.H.
- The homeless people housed at the Manor Hotel during the pandemic have been re-homed in Slough.
- Licencing application received from the new food store – Harveys Food and Wine.
- RBWM returning to weekly bin collections by mid-August.

- Looking at the situation regarding the household tip sites as it is a 28 mile round journey to Stafferton way in Maidenhead.
- LFF meetings to be resurrected on Zoom
- Works to clean and repair the Datchet Barrel Arch works will commence on 27th July with road closures at the rear of the Green to allow access to the contractor.
- Looking at communal CCTV with Wraysbury at the top of Welley Road. DPC should be getting a request to part fund a camera and links to RBWM central control total cost £30,000.
- Libraries closed due to Covid and if we want to keep the resource may have to give a rent rebate.
- Youth Provision, Family targeted consultation is out now as to retention/improvement of the service.
- CIPFA report – the section 151 officers comments were that the borough is in a better position now than it was expected to be in and have set the 20/21 budget.

Councillors' Questions.

Cllr. T O'Flynn asked why Datchet Library is the most expensive in the Borough. Rates to be confirmed. Cllr. Hough asked what the policy was in relation to cycle paths in Datchet. Cllr Cannon said there was a Borough plan for urban areas and would look it this for Datchet.

Cllr. Larcombe asked regarding the RTS, and Cllr. Cannon explained that RBWM had committed £10 million and the other £43 million needs to be raised, and the Government need to set up a Flood Levey to raise this. Still lobbying for legislation.

20.009. Planning

i. **To consider new applications** listed on the planning addendum and note planning decisions.

The Deputy Lead Member, Cllr. Buckley, explained that he had taken over the Lead from Cllr. Mrs Barnes-Taylor who was shielding due to the Corona pandemic but who was still very much involved and informed on planning matters. He asked members if they had any further comments on his report which had been previously circulated. Apart from 1 member against the recommendation for application 20/01526, **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 20/01526 – 50 Ditton Road, Datchet. Datchet parish council have **NO OBJECTION** to this application but noted local points.

Application 20/01425 – Ditton Park Cottage, Ditton Park Road, Datchet. Datchet parish council have **NO OBJECTION** or comment to this application.

Application 20/01405 – 99 Ditton Road, Datchet. Datchet parish council would have **NO OBJECTION** to this application but added notes ref flood zone concerns.

Application 20/01341 – 115 Horton Road, Datchet. Datchet parish council would like to issue an **OBJECTION** to this application for the following local points: The plans of this property are misleading. All rear garden area should be kept as open ground and not hard standing to support natural drainage. The plans are not clear that this property sits within flood zone 3. Plans are very vague as to the accuracy of the footprint and the location of windows amongst other detail. We feel new plans with more accuracy and detail should be supplied.

Application 20/00662–4a Horton Road, Datchet. Datchet parish council would like to issue an **OBJECTION** to this application for the following local points: This property sits within flood zone 3 and floods regularly. It should not be approved to increase hard standing or building footprint on this basis. The required number of neighbours being notified is inadequate and therefore consultation limits have not been met as part of the planning process. This property can be seen within the Conservation area and materials and design should match existing properties in the surrounding Conservation area.

Application 20/01314–10 Horton Road, Datchet. Datchet parish council would like to issue an **OBJECTION** to this application for the following local points: This application is in flood zone 3 and prone to flooding. Any additional footprint would reduce drainage and increase risk of flooding to this property and others. The building is in the Conservation area and can be seen from the road and also from the side elevation. Materials and plans have not taken into consideration of the need to keep the

property in keeping with the precedents of the buildings in the surrounding area. The building of the existing building was without planning permission enforcement notice 20/50112/ENF. Therefore, we feel planning should be refused until this enforcement notice has been decided upon. Additionally we feel the neighbour notification should be expanded further to take into consideration all neighbours.

