

Loders Parish Council

Minutes from the Meeting of Lodders Parish Council held at Loders Village Hall on Tuesday 16th November 2021 at 7.00pm

Present:

Councillors: Michele Warrington (*Chair*)
Geoff May (*Vice Chair*)
Julie Bryce
David Cannon

David Last
Ros Newberry
David Pullan

Officer: Joanne Hughes (*Clerk*)

Public: 2

Apologies: Stephen Tilton, Peter Nardone, Anthony Alford (*Dorset Council*)

8164. To receive apologies for absence

Recorded.

8165. Declarations of interest or grants of dispensation

None.

8166. To accept the minutes of the meeting held on 19th October 2021 and sign the same

An addition under Footpaths and Rights of Way item 8154 - Cllr Cannon advised that FP5 Whetlands was raised at the October meeting; there appears to be a gap between FP5 and Whetlands Lane on the DCC RoW map dated 5.11.2013 and repeated on the current Dorset Explorer whereas the OS Explorer map appears to show a continuous right of way. Cllr Cannon has requested that Dorset Council advise what the legal position is and if there is a gap, can it be closed to ensure a continuous right of way. Councillors then approved the minutes of the meeting as an accurate record.

Proposed Cllr D Last

Seconded Cllr D Cannon

Resolved

8167. Matters arising for information only

None.

8168. Democratic Forum

Cllr Warrington welcomed two residents to the meeting who were attending to see how the Parish Council operates with a view to one possibly joining the Parish Council.

8169. Councillor Vacancy

Cllr Warrington confirmed that the resident who attended the October meeting had decided that they did not feel that the role of Councillor was right for them. Cllr Warrington also advised that the Local Government Act 1972, s.85 (1) had resulted in Cllr Nardone ceasing to be a member of Lodders Parish Council. However, Cllr Nardone has confirmed that he is keen to re-join the Council. Clerk to contact Electoral Services to progress the procedure for advertising the vacancy.

8170. Dorset Council - Report Cllr Tony Alford

Cllr Alford had circulated a report providing a detailed update from Dorset Council. The following points were raised by Councillors for the Clerk to follow up:
- Dorset Council managed fund to help 'not for profit' community or cultural groups that are looking for funds. Clerk to enquire if this precludes Parish Councils.

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- Dorset Council car parks only accepting cashless payments. Councillors concerned that there are many residents unable to make cashless payments. Clerk to raise as a concern with Cllr Alford.

8171. Finance

i. To authorise receipts and payments due

The following payments for November 2021 were approved in line with internal controls:

Receipts		Detail	Amount
Payments	Voucher No	Detail	Amount
ICO	1193	Data Protection Fee	35.00
Mrs J Hughes	1194	Salary/Expenses (including 10 hours CiLCA and April 2021-November 2021 backpay)	841.93
HMRC	1195	PAYE/NI	63.57
Wessex Grounds Services	1196	Grounds Maintenance (Oct)	77.58
Loders Village Hall	1197	PC Meeting 16 th November	16.00

Bank balance as at 16th November **£34,166.77**

An additional payment of £75.00 for the hedge laying supervision and tools which took place on 12th November (invoice received after payment schedule produced) was also agreed for payment to avoid a two-month delay in paying the invoice. The payment will appear on the January 2022 payment schedule.

Proposed Cllr D Cannon

Seconded Cllr R Newberry

Resolved

ii. Monthly finance reports

The Clerk provided Councillors with a summary report of the year-to-date position (November 2021) against the budget and a report of the movement on fund balances to 16th November 2021.

iii. To progress additional signatories for the Parish Council bank account

The bank paperwork to progress Cllr May as an additional signatory on the bank account has been signed and sent to the bank. Clerk to follow up progress with Cllr Tilton who was contacting the bank due to difficulties applying for Online for Business.

iv. To consider the Finance Working Group report

The Clerk had previously circulated the report of the Finance Working Group. The following recommendations were approved:

Clerk's backpay: the Clerk advised that whilst working on the 2022/23 FWG documentation, it was realised that the hourly rate that was agreed at last year's appraisal (November 2020 - SCP 20) which was to be implemented from 1st April 2021 had not been applied. Having completed the calculations, from 1st April to 31st October 2021, the Clerk confirmed that the underpayment was £87.14 (including pension contributions). As this hourly rate of pay had already been approved by the council and to correct the oversight as soon as possible, the Clerk recommended that the underpayment be made through the November payroll.

