

# Loders Parish Council

## Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting of Loders Parish Council held at Loders Village Hall on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7.00pm

### Present:

**Councillors:** David Pullan (*Vice Chair*) Ros Newberry  
David Cannon Gareth Taylor  
Gavin Edwards Alan Watts  
Derrick Newberry Neil Eysenck (*Dorset Council*)

**Officer:** Joanne Hughes (*Clerk*) **Public:** 0

**Apologies:** Julie Bryce, Flora Hood, Stephen Tilton

### 9008. To receive apologies for absence

Noted.

### 9009. To receive declarations of interest or grants of dispensation

None.

### 9010. To accept the minutes of the meetings held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2025 and sign the same

Cllr Pullan requested that minute ref. 9002 read 'no water voles were found *above Asker Meadows.*'

**Proposed Cllr G Taylor**

**Seconded Cllr D Cannon**

**Resolved**

### 9011. Democratic Forum

None.

### 9012. Dorset Council - Report Cllr Neil Eysenck

Cllr Eysenck provided updates on the following:

- 1) Mayoral Strategic Authority (MSA) which Dorset Council is actively working towards achieving for the Wessex region made up of Dorset, Somerset, Wiltshire and Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole (BCP). The establishment of an MSA aims to bring decision making closer to residents and enhance the regions control over key functions such as transport, housing, economic growth and climate related priorities as well as potentially unlocking additional funding.
- 2) Homewise, a new energy advice tool for Dorset residents providing tailored advice on making their homes warmer and more affordable to run.
- 3) The Dorset Council budget setting process is well underway and in challenging times is likely to see council tax rise by 5%.

### 9013. Finance

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

The following payments for January 2026 were approved in line with internal controls:

Receipts		Detail	Amount
Loders PCC		Play Area Fence Donation	500.00
National Grid		Wayleave Payment	10.05
Payments	Voucher No	Detail	Amount
Lloyds Bank	1593	Service Charge	4.25
J Hughes	1594	Salary & Expenses	850.45

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HMRC	1595	PAYE/NI	152.51
D Smith	1596	Cemetery Grass Cutting	166.99
Lloyds Bank	1597	Service Charge	4.25
Lloyds Bank	1598	Service Charge	4.25
J Hughes	1599	Salary & Expenses	804.61
HMRC	1600	PAYE/NI	152.51
SLCC	1601	Clerks Training	92.40
D Smith	1602	Cemetery Grass Cutting	166.99
Loders Village Hall	1603	PC Meetings 01.12.25 & 20.01.26	35.00

Payments authorised were £2,434.21 being the total of the individual payments shown above.

Bank balance as at 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026 **£51,966.27**

**Proposed Cllr R Newberry**

**Seconded Cllr G Edwards**

**Resolved**

ii **To review the monthly finance reports** - the Clerk provided Councillors with a summary report of the year-to-date position (January 2026) against the budget and a report of the movement on fund balances to 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

iii **To consider the Finance Report from the FWG meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025 including:**

- a) Performance related increment for Clerk/RFO of 1 SCP from April 2026 - approved
- b) Appointment of Internal Auditor for 2026/27 - approved
- c) Allotment rents for 2026/27 - approved
- d) Cemetery fees for 2026/27 - approved
- e) Precept request for 2026/27 - approved
- f) Parish Council meeting dates for 2026/27 - approved

The report from the FWG meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025 was previously circulated to all Councillors along with supporting documents. Councillors approved the precept proposal for 2026/27 acknowledging that in order to cover budgeted expenditure for the coming year, the precept would need to be set at £19,000. This equates to a Band D property annual increase of £2.53.

**Proposed Cllr D Cannon**

**Seconded Cllr G Edwards**

**Resolved**

### 9014. Parish Council Business Plan

Cllr Taylor had updated the Business Plan taking account of the FWG discussions. The Business Plan aligns with the Parish Council meeting agenda and monthly current and planned material project updates will be provided in the Plan. Agreed that the Business Plan will be uploaded to the website.

### 9015. Planning and Development

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

**P/HOU/2025/07379 & P/LBC/2025/7380** Knowle Farm Well Plot to New Road, Uploders DT6 4NS - Proposed extension to garage/outbuilding - comments by 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 - no objections.

**P/HOU/2025/006649** Toms Barn, Uploders, DT6 4PD - erect single-storey rear extension, detached garage/outbuilding and form driveway - the Parish Council had responded: '*Loders Parish Council have no objections to the extension to the house itself but the garage, while now only single storey, raises the concern that it would still adversely affect the village street scene to the north in line with LNP policy E4 and is outside the DDB. In addition, it is still within the designated Green Space C7.*

The application is still under officer consideration.

**P/HOU/2025/06338** 15 Well Plot, Loders, DT6 4NP - application granted 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

**P/FUL/2025/05537** Cloverleaf Farm, Yellow Lane, Loders DT6 3RY - no update, the application is still under officer consideration.

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

#### i) Dorset Council Local Heritage List - Loders and Uploders Lynchets – update

The Planning Conservation Assistant at Dorset Council has advised that the Dorset Council Local Heritage List can be found on the Dorset Council [website](#). Currently there is no update on progress of the Heritage List with the current delay down to staff changes and shortages and also a decision on whether the Heritage List should be considered by Cabinet or Committee.

### 9016. Unitary Authority

#### i. Update from DAPTC

The Clerk advised that information had been circulated to all on the Dorset Council Town & Parish Council Forum taking place on 3<sup>rd</sup> February and the DAPTC AGM which will take place on 14<sup>th</sup> March.

