

Loders Parish Council

Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting of Loders Parish Council held at Loders Village Hall on Tuesday 21st November 2023 at 7.00pm

Present:

Councillors: Michele Warrington (*Chair*)
Geoff May (*Vice Chair*)
Julie Bryce
David Cannon
David Last
Derrick Newberry
Ros Newberry
David Pullan
Tony Alford (*Dorset Council*)

Officer: Joanne Hughes (*Clerk*)

Public: 0

Apologies: None

8586. To receive apologies for absence

None.

8587. Declarations of interest or grants of dispensation

None.

8588. To accept the minutes of the meeting held on 17th October 2023 and sign the same

Proposed Cllr D Cannon

Seconded Cllr D Last

Resolved

8589. Matters arising for information only

None.

8590. Democratic Forum

None.

8591. Dorset Council - Report Cllr Tony Alford

Cllr Alford had previously circulated an update report which included the following information:

- Launch of the Home Upgrade Grant in Dorset - a government funded scheme helping homeowners and landlords improve the energy efficiency of their homes.
- Our Dorset, the Dorset Integrated Care System, has signed up to trial an innovative new product - the Milbotix SmartSocks - which can help sense when people with dementia or autism are in distress.
- Dorset Council is welcoming comments about the location and suitability of local polling stations.
- Carbon emissions from council owned buildings have reduced by over 20 per cent in one year thanks to a major retrofit programme financed by a grant from central government.
- The latest round of Community and Culture Project grants is now open for applications. The grants, which are managed by Dorset Council, welcome applications for projects and events for community, arts, accredited museums, heritage, sport, youth, play and physical activity.

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8592. Finance

i. To authorise receipts and payments due

The following payments for November 2023 were approved in line with internal controls:

Receipts		Detail	Amount
National Grid		Wayleave Payment	89.68
Riggs		Allotment Rent	30.00
Hobby		Allotment Rent	30.00
Barnett		Allotment Rent	20.00
Paull		Allotment Rent	20.00
Kelly		Allotment Rent	30.00
Wallbridge		Allotment Rent	20.00
Wreford		Allotment Rent	30.00
Webster		Allotment Rent	20.00
Bellord		Allotment Rent	20.00
Payments	Voucher No	Detail	Amount
ICO	1437	Data Protection Fee	35.00
J Hughes	1438	Salary & Expenses (including 23/24 pay award)	1,073.82
HMRC	1439	PAYE	104.74
Wessex Grounds Services	1440	Grounds Maintenance	110.90
Loders Village Hall	1441	3 x Meetings	50.00

Payments authorised were £1,374.46 being the total of the individual payments shown above.

Bank balance as at 21st November **£30,047.23.**

Proposed Cllr R Newberry

Seconded Cllr D Last

Resolved

ii. Monthly finance reports

The Clerk provided Councillors with a summary report of the year-to-date position (November 2023) against the budget and a report of the movement on fund balances to 21st November 2023.

iii. Report from Finance Working Group meeting

Due to personal circumstances, it was agreed that the formal report would be presented at the Parish Council meeting in January but Cllr May provided Councillors with an overview of the FWG meeting held on 7th November and the resulting actions to be progressed.

8593. Planning and Development

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

- i. P/HOU/2023/06358 West Combe, Smishops Lane, Loders - proposed extensions and alterations - no objections.

Proposed Cllr D Pullan

Seconded Cllr R Newberry

Resolved

- ii. TPO/2023/0085 New Tree Preservation Order - The Mill, Loders DT6 3RX - Councillors agreed to support the proposed TPO.

b) To consider and agree any actions in relation to other planning matters:

- i. Resident concerns regarding the build site located at the Barn adjacent to Orchard Bungalow, Uploders Road, Uploders DT6 4PD - having sought advice on the matter, the Clerk confirmed that in order for Dorset Council to look into allegations of breaches of planning control, an online form needs to be completed and submitted to planning enforcement detailing the issues. This link has previously been sent to the resident. Unfortunately, a response offering advice has not been

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received from the DAPTC. After further discussion on the matter, Councillors agreed that the issue raised by the resident does not contravene the Loders Neighbourhood Plan E1 C7 which states that *'Local green spaces identified as of particular local importance are protected to the extent that no development will be permitted within them that would harm their green character and reason for designation.'* Clerk to inform resident.

