

## Loders Parish Council

### Minutes from the meeting of Loders Parish Council held via Zoom on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 7.00pm

**Present:**

**Councillors:** Michele Warrington (*Chair*)  
Bryan Hyde  
David Last  
Tony Alford (*Dorset Council*)  
David Pullan  
Geoff May  
Ros Newberry

**Officer:** Joanne Hughes (*Clerk*)  
**Public:** 4

**Apologies:** Hilary Nadin, David Cannon

**7951. To receive apologies for absence**

Recorded.

**7952. Declarations of interest or Grants of dispensation**

None.

**7953. To accept the minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020 and sign the same**  
15<sup>th</sup> September 2020 Minutes - Cllr Warrington to sign when face to face meetings resume.

**Proposed Cllr R Newberry                      Seconded Cllr D Last                      Resolved**

**7954. Matters arising for information only**

None.

**7955. Democratic Forum**

Cllr Newberry congratulated Nick and Becky Watkins and their children on winning the Best Kept Allotment Award 2020 which this year was awarded by the other allotment holders due to COVID-19. Cllr Newberry confirmed that she would drop the trophy around to the family following the meeting.

**7956. Dorset Council Matters - Report from Cllr Tony Alford**

Cllr Alford provided an overview of the latest news from Dorset Council which included a cabinet meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> October where finances were discussed highlighting a projected £64m budget gap. There is the expectation of a contribution from central government of approximately £35m but this will still require a considerable amount of work to the budget. Dorset Council are also looking at staffing, efficient ways of working and value for money and the Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy will go out to public consultation in the very near future.

**7957. Footpaths and Rights of Way - Report from Cllr David Cannon**

In Cllr Cannon's absence, the Clerk informed the Council of a collapsed step at FP38 just up from New Street Lane that was reported to Cllr Cannon on 5<sup>th</sup> October. Cllr Cannon reported the issue on the Dorset Council portal and two days later the step had been repaired.

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### 7958. Finances

i. **To authorise receipts and payments due**

The following payments for October 2020 were approved in line with internal controls:

| Receipts                |            | Detail                     | Amount   |
|-------------------------|------------|----------------------------|----------|
| Dorset Council          |            | Precept                    | 7,500.00 |
| Payments                | Voucher No | Detail                     | Amount   |
| Mrs J Hughes            | 1124       | Salary/Expenses (October)  | 921.57   |
| HMRC                    | 1125       | PAYE                       | 2.80     |
| Cllr H Nadin            | 1126       | Fingerpost Expenses        | 22.00    |
| Wessex Grounds Services | 1127       | Grounds Maintenance (Sept) | 76.06    |
| PKF Littlejohn          | 1128       | External Audit             | 240.00   |

Bank balance as at 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020 **£31,685.35**

**Proposed Cllr D Pullan**

**Seconded Cllr D Last**

**Resolved**

ii. **Monthly finance reports**

The Clerk provided Councillors with a summary report of the year to date position (October 2020) against the budget and a report of the movement on fund balances to 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

iii. **Finance Working Group meeting**

With Cllr Nadin stepping down from the Council in November and therefore the FWG, Cllr Warrington enquired if anyone would be interested in joining the FWG. Cllr Last advised that he would give it some thought. Cllr Warrington, Cllr May and the Clerk arranged the meeting for Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November at 10am.

iv. **Dorset Coronavirus Community Fund Grant**

Clerk to contact the Dorset Community Foundation to enquire if the Parish Council can donate the remaining Coronavirus funds totalling £575.60 to a local foodbank.

v. **Dorset Council Development Fund Grant**

Cllr Pullan and Cllr Newberry confirmed that they will be meeting with a representative of Huck Nets to look at possible new play equipment ideas for the play area and will come back to the November meeting with a costed plan for play equipment and picnic benches so that an application can be submitted to the Dorset Council Development Fund Grant before the 31<sup>st</sup> December deadline.

### 7959. Parish Council Business Plan

Having previously circulated the Business Plan to all, it was proposed that the Parish Council adopt the plan with the amendments discussed - all in favour. Clerk to update the plan with the agreed amendments and circulate to all. Cllr Warrington also asked Cllr Alford if he could make enquiries as to the status of parish councils in relation to the unitary authority as production of the Business Plan was in part dependent upon the responsibilities that would be passed down from the unitary authority to parish councils which is still not known.

**Proposed Cllr R Newberry**

**Seconded Cllr D Pullan**

**Resolved**

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### 7960. Planning

#### a) Reform of the planning system in England consultation - ends 29<sup>th</sup> October

Cllr Warrington proposed that the Parish Council submit the Parish Council response to the 'Planning for the Future' whitepaper - all in favour. Clerk to make final updates as discussed before submitting.