Proposed Cllr M Warrington

Seconded Cllr D Cannon

Resolved

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Clerk's salary: the FWG confirmed that having successfully completed CiLCA, the Parish Council have a contractual obligation to increase the Clerk's SCP by one spinal column point from SCP 20 to SCP 21 from 1st October 2021. The FWG also recommended that the Clerk proceed by a further performance related spinal column point to SCP 22 from 1st April 2022.

Proposed Cllr M Warrington

Seconded Cllr D Cannon

Resolved

Clerk's hours: the FWG proposed that the Clerk's hours which were increased temporarily from 9.23 hours to 10 hours per week in April 2021 are made permanent to enable the Clerk to support the work of the C&EE 'Making it Happen' Action Plan.

Proposed Cllr M Warrington

Seconded Cllr D Cannon

Resolved

Allotment charges: all agreed that there will be no increase in the allotment rents for 2022/23.

Cemetery charges: all agreed that there will be no increase in the cemetery charges for 2022/23.

Budget and Precept for 2022/23: having considered the income and expenditure for the coming year, it was proposed to keep the precept at £15,000 for 2022/23. The proposal was accepted in principle with a final review and agreement to be made at the January meeting.

Proposed Cllr G May

Seconded Cllr D Cannon

Resolved

Meeting dates and venues for 2021: it was agreed by all that council meetings revert back to alternating between Loders Village Hall and Uploders Chapel from January 2022. Clerk to progress.

8172. Planning and Development

To consider any planning applications, appeals or enforcements in circulation:

- i. P/HOU/2021/03187 Garden Cottage, Uploders, DT6 4NT - erection of single storey side extension and two storey rear extension & alterations - agreed by all no objections subject to the comments submitted by the Environment Agency regarding flooding. Clerk to submit response.
- ii. P/COU/2021/03500 Woodlands Farm Kennels - a response was received from planning regarding the concerns raised by the Parish Council to advise that business re-use of the buildings would be more harmful to the AONB in this isolated location and therefore inappropriate in this case.
- iii. P/HOU/2021/03725 Fairview Cottage - no update.
- iv. P/HOU/2021/01987 16-17 Oak Cottage - no update.
- v. P/HOU/2021/01858/59 Loders Hall - no update.
- vi. P/OUT/2021/01788 Land to South West of Home Farm Close - no update.
- vii. WD/D/20/003146 Church Farm Bungalow, Loders - the Clerk confirmed that the Planning Officer has advised that the applicant is looking to submit a full planning application for the site at some point to diversify the business (holiday accommodation) and that the certificate of lawfulness was not sufficiently evidenced.

8173. Council Property

To consider and agree any actions in relation the Parish Council property:

i. Cemetery

- Hedge laying - the hedge laying successfully went ahead thanks to the hard work of Councillors and volunteers under the guidance of an expert hedge layer.
- New bench - the Clerk had previously circulated three quotes for a new bench for the cemetery. It was agreed by all to purchase a 5ft teak bench costing £355 plus £30 delivery charge. Clerk to progress the order with delivery arranged to Cllr Newberry's address to enable the bench to be stored until the base is ready for the bench.

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ii. Allotments

- Trees growing on plots - Cllr Newberry confirmed that the plots all looked to be in good order and the trees have been cut down although the roots have not been removed which will need to be done to prevent the trees growing back up. Cllr Newberry to check again in the Spring. Clerk to send allotment invoices and advise tenants that any tree seedlings that have rooted on plots need to be removed.

iii Playing Field

- Nest Carousel installation for Well Plot play area - the Clerk confirmed that a date for installation of the new piece of play equipment is still to be confirmed.

- Unsafe fencing at Well Plot play area - the Clerk confirmed that the fence repairs are still outstanding. Clerk to chase up with Ken Hussey.

- Cllr Pullan advised that he met with a resident regarding the following concerns:

1) Hedge planting at Well Plot - the resident suggested that the hedge planting be extended to the other side of the Well Plot gate. Agreed that this was a good idea.

Proposed Cllr D Pullan

Seconded Cllr D Cannon

Resolved

2) Hedge along Well Plot playing fields - the resident advised that the hedge is encroaching onto the playing field and is thin in parts. Agreed that this will be looked at during the next council inspection.

3) Footbridge - resident advised of overgrown and untidy bushes on either side of the footbridge which was unsightly and preventing views and access to the river. Agreed that this will be looked at during the next council inspection. In the meantime, the Footpath Officer will ensure the footbridge remains clear.

4) Oak sapling offer - the resident advised that they would like to donate an Oak sapling to be planted somewhere at Well Plot playing fields. Agreed that ideas for a suitable location for planting were needed.

