

DARENTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 21 February 2024
Jubilee Hall, Waller Park, Wood Lane, Darenth, Kent DA2 7LR

Councillor's Present: I Armitt (Vice Chairman), T Hicks, T Prentice, D Risely, N Weavis (Chairman) and K Webb.

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

Visitors: PC Maffia, Kent Police; Councillor Denman, Dartford Borough Council and one member of the public.

The Chairman reminded the Meeting of the protocol regarding the audio and visual recording of proceedings.

234/02/24: TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors I Gutteridge, K Holmes and S Holmes.

235/02/24: TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

None received.

236/02/24: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17 JANUARY 2024

RESOLVED: To approve the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 17 January 2024 as Proposed by Councillor Hicks and Seconded by Councillor Risley.

237/02/24: ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

There were no items raised for consideration.

Councillor Prentice asked if the Parish Council had received an update on matters concerning the Mabledon Site and the Clerk confirmed that no response had been received to date.

238/02/24: TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL AUTHORITIES; AGENCIES; COMMITTEES AND PORTFOLIO MEMBERS

(a) Borough Councillor Report

Councillor P Denman provided the meeting with a verbal report in respect of the following:

Casework: All current casework continues.

Planning: Councillor Denman attended the Borough's Development Control Board meeting which included an item in respect of The Ship planning application. Councillor

Denman raised points in favour and against Officer recommendation, the decision was overturned and would be ratified at the next meeting on 15 March.

Hawkspare site matters are ongoing.

Borough Matters: Arrangements in respect of the Ladywood Road access point continue; C1 Coombfield Drive Bus Loop Extension usage appears low since 2 January 2024, despite a leaflet drop to each home and concerns over its future and the concessions granted are under review.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Denman for his informative and comprehensive report.

b) **Kent Police Update**

PC Jessie Maffia introduced herself to the meeting as the temporary beat officer for Darenth and multiple areas in the Borough. PC Maffia provided details for signing-up to My Community Voice, the messaging service that helps Kent and Medway residents, businesses, and community groups keep in touch with their local policing teams.

The Chairman thanked PC Maffia for her attendance and introduction.

c) **DRIPS**

Councillor Hicks continues to investigate matters relating to the Kent Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.

RESOLVED: That all reports are noted, and any relevant decisions actioned as appropriate.

239/02/24: TO RECEIVE UPDATE FOLLOWING MEETING WITH CYGNUS ACADEMIES TRUST

Following a meeting with Cygnus Academies Trust, Members were informed that the organisation would put together a proposal for Parish Council for consideration and would be in contact to discuss this further in due course.

RESOLVED: That Members noted the details of the meeting with Cygnus Academies Trust.

240/02/24: TO NOTE REPORT FROM THE BOROUGH PARISH REMUNERATION PANEL

Having previously been provided with a copy of the Parish Remuneration Panel's Report, Members noted the contents for legislation reference only.

RESOLVED: That the Borough Parish Remuneration Panel Report be noted by the Parish Council.

241/02/24: TO NOTE WALLER PARK COLD WATER TANK INSPECTION AND CONSIDER REQUIRED ACTION

Members were asked to note and consider Cold Water Tank Inspection report from Primec Ltd, conducted on 4 September 2023 (received on 20/12/23), which made recommendations for the cleaning and taking off-line of 1 water tank. The Clerk will continue to investigate the matter and reported the possibility of boiler repairs/replacement in order that the Pavilion changing room showers are adequately serviced.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk actions accordingly.

242/02/24: TO CONSIDER RESPONSE TO PRE-SUBMISSION DRAFT OF THE KENT MINERALS AND WASTE LOCAL PLAN 2024-2039 - REGULATION 19 PUBLIC CONSULTATION JANUARY 2024

Having previously been provided with details of the Plan, Members considered the Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2024-2039. Councillor Prentice asked if the section regarding contaminated

materials was conclusive. The Clerk would make further enquires with the Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Team at Kent County Council and report any findings to Members.

RESOLVED: That there were no representations in respect of the Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2024-2039 to be made.

243/02/24: FINANCE

(a) To note purchase of defibrillator for Darenth Village Hall

Following receipt of match-funding for a defibrillator under the Department for Health and Social Care's Community Defibrillator Scheme, Members were asked to note purchase and installation costs of £750.00 and £300.00 respectively.

RESOLVED: To note purchase and installation of Defibrillator for Darenth Village Hall.

(b) To agree monthly financial statement as at 31 January 2024

(c) To note budget position as at 31 December 2023 and 31 January 2024

RESOLVED: That the finance records be agreed and noted.