**Proposed Cllr M Warrington**

**Seconded Cllr D Pullan**

**Resolved**

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

- i. WD/D/19/001514 Reported to Planning Committee - West Combe, Smishops Lane, Loders, Bridport DT6 3SA - application approved.
- ii. WD/D/20/002311 Oak Cottage, 16-17 Main Street, Loders - erect buildings (retrospective) - Clerk to respond - no objections.
- iii. WD/D/20/001382 Trelea, New Road, Uploders - no update.
- iv. WD/D/20/000935 Sunrise Farm, Matravers Farm Access Road, Uploders - no update.
- v. WD/D/20/001067 Riverside Barn, Uploders - application withdrawn.
- vi. Bridgeacre enforcement report - the bat emergence survey from Darwin Ecology confirmed that the bat mitigation licence for Bridgeacre is now complete and all commitments with respect to the EPS licence are now at an end. Cllr Warrington commented that the numbers of lesser horseshoe bats recorded in 2020 compared to those recorded in 2014 has greatly reduced.
- vii. Knowle Farm enforcement - Cllr Alford awaiting response from planning enforcement regarding the milk churn stand.
- viii. Septic Tank at Tom's Barn, Uploders - it was noted that a resident query in relation to the installation of a septic tank at Tom's Barn, Uploders has been investigated and resolved.

### 7961. Council Property

#### i. Cemetery

- Hedge cutting/laying around cemetery

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the hedge laying at the cemetery has been put on hold until the new year.

#### ii. Allotments

Cllr Newberry confirmed that the allotment plots are all in good order.

#### iii. Playing Field

- Play Area Working Group - following the working group meeting, the following recommendations were made:

1. Retain and repair fence as necessary. Cllr Pullan confirmed he has replaced 3 posts.
2. Swings to be kept and repaired as necessary. Toddler swing legs have not been replaced; one will need doing within next 12 months.
3. Spring horse and 4-way rocker to be retained.
4. Slide play house and ladder play house linked by bridge and the scramble net should be retained.
5. Rest of trim trail is deteriorating, not well used and should be removed when deemed unsafe. This space can then be used for one or two new pieces of play equipment.
6. Provide a picnic bench by the river and in the play area.

Potential funding options for the new play equipment include the S106 money for parks and open spaces, the money raised by The Crown Inn for a new picnic bench, and the Dorset Council Development Fund Grant.

- Picnic benches at Well Plot - as discussed above.

- Replacement Lime tree - Clerk to chase up tree replanting with Marshall James.

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### 7962. Roads, Transport and Drains

- i. Waddon Way - no further update from Dorset Council. Visit to Waddon Way to be incorporated within road issues visit by Mr Carey, Dorset Council Community Highways Officer with Cllr Last and Cllr Cannon on 21<sup>st</sup> October.
- ii. Gribb Farm, Shipton Road - the Clerk confirmed that a response had been received from Dorset Council to confirm that following the feasibility study, moving the road is the most sensible option although unlikely to be in the next financial year. Visit to Gribb Farm, Shipton Road to be incorporated within the road issues visit by Mr Carey on 21<sup>st</sup> October.
- iii. Japanese Knotweed - two red posts now mark the area of Japanese Knotweed along New Road Uploders. Cllr Warrington requested that this area be pointed out to Mr Carey during his visit on 21<sup>st</sup> October if in the vicinity.
- iv. Track at Loders Hall/31a Main Street, Loders - Clerk to continue to make enquiries as to ownership of the track and Cllr Last and Cllr Cannon to also enquire with Mr Carey during his visit on 21<sup>st</sup> October. Regarding an enquiry from a resident about taking on the repair and upkeep of the track, Cllr Warrington advised that the resident concerned would need to investigate this matter directly with Dorset Council as the Parish Council have no ownership of the track or authority over its use. The resident would need to pursue this with Dorset Council. Clerk to reply to resident advising this. Clerk to also report the state of the man hole drains along the track to Wessex Water.
- v. Yellow Lane safety - Dorset Council have not provided any accident figures for Yellow Lane but Mr Carey, Dorset Council Highways will be visiting the lane during his roads visit on 21<sup>st</sup> October so Cllr Last and Cllr Cannon to ask his advice on possible 'slow' or other appropriate safety signage as well as his advice on a Bradpole/Bridport fingerpost opposite the junction of Yellow Lane.
- vi. Fingerposts - Cllr Nadin has put forward a costed plan for the repair of fingerpost 49648 (fingerpost on Yellow Lane at the junction of Waddon Lane which needs urgent repair) totalling £194 to be submitted as a grant submission to the CPRE. Clerk to add as an agenda item for a decision at the November meeting.
- vii. New Road verge - Cllr Warrington requested that Mr Carey be taken to visit this site during his roads visit on 21<sup>st</sup> October to advise on the issue.
- viii. Cllr Pullan advised that the road outside the Chapel at Uploders which was crumbling away has been repaired by Dorset Highways but the repair was not sealed on top so is likely to wash away with heavy rain. Cllr Pullan to monitor.