Application 20/01255 – 58 Ruscombe Gardens, Datchet. Datchet parish council would like to issue **NO OBJECTION** to this application but noted local points:

Application 20/01311 Hardware House, the Green, Datchet. Datchet parish council would like to issue **NO OBJECTION** to this application but noted local points:

20.010. Grounds.

- ii. **Lead Councillor’s Report (Cllr D. Loveridge)** The Lead Member explained of the difficulties he had personally undergone due to Covid 19 and **PROPOSED** that the Deputy for Grounds, Cllr. Thompson, swap roles with him and take the lead especially since Cllr. Thompson had done most of the work over the last 2 months. He also **PROPOSED** that Cllr. Clemens come on board to help Cllr Thompson with the Recreation Ground and Football. **AGREED**
Cllr Thompson asked for any questions on his grounds report that had been previously circulated. There were none. He thanked Cllr Cannon and RBWM for arranging for the works to the Barrel Arch but stated that this is only half of the flood alleviation system, the other half being the Recreation Ground Ditch Project which is waiting for approval by Council.
- iii. **To note and approve the Risk Assessment for the re-opening of the children’s play areas and outdoor gym and agree any necessary action.** The Clerk asked if anyone had any questions on the document which she had prepared and circulated prior to the meeting. There were none. It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr O’Flynn, **SECONDED** by Cllr Loveridge and **RESOLVED** that Risk Assessment for the re-opening of the children’s play areas and outdoor gym be **APPROVED - ALL IN FAVOUR**
- iv. **Councillors’ Questions.** Cllr Buckley said he was willing to help and support on the Riverside if needs be. Cllr. Hough asked on progress on the Village Green edging treatment and was advised it had come to a halt due to Covid.

20.011. Properties

- i. **Lead Councillor’s Report (Cllr Mrs. M. Davies)** In the absence of the Lead Member the Deputy asked for any questions on the report that had been previously circulated. He said works were proceeding at The Bridge Café with plastering work inside and rendering outside.
- ii. **Councillors’ Questions.** Cllr Corcoran asked if the stone mason was looking at the coping stones around the Chapel to chase out and re-seal. Cllr Thompson advised that the stonemason would look at the cracked coping stone and the stone cross when he was available and quote for the repairs. He was not of the opinion that all the coping stones needed chasing out and repointing. Cllr. Hough said that council needed a more detailed explanation of the works being carried out at the Bridge Café and asked when they could re-open. Cllr Thompson said he had done a drawing of the works which were being carried out and would circulate and invited councillor’s down to the building to view what was being done.

20.012. Highways

- i. **Lead Councillor’s Report (Cllr Mrs. M. Fitzgerald)** In the absence of the Lead Member the Deputy said he would call her and see if there were any issues he could bring back to Council.
- ii. **Councillors’ Questions.** Cllr. Thompson said that the new raised pedestrian crossing was causing a lot of vibration which was affecting the adjacent buildings and ask the ward councilors to take this up with the Borough.
Cllr. Cannon to chase up

20.013. Flooding

- i. **Lead Councillor’s Report (Cllr I. Thompson)** The lead member said he will be talking to Cllr. Larcombe regarding the Boroughs report on the River Thames Scheme to get clarity. Cllr. Cannon stated that there was no lack of clarity or misunderstanding on the issue, see his earlier report.

20.014. Events

- ii. **Lead Councillor's Report (Cllr A. Corcoran)** Two reports had been sent out prior to the meeting on Events and the Environmental Awareness group and it was hoped things could progress soon.
- iii. **Councillors' Questions.** Cllr. Hough asked about alternative energy sources and Cllr. Corcoran said he was still awaiting information on usage from the Hall and other buildings.

20.015. To receive reports from Working Groups. The Chairman advised that the Standing Orders Working Group was very near the end now and need one more meeting to finalise the draft which would then be put out to all councilors for comments.

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

- 1. Cllr. Hough - The role that DPC plays in the governance and management of the DRCCT so members can understand their part. The clerk suggested that the steering group could issue a synopsis. Cllr Thompson said that Cllr, Mrs Davies had already done this and he would ask her to re-issue.
- 2. Cllr. Hough – Re opening of Parish office and steps required to do this safely.
- 3. Cllr Buckley - List of current working groups be reviewed

20.017. Councillors' Questions & Comments – None

20.018. Public Question Time. A resident requested a copy of the AGAR forms and the Clerk advised that in once these had been completed and sent off to the external auditor, they would be available to view on the DPC web site under the normal Notice of Public Rights.

MEETING CLOSED AT 21:42

**THE NEXT FULL COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD 10TH AUGUST 2020
VIRTUALLY BY ZOOM**

CHAIRMAN

Distribution:
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