

DALLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Dallington Parish Council Meeting held on 19th November 2019

Present

Councillors N. Holyoake (Chairman), N. Harding,
J. Gray, P. Ridley
Mrs. I. Marchant (Parish Clerk/RFO)
County Councillor J. Barnes
District Councillor G. Curtis
Members of the public

1. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Councillor Ridley declared a possible personal interest in item 9 on the agenda, as she is a member of the Dallington Village Hall Committee. This declaration of a personal interest will only be used if the Members decide to consider Dallington Village Hall as a recipient of this donation.

2. COUNCILLOR VACANCY

RESOLVED – to co-opt Nick Harding as a Member of Dallington Parish Council. The Chairman proposed and Councillor Gray seconded, the voting was by show of hands and unanimous. DPC are delighted to welcome him aboard. Councillor Harding signed the Declaration of Office, which was countersigned by the Clerk as Proper Officer.

3. DISPENSATIONS

None requested.

4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Miers.

5. ACCURACY OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLVED – that the draft minutes of the meetings held on 17.09.19 and 15.10.19 (planning) be confirmed as being an accurate record of the proceedings. Councillor Ridley proposed and Councillor Gray seconded, the voting was unanimous. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

6. OPEN FORUM

6.1 County Council report (ESCC) – Councillor J. Barnes

- Things are quiet at the moment due to the forthcoming general election.
- Still waiting for Central Government information on finances – likely to be between £6.5-10M and will probably be invested in cost saving measures.
- We have heavily overspent on children's services.

6.2 District Council report (RDC) – Councillor G. Curtis

- RDC are also quiet due to the election.
- Parish Councils can now speak, by default, at planning committee meetings.
- Speedwatch is ongoing.

6.3 Village Hall report – Mrs. J. Jeremy

- We have been successful with our insurance claim for the storm damage to the roof.
- The extractor fans in the toilets are now fitted and working.
- There are some problems with the guttering, which is being investigated, we are also cleaning and checking the window in the billiard room.
- Sadly, Dallington W.I. is ceasing, but we hope a new village club will soon be up and running on Thursdays every month.

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- The Library/Café is still busy.
- 6.4 Chairman's report – unavailable, Councillor Miers sent her apologies.
- 6.5 Public Question Time
- A resident has serious concerns about the recent planning permission for logging entrances and exits in South Lane, she considers this is very dangerous and is surprised that planning permission was granted.
7. **DALLINGTON RECREATION GROUND**
- 7.1 **RESOLVED** – to accept the quotation from Jamie French Agricultural Contracting for repairs to the existing pedestrian gate at the pavilion entrance and a new gate at the Sugar Loaf exit, for the sum of £295.00 plus VAT at 59.00 – total sum £354.00. Councillor Ridley proposed and Councillor Harding seconded, the voting was unanimous.
- 7.2 Solstice Event 2019 (21.12.19)
- Food and drink arrangements for the Solstice event were finalised and Mr. Wilson is to light the beacon.
 - The Clerk will prepare a risk assessment. **ACTION – CLERK**
 - First Aid training for all events will be followed up by Councillor Ridley. **ACTION – COUNCILLOR RIDLEY**
- 7.3 A resident wishes to plant two oak saplings at the DRG. The Members did not see any problems with this.
8. **NEW FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**
- RESOLVED** – to adopt the new Financial Regulations (NALC Model Regulations) as presented by the Clerk. Councillor Gray proposed and Councillor Harding seconded, the voting was unanimous.
9. **DONATIONS**
- RESOLVED** – to donate £50.00 to Dallington Village Hall Committee, this amount is in lieu of DPC's internal audit fee, which Mr. Whines kindly declined to accept and asked that DPC donate this to a charity of their choice. Councillor Ridley had previously declared a personal interest and did not take part in the discussion or voting. Councillor Gray proposed and Councillor Harding seconded, the voting was unanimous.
10. **FINGERPOSTS**
- AGREED** – to accept the quotation from JAAK Signs for repairs to the fingerpost on the triangle outside "Quoins," for the sum of £532.80. The Clerk will contact ESCC for match-funding. **ACTION - CLERK**
11. **WASTE COLLECTION – GLAZIERS FORGE**
- Unfortunately, there is no further news on this issue.
 - The Members felt very strongly that there is no justification for the current situation, and it is totally unacceptable.
 - Councillor Curtis is to arrange a site meeting.
12. **MEETING DATES FOR COUNCIL YEAR 2020-21**
- AGREED** – to accept the DPC meeting dates for 2020-21 as presented by the Clerk.
13. **PLANNING**
- 13.1 Planning application for consideration
RR/2019/1926/P – Highlands Farmhouse
Conversion of barn to annexe and erection of workshop for personal use.
AGREED – to support this application.

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- 13.2 **AGREED** – Telegraph Point, an appeal has been made against the RDC decision to refuse to grant planning permission for application RR/2018/1880/P. DPC support RDC’s decision and the Clerk will write to the Planning Inspectorate confirming this. **ACTION – CLERK**
- 13.3 No other planning matters for discussion.
14. **ENFORCEMENT**
- 14.1 No Dallington items on RDC’s enforcement list.
- 14.2 No other enforcement matters for discussion.
15. **HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY**
- 15.1 Proposed safety improvements to B2096
- The Members strongly feel that a 50mph limit must be negotiated for Carricks Hill/Earlsdown. A petition was discussed.
 - Councillor Gray is to produce a report for the next DPC meeting.
- ACTION – COUNCILLOR GRAY**
- 15.2 Managing grassland verges The Clerk will contact ESCC Highways and find out exactly what their guidelines are and are they considering enrolment into Plantlife’s Managing Grassland Verges campaign. **ACTION - CLERK**
- 15.3 The Clerk will contact ESCC to arrange another SLR meeting towards the end of January 2020. **ACTION – CLERK**
- 15.4 The drains are blocked and there is flooding at the bottom of Carricks Hill/Earlsdown. The Clerk will contact ESCC Highways. **ACTION – CLERK**
16. **FINANCE**
- 16.1 Bank balances at 31.10.19
- | | |
|---------------------|------------|
| DPC deposit account | £16,432.62 |
| DPC current account | £2,213.19 |
| DRG current account | £1,116.77 |
- 16.2 **RESOLVED** – to approve the following payments. The Chairman proposed and Councillor Ridley seconded, the voting was unanimous.
- | | |
|--|----------------|
| MPC ACCOUNT | |
| Clerk – salary/home office (Oct/Nov19), expenses | 690.44 |
| RDC – election expenses for May 2019 | 118.35 |
| TOTAL | £808.79 |
| DRG ACCOUNT | |
| Jamie French – hedge cutting | £60.00 |
- 16.3 **RESOLVED** – to approve the second quarter accounts, as presented by the Clerk, at 30.09.19. The Chairman proposed and Councillor Gray seconded, the voting was unanimous.
- 16.4 **RESOLVED** – to approve the budget monitor and bank reconciliations at 31.10.19. Councillor Ridley proposed and Councillor Harding seconded, the voting was unanimous.
17. **DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS**
- 17.12.19 – Planning meeting
21.01.20 – Full Council meeting
Both to start at 7.00pm in Dallington Village Hall
18. **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**
- RESOLVED** – pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that the public and press be excluded from consideration of item 19 as it includes contract negotiation. Councillor Harding proposed and Councillor Gray seconded, the voting was unanimous.

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19. EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

Changes were made to the Clerk/RFO's salary and home office costs. It was agreed that these will be reviewed annually.

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