



Datchworth Parish Council

c/o Datchworth Village Hall

52 Datchworth Green,

Datchworth,

SG3 6TL

Tel : 07938743424

30th January 2024

Present: Cllrs Sara Miller, Dean Goodman, Charles Groves, Mark Light, Viv Marshall Emma Norman, and Pat Perry.

In attendance: 6 members of public

Minutes of Datchworth Parish Council Meeting

held on Tuesday 30th January 2024

Datchworth Church Hall at 7pm

PCM01/01 Apologies

Apologies for absence –Cllr Wood.

PCM01/02 Interests

- a. To receive declarations of interests from Councillors on items on the agenda

Cllr Goodman (Plough Car Park)

- b. To receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests

None

- c. To grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate

None

PCM24-01/03 Minutes

Resolved to confirm the minutes of PCM held on 28th November 2023 are a true and accurate record of proceedings and duly signed by the chairman Unanimous.

PCM24-01/04 Notice of Vacancy of office of Councillor.

- b. Interview and appoint a candidate for the casual vacancy.

Resolved that :-

- a. Michael Sims to be Co-opted as a Datchworth Parish Councillor,
- b. to serve on Finance, Planning and Recreation committees.
- c. Cllr Miller to step down from the recreation committee and join Comms committee.
- d. Cllr Light to become Chair of Finance

Unanimous

PCM24-01/05 Public Issues

TPO 298 has been cut back in error by East Herts District Council (Coltsfoot Lane)

Action: Cllr Groves to speak to Tony Stowe.

Praise received for Digital Inclusion session.

PCM24-01/06 Finance Cllr Light

- a. **Resolved** to approve payments in December 2023 and January 2024 Monthly Finance Report. Unanimous
- b. **Resolved** to approve Q3 budget 2023/24 Unanimous.
- c. **Resolved** that Cllr Light is responsible for bank reconciliation Unanimous.
- d. DPC rep for magazine Grants Committee (Cllr Marshall)
Resolved that Cllr Miller stands on the Magazine grant allocation committee Unanimous.
- e. Strength and Balance Future Funding
A kind offer from the floor was received during the discussion from the Village Hall committee that Hall Fees could be waived until 1st April until the grant decision is received in April '24. (subject to further approval from DVH Committee)

After discussion about the diversity of the group, waiting lists, available funding and the original intent of the class it was

Resolved that from the 9th February 2024 we ask the attendees to make a voluntary contribution of between £3-£5; if that covers the costs (excluding the hall) but doesn't cover paying the tutor, DPC will subsidise up to a max of £120 or until the £120 runs out.
Unanimous

PCM24-01/07 Planning (Cllr Goodman)

- a. Planning applications

Hawkins Hall 49 Watton Rd	No objection
35 Burnham Green Road	No objection Granted
33 Burnham Green Road	No objection
Land Adjacent 1 Coltsfoot Lane	Resubmission, subsequently withdrawn
Datchworth Sports Club	No objection Granted

Club Cottage change of use (5 Caravans)	No objection Granted
2 Bury Lane	No objection Granted
Harwood Park Crematorium	No objection Granted
Lodge Farm (main house into 4 dwellings)	No objection
Lodge Farm (4 new residential)	Objection raised

Resolved that Cllr Goodman to write to WHDC outlining DPC concerns about the Lodge Farm development for which there are 4 new houses proposed and that DPC were not consulted. Unanimous.

Action: Cllr Goodman to draft comments to the WHDC planning team

b. Coltsfoot Update

Resolved that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of agenda item 01/07 b. as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest due to confidential nature of the business to be transacted, namely, to discuss Heads of Terms for Coltsfoot easement. Unanimous

Public and Press Exclusion

Following an update from Cllr. Goodman, Councillors agreed to authorise the working group to discuss matters of a financial nature with the landowner and to discuss different approaches which may be available.

c. NHDC Local Plan

Resolved that:-

- I. DPC agree to become part of the discussion group of interested parties.
- II. DPC supports the broad initiative subject to further detail becoming available.
- III. DPC suggests the discussion group should press for the withdrawal of the current planning application for 200 new dwellings on site KB4 and that the submission of any new planning application should be discouraged until satisfactory access and highway arrangements have been integrated into any future development scheme. Unanimous

d. Welwyn Parish Council Neighbourhood Development Plan

Resolved that Cllr Goodman write specifically to support the policy 'T&T Policy no.2 Improve Road Safety with Through Traffic' which suggests alignment with the "20 is plenty" campaign for a legally enforceable 20mph zone to reduce vehicle speed and discourage rat-running through villages. Additionally, it is suggested that this particularly transportation issue could be something for DPC to consider/pursue in the future. Unanimous

PCM24-01/08 Governance and Legal

a. Plough Car Park Update (Cllr Florence)

Cllr Florence explained that a new planning application is required for the car park and DPC is progressing on with this.

b. Committee Structure review

See above.

PCM24-01/10 Environment

a. Turkey Farm (Cllr Groves)

Cllr Groves discussed the requirement to replace bollards in Turkey Farm car park to prevent further encroachment by vehicles onto the recreation facility.

Action Cllr Groves to investigate funding and options then report back with potential solutions.

b. Defibrillator Application (Cllr Miller)

Resolved that after the 'Turkey Farm signage' has been purchased the remaining trail monies be re-allocated to a defibrillator fund. Unanimous

PCM24-01/10 Recreation (Cllr Norman)

Nothing to report.

PCM24-01/11 Burnham Green Joint Management Committee

Update on BGJMC

a. Speed monitoring (see detail in link above)

b. Ascot railing adjacent to 108 Burnham Green Road

Action: Clerk to remove loose, broken rails

c. Burnham Green Noticeboard

Resolved that at extra £195 is to be paid towards extra installation costs. Unanimous.

Next Full meeting 8th May 2024

PCM24-01/12 Clerk Report

a. Datchworth Green Roman Road

The roman road maintenance is the responsibility of Green Barns

b. Speeding - Watton Road 20 mph

Action: Clerk to write to resident detailing our intention to support and discuss further '20 is plenty' campaign.

c. Footpath -Tree ownership

Action: Clerk to write to resident with details of the tree safety concern
(Herts Right of Way department).

d. Datchworth Green Easement

Completed.

e. Pond Flooding

The owner is not willing to commit to dredging at this stage.

f. Offer of Tree (Painters Green).

Cllr Norman to seek an alternative tree and Cllr Groves offered to nurture the small, donated oak.

Meeting Closed 21:12

Chair: Sara Miller _____

Date ___/___/___