#### ii. Update from BLAP

- b) The Clerk advised that the next BLAP Parish Liaison meeting will take place on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February at 4pm and the BLAP Members meeting will take place on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 2.15pm. The notes of both meetings will be circulated to all when available.

#### iii. Loders and Shipton Gorge Community Governance Review

The corporate response to the Loders and Shipton Gorge Community Governance Review (CGR) was submitted which confirmed the Parish Councils position: *'Loders Parish Council supports the petition submitted to Dorset Council to revert the new 2023 boundary between Loders and Shipton Gorge to its original pre-2023 boundary.'*

Currently there is no further update on the Community Governance Review consultation which closed 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

### 9017. Council Property

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

#### i. Cemetery

Cllr D Newberry advised that there are a few mole mounds but otherwise nothing else to report.

#### i. Allotments

##### - Peascombe Nature Reserve/Allotments boundary overgrown hedge

Cllr R Newberry confirmed that she has been working alongside a group of residents to lay the hedge between Peascombe Nature Reserve and the allotments. The hedge laying should be finished by the end of the month. Cllr R Newberry advised that there are two large trees in the hedge line that are likely to require cutting back. Agreed for the Clerk to obtain quotes to undertake this work.

#### ii. Playing Field

##### - Well Plot play area project update

The Clerk advised that the new play equipment installation date has been confirmed as 9<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> February with the heras fencing panels and two skips being delivered on the morning of Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February. The Clerk advised that she is unavailable on the delivery morning so one or two Councillors will need to be available to unlock the gate to the playing field and accept the delivery.

The Clerk also raised the following points regarding the conditions of some of the grants received:

- National Lottery Grant - once the installation is complete, the Parish Council must publicise that funding was received from the National Lottery so that people can see how the money

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raised by the National Lottery players supports people and communities to thrive. The National Lottery logo and free branded materials can be used to achieve this.

- Palmers Community Fund - have requested that once the play equipment is installed a photo is taken with those involved (residents and Councillors) and staff from Palmers. The installation of a plaque has also been suggested.

The idea of an opening event for the new equipment was also suggested as a way of thanking all those who have contributed. Cllr R Newberry suggested a board thanking all those involved to include logos, plaques etc. and it was agreed that an opening event would also provide an opportunity for photos and a press release. Easter was suggested as a potential timeframe. Clerk to progress.

### 9018. Footpaths and Rights of Way

Cllr Cannon advised of the following Rights of Way issues:

- BR11 New Street Lane is good except at the junction with FP7 where there is flooding. It was reported to Dorset Council on 8<sup>th</sup> December. The Dorset Council website indicates that the site has been visited but the water level was too high to find the culvert/pipe. Dorset Council have advised that the culvert needs serious improvement to cope with the additional water and they are seeking quotes for the work although they don't expect to have any funding available to progress this currently.
- FP23 Jordan Valley boardwalk is impassable due to mud and the boardwalk needs to be extended. Dorset Council have advised that they will get the team onto this in the coming weeks.
- FP32 Vicarage Lane the footbridge was reported in April 2024 as the gabions were being undermined by water but Dorset Council visited on 11<sup>th</sup> December and advised that the issue has been resolved.
- The bridge along Cherry Lane towards Uploders was raised by a resident as being 'wonky', Cllr Cannon will report to Dorset Council.

### 9019. Roads, Transport and Drains

#### i. Waddon Way, Smishops Lane & Gribb Farm

Waddon Way - reopened January 2026

Gribb Farm - reopened November 2025

Smishops Lane - Dorset Council roadworks map currently showing the road as open.

Cllr Edwards advised that he will attempt again to progress the resurfacing works required for the Stoney Head slip road.

#### ii. 20mph survey - Cllr Edwards advised that the 20mph application for Loders will be going before the Dorset Council 20mph Panel next month.

#### iii. Safe Travel Routes (safe travel route from Loders to Bradpole) - The Clerk advised that a site meeting at FP37 with Stuart Semple has been arranged for February with members of the Safe Travel Route Working Group (Cllrs Bryce, Pullan and Edwards). Cllr R Newberry also requested to join the meeting - Clerk to pass on date and time details.

### 9020. River Asker

Nothing to report. Councillors agreed to change the agenda item heading to Environmental Updates

### 9021. Communications:

#### i Broadband, mobile phone signal and smart meter issues

Cllr Pullan advised that Cllr Bryce has been in touch with Shipton Gorge Parish Council regarding their contact with Atlas Towers to improve their mobile phone signal. Cllr Bryce is interested to

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hear how they are getting on and wondered if Cllr Eysenck had any information. Cllr Eysenck advised that he has no further information he can add.

### **ii Review of Parish Council and Councillors .gov.uk email addresses**

Most Councillors found the new .gov.uk email addresses worked well, although along with the Clerk commented that it is sometimes difficult to track emails in a chain of emails because of the way they 'layer' but it was agreed that this is manageable. One Councillor is still experiencing difficulties accessing emails and another requires help to set the email system up so the Clerk will arrange a convenient time to assist both Councillors.

### **9022. Correspondence received**

- i. Cllr Taylor advised that he and Cllr Bryce had met with Mr Toplas to enable him to provide an update to the Parish Council on his renewables project (wind turbine, agrisolar and battery installations). Currently a feasibility report is being produced which will take between 6-9 months which he then wishes to forward to the Parish Council for consideration.

### **9023. Website and Eggardon & Colmers View**

Play area opening

Rights of Way Improvement Plan consultation

### **9024. Agenda items for next meeting on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

None.

Meeting closed 8.20pm.

**Chair:** J Bryce

**Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> February 2026