8594. Unitary Authority

- i. Community Governance Review update: Shipton Gorge/Loders boundary changes update - A formal response had been received from NALC via the DAPTC in regards to the request for clarification of Legal Topic Note 73, 7/2015 regarding the Community Governance petition process. The responses to the questions raised were very positive in terms of the affected residents being able to pursue a community governance petition after a two-year period has elapsed since the local authority last conducted a CGR. This confirmation was contrary to the information provided by Dorset Council. Cllr Warrington confirmed that the responses from NALC have been supplied to the resident leading a potential CGR petition and the Parish Council confirmed its continued support of the residents in this process.
- ii. Elections 2024 - Polling District, Polling Place and Polling Station Review - consultation closes 13th November - no further action required.
- iii. Update from DAPTC
 - Western Area meeting Thursday 19th October - Cllr Warrington attended the Zoom meeting and raised a question in relation to the DAPTC business model changing from a representative model to a corporate model and would this affect their constitution but unfortunately, due to technical difficulties, Cllr Warrington's connection to the meeting was lost. The minutes from the meeting have been circulated.
- iv. Update from BLAP
 - BLAP Parish Liaison meeting Monday 30th October - Cllr May attended the meeting during which a presentation was given by a National Highways representative on the A35. Also raised was the BLAP funding request for 2024/25. The minutes from the BLAP meeting have been circulated.
 - Funding Request 2024/25 - a report had been circulated to all confirming that a 6% inflation figure has been applied to the BLAP funding request for 2024/25 which results in a £4.09 increase for Loders Parish Council on the previous year to £63.23. Councillors agreed to continue to support the funding request.

Proposed Cllr G May

Seconded Cllr D Pullan

Resolved

8595. Council Property

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

i. Cemetery

- Lime tree quotes - the Clerk had circulated three quotes:

Quote 1 £350

Quote 2 £225

Quote 3 £405

Councillors agreed to proceed with quote 2. Clerk to progress.

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ii. Allotments

Cllr R Newberry confirmed that work is continuing on the newly split plot 4 by the two new tenants although the ground is very wet making it difficult at the moment. The Clerk confirmed that all but two allotment rents have been paid and these will be chased up this month.

iii Playing Field

- Play area update and inspection report - nothing to report.
- Fence replacement palings update - the Clerk confirmed that two members of the Shelter Group had offered to supply and repair the missing fence palings free of charge (Ken Hussey notified) and this work has been carried out with the offer to repair future palings when needed (new wood will need to be purchased). Clerk to send thanks on behalf of the Parish Council.
- Residents play area redevelopment working group meeting update - Cllr May confirmed that he has written to the resident with a background in play area development for his suggestions on replacement play equipment and costings and is currently awaiting a reply.
- Signage - the Clerk confirmed that the children's play area sign has been installed by Cllr Pullan and National Grid have installed two new signs regarding overhead wires. Although the Clerk has had confirmation of new dog signs being installed by the Dorset Council Dog Control Office, these have not yet appeared. Clerk to chase up.
- Planned event on Well Plot by Dorset AONB for school groups - the Clerk confirmed that an event being organised by Dorset AONB for local school groups that was going to take place in November has been postponed to February.
- Shelter Groups' photos for Village Hall update - the Clerk confirmed that the framed photos have been dropped off at the village hall. Cllr Bryce to ask at the next Village Hall Management Committee meeting where the VHMC have decided to hang the photos.

8596. Footpaths and Rights of Way

- Cllr Cannon provided the following updates:
 - BW1 - metal gates have been installed on the bridleway which is now preventing vehicle access to the properties along the bridleway. Cllr Cannon has reported the issue to Dorset Council who have advised that it is a private matter. Cllr R Newberry advised that the gates have been installed following fly tipping on the bridleway but if residents require vehicle access to remove fallen trees etc. permission can be requested.
 - FP7 Cherry Lane - Cllr Cannon confirmed he has written to the landowner regarding the residents' request to install a bench on private land on the west side of the new hand-rail facing west towards the river but has not received a response from the landowner. Cllr Cannon advised that the residents are likely to install the bench and will wait and see what happens. The residents have confirmed that they are happy to supply, install maintain and if necessary, remove the bench.
 - FP23 Chapel Lane to New Road - Cllr Cannon has received confirmation from Dorset Council that the board walk has been repaired.
 - FP33 and FP37 - the fingerposts are down at both locations which Cllr Cannon has reported to Dorset Council.
- Kissing Gate update - the landowners have met with Townsends Engineering who will be taking the kissing gate away to refurbish it.
- New Street Lane hole in road update - no further action required.
- Bridleway off Smishops Lane - reported above under BW1.
- Bench proposal FP7 north of Cherry Lane - reported above under FP7.

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8597. Roads, Transport and Drains

- i. Waddon Way - no further update.
- ii. Gribb Farm, Shipton Road - no further update.
- iii. Trailway project - no further update.
- iv. Footpath 32 Church/Vicarage Lane - no further action required.
- v. Stoney Head Road surface - no further update.
- vi. 20mph for Loders residents support - the Clerk confirmed that the residents have been informed that the Parish Council have agreed to defer any future discussions until the spring.
- vii. Broken fingerpost, Askerswell Road - a resident who oversees the parish fingerposts has reported that the fingerpost on Askerswell Road is broken so they have been removed it and will carry out the necessary repairs. Clerk to send thanks on behalf of the Parish Council.
- viii. Cllr R Newberry confirmed that Smishops Lane is closed due to a collapsed bank past the cemetery going down the hill. Clerk to inform Dorset Council.
- ix. Following a resident's request, it was agreed for the Clerk to contact Dorset Council Highways to request the slow signs be repainted on the road on entering Uploders from Loders and at Shatcombe.

