



Datchworth Parish Council

c/o Datchworth Village Hall

52 Datchworth Green,

Datchworth,

SG3 6TL

Tel : 07938743424

27th February 2024

Present: Cllrs Sara Miller, Dean Goodman, Charles Groves, Mark Light, Emma Norman, Julia Florence, Michael Sims and Andrew Wood.

In attendance: Cllr Tony Stowe and 4 members of public

Minutes of Datchworth Parish Council Meeting

held on Tuesday 27th February 2024

Datchworth Church Hall at 7pm

PCM01/01 Apologies

Apologies for absence –Cllrs Marshall and Perry.

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 30th January 2024 are a true and accurate record of proceedings and duly signed by the chairman Unanimous.

PCM24-02/04 Public Issues

Cllr Stowe advised that if funding originally destined for the trail was to be diverted, permission should be sought from, and receipts sent to Simon Barfoot from East Herts District Council. He stated, after researching defibrillators were a suitable alternative.

The Datchworth Cricket club have requested DPC write to residents requesting repair of the Datchworth Green roman road.

Action Clerk write to owners of the three properties responsible for maintenance of the roman road.

PCM24-01/05 Planning (Cllr Goodman)

a. Planning applications

Hawkins Hall 49 Watton Rd	Approved - no objections
35 Burnham Green Road	Approved - no objections
Datchworth Village Shop Refurbishment	Awaiting Decision

Cllr Goodman led the discussion on the Datchworth stores refurbishment. The Planning committee were generally in favour, the main concern was compatibility of appearance rather than form or size of the new building. Agent to be contacted and await revised drawings prior to comment. Planning consultation period to be extended.

Action Clerk to write to East Herts requesting an extension to the consultation period.

b. Coltsfoot Update

A meeting between some members of the working group and the developer took place on 1st February 2024. No progress was made and it appears a stalemate exists. To protect the public interest, a formal offer has been tabled on 8th February 2024 without prejudice save as to costs and is accompanied by the subject to contract draft Heads of Terms, as agreed by Full Council at its November meeting. No response has been received to date from either the developer or his solicitor.

PCM24-01/06 Outstanding Actions

a. Cllr Groves to talk to Cllr Stowe regarding Coltsfoot TPO 298

Due to GDPR Cllr Groves was not able to find out who the person was that requested the tree work.

Cllr Stowe stated that if there was a highways safety concern due to hazardous tree growth this reparation would supersede the requirement to complete a prior TPO application.

b. Cllr Groves to investigate Turkey farm stump replacement.

Cllr Groves reported 3 companies to visit the site in the forthcoming week and issue quotes.

PCM24-01/06 Finance Cllr Light

a. Resolved to approve payments in January 2024 Monthly Finance Report. Unanimous

b. Strength and Balance Funding

Cllr Florence reported participants have agreed to pay £3 per session,

She also informed the Council that a very generous donation of £300 has been received from the Elderberries. A very big thank you to Ailsa Creegan

c. East Herts Funding

Cllr Light reported Levelling Up fund success - £21k due to be paid before year end.

Discussion to be continued at next meeting.

PCM24-01/08 Governance and Legal

a. Plough Car Park Update (Cllr Florence)

Cllr Florence explained that work was ongoing preparing the planning application, amendments had been made to the drawings. The design and access statement was to be submitted imminently. Discussions have been held regarding delivering the project.

b. Land Registry applications.

Resolved that one land registry application would be prepared and passed to G&L prior to submission, a variable direct debit to Land Registry would be applied for to enable access to the detailed Map search facility. Unanimous

c. Emergency Plan update

Cllr Miller informed the council about the requirement for an emergency plan.

Two documents have been drafted; a plan and a checklist containing mainly contact details for the emergency services, a response team, Councillors, volunteers and potential useful building contacts and a list of resources for use in an emergency.

The checklist will require regular updates regular updates by the clerk.

Resolved that the Emergency plan documents are adopted and maintained. Unanimous

PCM24-01/10 Environment

Cllr Norman announced there is a donation of an elm tree, received as a replacement for the cherry tree on Painters Green.

Cllr Light reported that a resident has been clearing the footpath between Brookbridge Lane and Nutcroft and the area is much tidier.

PCM24-01/10 Recreation (Cllr Norman)

a. Nutcroft Play Area

Cllr Norman reported that the next recreation working group meeting is planned for 20th March; initial thoughts were to intersperse a few items of outdoor gym stations amongst some new children's play equipment.

The proposal is to start a consultation to canvas residents' opinion on the ideas (cost would be approximately £1000 per item).

Cllr Norman also announced a further kind offer from the elderberries to supply a bench for the refurbished area.

Cllr Stowe advised any changes must be agreed with Wendy Ellis EHDC

PCM24-01/12 Clerk Report

Email sent to Ken Crofton requesting an update on flood prevention on Raffin Green Lane,
Hooks Cross

Meeting Closed 19:50

Chair: Sara Miller _____

Date ___/___/___