

DARENTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 19 October 2022
Jubilee Pavilion, Wood Lane, Darenth, Kent DA2 7LR

Councillor's Present: D Carey (Vice Chairman), W Cook, T Hicks, S Holmes, T Prentice, D Risely and Y Seymour

In Attendance: E Mote, Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer

Visitors: One member of the public.

62/10/22: TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors' Weavis (Chairman) and Gutteridge. In the absence of Councillor Weavis, Councillor Carey chaired the meeting.

63/10/22: TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

Councillor S Homes declared a disposable pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 69/10/22 (d).

64/10/22: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2022

RESOLVED: To approve the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 21 September 2022.

65/10/22: TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, EXTERNAL AUTHORITIES AND AGENCIES

- (a) Darenth PCSO, Neighbourhood Policing Team August and September Council Returns
- (b) Joint Transportation Board Minutes – 20 September 2022

Councillor Cook, as Parish Representative, attended the Friends of Darenth Country Park meeting on 06 October and once again raised the issue of anti-social behaviour in the form of motorcycles using Darenth Country Park. Minutes from this meeting will be shared once available.

RESOLVED: Members, having previously received reports and minutes, noted the contents as presented.

66/10/22: ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Issues that have arisen or been raised since agenda production.

No items were raised.

67/10/22: PUBLIC REALM - GORE ROAD STREETLIGHTS INFORMATION

Members had been presented with a comprehensive briefing paper detailing the processes leading to the decommissioning and imminent removal of Column 29 Gore Road.

Members wished to clarify ownership of lights in the current Brent Ward. The Clerk confirmed that as part of the November Agenda provision would be made to discuss the future of streetlights and a closed item to address potential concerns of a legal nature.

RESOLVED: Members resolved to close and conclude the matter in respect of Column 29 but requested further discussion of Gore Road lighting be included as part of the November Parish Council Meeting.

68/10/22: FINANCE

(a) To consider amendment of Financial Regulations

The Parish Council approved Financial Regulations on 21 July 2021. The current financial mechanisms for expenditure are set out below under Item 4 'Budgetary control and authority to spend'.

The existing item specifies that:

4. Budgetary control and authority to spend

4.1. Expenditure on revenue items may be authorised up to the amounts included for that class of expenditure in the approved budget. This authority is to be determined by:

- the council for all items over £5,000;
- a duly delegated committee of the council for items over £500; or
- the Clerk, in conjunction with Chairman of Council or Chairman of the appropriate committee, for any items below £500.

To enable appropriate expenditure it is proposed that under Item 4.1, amounts are amended as follows:

- the council for all items over £5,000;
- a duly delegated committee of the council for items over £1,000; or
- the Clerk, in conjunction with Chairman of Council or Chairman of the appropriate committee, for any items below £1,000.

Following the pandemic and in the current economic climate all services, materials and labour costs have increased substantially. To bring expenditure up to date and in line with rising inflation, Members are requested to consider amendments to spend limits reflected in approved budget amounts.

RESOLVED: To approve amendments to Financial Regulations as presented, under sub-Item 4.1 of Item 4, Budgetary control and authority to spend.

(b) To formerly note precept amount payable by the billing authority

Members were asked to formally note, following the Internal Audit Report for 2021-22, that the 2022-23 Precept as notified to Dartford Borough Council reflected the Band D charge of £60.18 x the Precept Base of £1,291.10.

- RESOLVED:** To formally note precept amount payable and submitted to the billing authority in respect of the Parish Precept for 2022-23.
- (c) **To note receipt of second-half Parish Precept payment for 2022-23**
£39,807.00 was received from Dartford Borough Council on 30 September 2022.
- RESOLVED:** To note receipt of the second half precept payment in the sum of £39,807.00 from the billing authority.
- (d) **To formerly note approval of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2021-22**
Members were asked to note conclusion of audit (Section 3) from external auditor PKF Littlejohn in respect of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year 2021-22.
- RESOLVED:** To note approval of Section 3 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2021-22 from external auditor PKF Littlejohn.
- (e) **Annual Insurance Renewal 2022**
Members were requested to consider quotation from Gallagher Insurance in respect of annual insurance renewal for the Parish Council. Renewal details were presented to Members prior to the meeting for consideration.
- RESOLVED:** To approve details for renewal of annual insurance with Gallagher Insurance at a cost of £3,744.25 including a long-term agreement provision.
- (f) **To agree Financial Statements as at 31 July, 31 August and 30 September 2022**
- RESOLVED:** To agree Financial Statements as presented.

69/10/22: FACILITIES

COUNCIL PROPERTY WATER SAFETY ASSESSMENTS

Following Member requests for water assessment checks at Council properties, appropriate testing has now taken place by Primec Ltd at a cost of £395.00 for Waller Park and £295.00 for Darenth Hall.

RESOLVED: To agree the Legionella Water Safety Assessments as presented.

70/10/22: PLANNING

- (a) **To consider new applications**

SEPTEMBER 2022

DA/22/00966/TPO - 47 Darenth Park Avenue DA2 6LX

Application for 1 No. Lime tree in front garden to reduce crown by 30% (4 metres from height to leave at approx 12 metres in height and reduce spread by 1.5 metres all round). To prune back from property to give 2.5metres clearance, crown lift to give ground clearance of 6 metres, cut back branches to clear lamppost by 2.5 metres and to remove significant dead branches subject to Tree Preservation Order No. 1 1995.