### 7963. Unitary Authority

- i. DAPTC and BLAP update - Cllr Warrington advised that the DAPTC are offering the latest edition (12<sup>th</sup> edition) of Arnold Baker at the discounted price of £120. The Clerk confirmed that in order to complete her CILCA qualification, the latest edition would be required. It was therefore proposed and supported by all that the Parish Council purchase the latest edition.

**Proposed Cllr M Warrington**

**Seconded Cllr R Newberry**

**Resolved**

The DAPTC have also requested magazine articles from parish councils. Clerk to ask Cllr Nadin if she would like to submit an article on the fingerpost repairs that have taken place in Loders over the years.

At the last BLAP meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> September attended by Cllr Warrington, Cllr May and the Clerk, Cllr Warrington reported to the meeting that Cllr Nadin was resigning. The Chair of BLAP, Mr Brian Wilson thanked Cllr Nadin for her valuable contribution to the BLAP meetings over the years.

- ii. DAPTC AGM - the AGM is taking place on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 10am via Zoom. Loders Parish Council have submitted a motion which is on the AGM agenda and therefore two representatives of the Parish Council are required to attend the meeting to propose and second the motion. Cllr Warrington confirmed that she is happy attend the AGM to propose the motion and Cllr Last

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confirmed that he is happy to attend to second the motion. Clerk to confirm with the DAPTC that Loders Parish Council will have two representatives attending the meeting.

- iii. DAPTC/BLAP Parish Council representatives - with Cllr Nadin stepping down, Cllr Warrington asked if anyone would be interested in attending these meetings. No interest at present.

### **7964. River Asker Improvement Project**

- i. Trail cameras insurance update - the Clerk advised that the Parish Council insurers have confirmed that in order for the Parish Council to insure an item, there would need to be 'insurable interest'. The Clerk to contact the River Asker Riverfly Monitoring Group representative to request their comments.

### **7965. Climate and Environment Issues**

- i. Climate Emergency Working Group - following the working group meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> October, the notes of the meeting, the Climate & Ecological Emergency Policy and related resident questionnaire had been circulated to all. Cllr Cannon had raised a query over the name of the policy which he understood to be 'Loders Parish Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan. Cllr Warrington agreed this would be discussed at the next meeting. Following discussions in relation to the non-road route into Bridport, Cllr Alford suggested he make contact with Ms Hansford, Dorset Council Countryside Project Development Officer to see what projects she is working on.
- ii. Response to Dorset Climate and Biodiversity Strategy - the consultation date is not yet known so keep on the agenda for next month.

### **7966. Equality & Diversity Statement**

The Clerk has completed the DAPTC training on Equality & Diversity and has also circulated a draft Loders Parish Council Equality & Diversity policy. Add as an agenda item for next month.

### **7967. Emergency Plan Update**

Cllr Nadin had previously circulated the Emergency Plan with areas highlighted for amendment. Cllr Warrington requested that everyone give some thought to taking on the remit of the Emergency Plan and working with Cllr Newberry to update the plan. To be discussed again at the November meeting.

### **7968. Communications**

- i. Broadband update - Cllr Warrington confirmed that Dorset Council have topped up the funding for the rural gigabit voucher scheme per household and Nigel Day has put himself forward on behalf of the Parish Council and those remaining properties within the parish without access to superfast broadband to become a 'Voucher Ambassador'.
- ii. Website update - the Clerk confirmed that she will start adding content to the Climate & Biodiversity section of the website in line with updates and progress made by the Parish Council.
- iii. Parish Council laptop - Clerk to make enquiries with Cllr Cannon regarding connection issues to Zoom to see if a parish council laptop may be required to address these issues.
- iv. Bridport Youth Forum - nothing to report.

### **7969. Training & Development**

- i. Replacement Vice Chair - Cllr May was nominated for the role with the support of all Councillors but unfortunately technical difficulties prevented Cllr May from being able to confirm if he was happy to accept the role. Cllr Warrington to speak to Cllr May after the meeting.
- ii. Recruiting new Councillors - Cllr Warrington requested that everyone take the opportunity to speak to residents who may be interested in joining the Parish Council as come the new year, there will be three vacant seats.

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iii. DAPTC training for Clerk & Councillors - Nothing to report.

**7970. Correspondence**

None.

**7971. Website and Eggardon & Colmers View**

Allotment winners.

**7972. Agenda items for next meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

Meeting closed at 9.45pm

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_