8598. River Asker Improvement Project

Weir Survey update - a recent River Asker sampling and monitoring session attended by Cllrs May, Warrington and Pullan showed that the Asker is in good health. Cllr May confirmed he is still awaiting the weir survey from West Country Rivers Trust.

8599. Climate and Environment Issues

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

- i. Making it happen
 - CEEAP Public Meeting 18th October - Cllr Warrington confirmed that the public meeting was well attended and has resulted in three community groups being formed which are currently being supported and facilitated by the Parish Council:
 - Natural Assets - led by Cllr Bryce and Cllr Pullan, a follow up meeting with members will be held in the new year.
 - Transport update - led by Cllr Cannon, there are six main areas: EV charging, non-road route to Bridport, car sharing, public transport, food miles and road safety. A follow up meeting has been arranged for 22nd November.
 - Renewable's update - led by Cllr May, three main actions are currently being investigated: rural heat network, feasibility of a microgrid for the parish and support to individual residents.
- Following the public meeting, a follow up Parish Council CEEAP meeting was held. Cllr Warrington referred to four points that were put forward at the CEEAP meeting for Councillors to consider regarding the Parish Council's role in future activities. Councillors agreed to accept the four points:
- i. Structure of formal relationships with active community groups**

It is likely that each group will need a Councillor to lead until relationships are formed. Parish Council to support and facilitate, possibly funding - autonomous groups are the aim.
 - ii. Recording**

Chair of each group to keep meeting notes and keep CEEAP members informed including of meetings. Chairs to also keep Parish Council informed of progress.
 - iii. Facilitation**

Whats App Groups are good for group formation, cohesion, and networking. Individuals within each group could set up.
 - iv. Funding**

CEEAP funding available i.e., for meeting venues.

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- ii. Dorset Council Pilot Scheme - Research in Tree Management Questionnaire
The Clerk confirmed that responses to the questionnaire provided by Cllr Pullan have been submitted.

8600. Village Hall Report

Cllr Bryce advised that the next Village Hall Management Committee meeting is taking place tomorrow evening during which she will raise three points: where will the two framed shelter photos be hung, have the committee agreed to charging the Parish Council £20 for Parish Council meetings and are the committee pursuing EV charging points through the Dorset Council Charging Ahead scheme? Cllr Bryce to also raise the issue of a local band practicing in the village hall at the same time as the Parish Council's meeting.

8601. Loders Arms Defibrillator

Cllr R Newberry confirmed that the defibrillator has been collected from Palmers. Agreed for the Clerk to contact the manufacturer to see if the defibrillator is still in a usable condition. Also agreed for the Clerk to investigate and report back at the next meeting if the Parish Council should take responsibility for a defibrillator located at The Loders Arms.

8602. Communications

- i. Broadband Jurassic Fibre - no further update. A resident enquiry was raised regarding the switch to Digital Voice in 2024/25 as there are concerns that those with poor mobile signal in the parish will be without any form of communication during a power cut. Cllr Pullan and Cllr Last both agreed to attend the DAPTCs upcoming webinar Analogue (Landline) Switch Off. Cllr Bryce also advised that the BT website provides information on the switch to Digital Voice.
- ii. Parish Council website - Shelter Group photos request update - the Clerk confirmed that the photos have been received and will now be uploaded.
- iii. Succession planning for 2024 elections - Cllr Warrington suggested that Councillors speak with members of the CEEAP community groups to encourage them to consider standing for election. Cllr R Newberry and Cllr D Pullan suggested shortening the length of meetings by reducing the agenda of a number of items deemed unnecessary. After discussion, other suggestions were also put forward but it was agreed as a starting point that Councillors come to meetings prepared for the meeting having read all relevant circulated documents so that discussions and decisions can be made in a timelier manner. Clerk and Cllr Warrington to look at the agenda.
- iv. Parish record archiving - ongoing.

8603. Training & Development

The Clerk advised that the DAPTC are running a number of webinars via Zoom that may be of interest to Councillors. The information has been circulated for Councillors to register themselves.

8604. To review correspondence received

Cllr Warrington advised that the Parish Council have been informed that Alison Saunders has decided to step down from her role as representative of the Loders Relief of Need charity and Kim Bowring has taken on the role. Clerk to thank all concerned.

8605. Website and Eggardon & Colmers View

Thanks to Shelter Group for fence repairs and update on the CEEAP public meeting.

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8606. Agenda items for next meeting on Tuesday 16th January 2024.

None.

Meeting closed 9.30pm.

Chairman: *M. Warrington*

Date: *16th January 2024*