Clerk to respond to the resident regarding the issues raised.

8174. Footpaths and Rights of Way

Cllr Cannon reported four RoW issues at the October meeting and was able to provide the following update:

FP38 (Highacres to New Street Lane) - the collapse just above the steps has been resolved.

FP24 (Jordan Valley) - the path up to the valley is still outstanding a self-closing gate. Cllr Cannon has received no response from Russell Goff but has obtained the landowners contact details and will attempt to make contact with the landowner.

FP30 (Yondover to Bar Lane) - a number of access barriers exist along this RoW. Cllr Cannon has still received no response from Russell Goff for support to deal with this ongoing issue.

FP5 (Whetlands) - see minute reference 8166. No response received from Russell Goff.

Cllr Cannon advised that he would attempt to progress FP24 with the landowner but if progress was not possible after 2 weeks, he would refer all outstanding RoW issues to Cllr Alford.

8175. Roads, Transport and Drains

- Waddon Way - No progress. Dorset Council Highways have advised that they are awaiting a new Team Leader to join the Highways team who will have Waddon Way within their remit.

- Gribb Farm, Shipton Road - as above.

- New Street Lane - it was confirmed that a working group have been digging out and clearing one end of New Street Lane with the other end to do within the next week.

- Whetlands Lane fingerpost has collapsed - Cllr Cannon agreed to look at.

- Yellow Lane recent accident - Clerk to request record of the number of accidents that have occurred at this location.

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- Cherry Lane footpath - concerns raised over cyclists using this very narrow and steep footpath. Cllr Cannon to check legislation regarding cyclists using footpaths and to order and site a 'no cycling' sign if legislation allows.
- A35 slip road - Cllr Last confirmed that Dorset Council have cleared the drains.

8176. Unitary Authority

- Update from DAPTC
 - DAPTC Western Area Meeting - Cllr Bryce confirmed that she will attend the meeting on 25th November at 7.00pm via Zoom. As this date and time clashes with the next Parish Council Climate and Ecological Emergency working group meeting, it was agreed for Cllr Cannon to move the climate meeting to 4.00pm.
- Update from BLAP
 - To consider funding request to contribute towards the costs of running and sustaining BLAP in 2022/23 - after consideration, it was agreed by all that Loders Parish Council contribute towards the costs of running and sustaining BLAP for 2022/23 at the cost of £56.11.

Proposed Cllr D Last

Seconded Cllr G May

Resolved

- BLAP Extra Meeting Monday 13th December at 4.00pm - Cllr May confirmed that he would attend if available.
- BLAP Parish Liaison Group Meeting Wednesday 17th November at 4.00pm - unfortunately no Councillors available to attend.

8177. River Asker Improvement Project

Cllr May provided the following update from Ian Rees of Dorset AONB:

- confident there will be further funding for 2022/23;
- resource in terms of time and budget should allow for a community event in March 2022;
- feasibility study of the weir is being carried out to look at the issues for migrating fish.
- it was also confirmed that the Riverfly Monitoring Group AGM took place and was attended by Cllrs Warrington and Pullan.

8178. Climate and Environment Issues

To consider and agree any actions in relation to the Loders Parish Council Climate & Ecological Emergency

- Natural Assets - Cllr Bryce confirmed that the hedge planting wouldn't be going ahead on 20th November due to a delay with delivery of the saplings. New date confirmed as 4th December at 2pm. Clerk to design poster for the parish noticeboards.
The landowner's letter requesting support of tree planting was proposed and agreed. The finer detail will be discussed at the next parish council climate meeting.

Proposed Cllr J Bryce

Seconded Cllr D Cannon

Resolved

Cllr Bryce confirmed that she would be unable to attend the next Climate and Ecological Support Group meeting on 18th November.

- Transport - No update.
- Renewables - No update.
- Making it Happen - Cllr Warrington had previously circulated the 'Making it Happen Communications Strategy' for the Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan. As part of this strategy, a newsletter will be produced by the Clerk for the New Year providing residents with an update on progress following the resident's questionnaire which was circulated to the parish earlier in the year.

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8179. Communications

- i. Broadband - Clerk to chase up Jurassic Fibre for an update following their meeting with members of the Parish Council back in August.

8180. Training & Development

None.

8181. To review correspondence received

None.

8182. Website and Eggardon & Colmers View

Newsletter (climate), Cherry Lane cyclists, Yellow Lane accident, River Asker update.

8183. Agenda items for next meeting

None.

Meeting closed at 9.20pm

Chairman _____

Date _____