DA/22/00790/FUL - 111 Ladywood Road DA2 7LP

Erection of a first-floor side extension and loft conversion with rear dormer and three rooflights to front roof slope in connection with providing additional rooms in the roof space.

DA/22/00962/FUL - 5 Moss Way DA2 7JX

Demolition of existing rear conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension.

DA/21/00137/COU - Land Adjacent Kentwood House Darenth Road Darenth

REVISIONS CONSIDERED DURING SUMMER RECESS: Change of use of former agricultural land to mixed use as a hobby farm and for keeping of horses. Removal of some of the existing buildings. Erection of an agricultural barn. Members noted that no representation was made by the Borough Councillor for Dartford despite previous requests from the Parish Council.

DA/22/01004/FUL - 59 Watchgate DA2 7JY

Erection of dormer extension in rear roof slope with Juliette balconies and dormer windows in front roof slope in connection with conversion of roof space into habitable rooms; Erection of single storey front and rear extensions. Formation of car hardstanding in front garden including formation of dropped kerb access from Watchgate.

DA/22/01007/FUL - 62 Sinclair Way DA2 7JS

Provision of additional roof lights in front and rear roof slopes in connection with the existing rooms in the roof space.

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DA/22/01104/FUL - 55 The Green DA2 6JT

Erection of a single storey rear extension and front porch

22/01172/FUL - Land to North and West of Franks Farm Dartford Road Horton Kirby Kent

Re-Consultation on an application for erection of polytunnels and creation of new non-impounding irrigation reservoir and associated works within Sevenoaks District Council area

22/01173/FUL - Land to North and West of Franks Farm Dartford Road Horton Kirby Kent

Re-Consultation on an application for new storage and cold store building and creation of new farm access road within Sevenoaks District Council area

DA/22/01138/FUL - 188 Coombfield Drive DA2 7LH

Erection of a two-storey side extension

Observations: Member noted the details of the applications.

(b) **To note recent decisions made by the Planning Authority**

SEPTEMBER 2022

Planning Inspectorate Appeal Ref: APP/T2215/W/21/3282336 - Braeside, Roman Villa Road, Darenth, Kent DA2 7QS

The development proposed is described as 'the erection of detached outbuilding.

Decision: APPEAL DISMISSED

DA/22/00578/TPO - 46 Darenth Park Avenue Darenth Kent DA2 6LX

Application for T1 - To Reduce 1 X Lime Tree by 2.0/2.5 metres (current height is 13.0Mtrs & Width is 9.0Mtrs. We Intend to keep the same height

but lift crown from 3.5 mtrs to 5.5/6.0Mtrs & reduce crown width from 9.0 mtrs to 6.5/7.0mtrs) subject to Tree Preservation Order No.1 1995.

Decision: **CONSENT GRANTED**

DA/22/00831/CDNA - Pheasants Field St Margarets Road Darenth Kent

Submission of details relating to external materials of oak post and joinery pursuant to condition 3 (in part) of planning permission DA/21/00746/FUL for erection of a stable block and barn store with associated hardstanding area

Decision: **DETAILS APPROVED**

DA/22/00737/TPO - 1 Powell Avenue Darenth Kent DA2 6NT

Application for T1 Sycamore- Crown reduce all over by 2m to maintain a balanced crown by 2m back to suitable points (estimated finished dimensions 12m height and crown spread 4m), remove the two lowest limbs as indicated on the attached photograph subject to Tree Preservation Order No.1 1995

Decision: **CONSENT GRANTED**

DA/22/00644/FUL - 23 Coombfield Drive Darenth Kent DA2 7LE

Demolition of the existing attached garage and erection of a two-storey side extension with canopy to the front. Proposed alterations to the roof to form a dormer window to the rear and roof lights to the front and rear (retrospective application)

Decision: **PERMISSION GRANTED**

DA/21/01150/FUL - 72 Watchgate Darenth Kent DA2 7JY

Demolition of existing 'car port' style roof to side of building and erection of a single storey roof with timber screen and door to front and rear (retrospective)

Decision: **PERMISSION GRANTED**

DA/21/01148/FUL - 72 Watchgate Darenth Kent DA2 7JY

Provision of glazed shop front and entrance door and roller shutter (retrospective application)

Decision: **PERMISSION GRANTED**

DA/22/00790/FUL - 111 Ladywood Road Darenth Kent DA2 7LP

Erection of a first-floor side extension and loft conversion with rear dormer and three rooflights to front roof slope in connection with providing additional rooms in the roof space

Decision: **REFUSED TO PERMIT** due to its form, design and large size of dormer having an intrusive nature

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DA/22/00962/FUL - 5 Moss Way Darenth Kent DA2 7JX

Demolition of existing rear conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension

Decision: **PERMISSION GRANTED**

Observations: Members noted the decisions.

- (c) **To consider new applications/recent decisions received after agenda publication**

22/02599/FUL - Land North West Of Horton Wood Canada Farm Road South Darenth Kent

Consultation on an application for installation of a solar park to export up to 49.9MW (AC) electricity, including solar panels, inverter cabins, associated infrastructure and associated hard landscaping within Sevenoaks District Council.

Observations: Members noted the application.

71/10/22: DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The proposed date for the next Meeting of the Council is Wednesday
16 November 2022.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 20:01.