244/02/24: PLANNING

(a) To consider new applications

DA/24/00092/FUL - 113 Ladywood Road Darenth DA2 7LP

Erection of a single storey front extension.

Observations: *Neutral - The Parish Council notes from the Application Form that there is no alteration to the parking provision but would question whether this is the case as the proposed front extension would clearly encroach onto the existing parking area. The Parish Council questions whether the required Parking Standards will be met if permission is granted.*

DA/24/00110/FUL - 94 Hill Rise Darenth DA2 7HZ

Erection of a single storey side and rear extension.

Observations: *Members noted the details.*

RESOLVED: That the Clerk submits any comments or observations to the Planning Authority.

(b) To note recent decisions and appeals

DA/23/01220/FUL - St Fiacre Green St Green Road Kent

Alteration to existing loft and roof to create a two-storey dwelling incorporating new porch and removal of existing dormers.

Decision: **PERMISSION GRANTED**

DA/23/01307/FUL - 9 Moore Close Darenth Kent DA2 6NN

Provision of dormer window in rear elevation and roof lights in front roof slope in connection with providing additional rooms in the roof space .

Decision: **PERMISSION GRANTED**

DA/23/01335/FUL - 22 The Green Darenth DA2 6JS

Refurbishment of existing conservatory - replacement of existing doors and windows and replacement of glass roof with tiled roof (retrospective).

Decision: **PERMISSION GRANTED**

DA/23/01449/FUL - 5 Powell Avenue Darenth DA2 6NT
Erection of a detached outbuilding (retrospective application).

Decision: **PERMISSION GRANTED**

RESOLVED: That Members note recent decisions made by the Planning Authority.

(c) TO NOTE PRE-CONSULTATION REQUEST FOR PROPOSED UPGRADE TO BASE STATION INSTALLATION AT (CS14216126 VF77805 TEF38233) DARENTH WOOD ROAD, DARTFORD, KENT DA2 6NT (E: 557276 & N: 172949)

Members were provided with upgrade plans from Cornerstone in respect of proposal for an upgrade to base station installation. Members noted that as the proposal is for the upgrade of an existing installation the Local Planning Authority will be consulted.

RESOLVED: That Members note the proposal in respect of upgrade to base station installation at Darenth Wood Road DA2 6NT.

(d) To consider new applications/recent decisions received after agenda publication

DA/00175/FUL - 2 Gore Cottages, Green St Green Road DA2 7HR

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

Observations: Members noted the details.

DA/00159/FUL - 59 The Green Darenth DA2 6JU

Erection of single-storey rear extension and conversion of existing integral garage to habitable room with associated alterations to front elevation.

Observations: Neutral - The Parish Council seeks clarification as to the exact nature of the proposed works as the Application Form makes no mention of the 'conversion of the integral garage ' and indeed Section 8 (Parking) confirms that the existing parking arrangements would not be affected. Whilst the proposed rear extension would not impact on the existing parking arrangements, clearly the loss of the garage would.

The Parish Council asks that concerns over what appears to be an incorrect/incomplete Application be addressed.

RESOLVED: To note recent decisions received after agenda publication with the Clerk submitting any comments or observations to the Planning Authority.

245/02/24: DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The proposed date for the next Meeting of the Council was confirmed as Wednesday 20 March 2024.

246/02/24: EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

To consider the **exclusion** of the **press and public** for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, Section 1(2).

Visitors left the meeting at 20:03.

247/02/24: TO RECEIVE UPDATE REGARDING PARISH STREETLIGHTING

Following receipt of the update, Members agreed to postpone matters until further information was received from The Ombudsman.

RESOLVED: To defer matters regarding Parish streetlighting to the March Parish Council Meeting to allow sufficient time to collect necessary information.

248/02/24: TO CONSIDER QUOTES AND AWARD CONTRACT FOR WALLER PARK AND DARENTH HALL GREENS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR THE YEAR 2024-25

Members asked if terms for three-year contracts could be reviewed after a one year to ensure that services were being carried out to a satisfactory standard.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk acts in accordance with the decision made in respect of Waller Park and Darenth Hall greens maintenance contract for 2024-25 and instructs the preferred contractor to commence works from 01 April 2024.

249/02/24: TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE QUOTATIONS IN RESPECT OF WALLER PARK FLAT FOLLOWING LANDLORD'S PROPERTY INSPECTION

RESOLVED: That the Clerk acts in accordance with the decision made.

Vice-Chairman, Councillor Armitt wished to note a vote of thanks to the Grounds & Facilities Warden for his efforts in painting internal walls and skirtings at Jubilee Hall.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 20:29.