

Parish Council of Langton Matravers

www.langtonmatravers-pc.org

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in the Village Hall on Thursday 9th March 2017 at 7 pm.

Present: Cllr Christie in the Chair, Cllrs M Turner, R Sheppard, C Drayson, P White, P Loudoun.

There were 7 members of the public present.

The meeting was audio-recorded.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllrs Knight, Lovell, Lucas.

2. Declarations of Interest / Grant of Dispensations. Cllr Loudoun (Planning 1b, Pecuniary/owner), Cllr White (Planning 1e, neighbour). Cllr Christie declared an interest in Planning 1b) on the grounds that he is a friend/associate of Cllr Loudoun, and other Cllrs followed suit. The Council was therefore inquorate in this matter.

3. National Trust Report. New **interpretation boards** have gone up at Spyway Farm. **Woodland work and fencing** along the cliffs is now finished; there has also been some fencing in the Blacklands area. Mr Kershaw is still waiting for further information about costs for the **Priests' Way repairs**. The Trust helped with the recent 'Love Langton' **Litter picks**.

4. Rights of Way Report. a) Mr Hedley updated the Council on the ongoing **obstruction of Footpath 51** by Mr Dicker's cattle feeder and slurry. No progress had been reported by Ms Black at DCC despite two e-mails from LMPC, though she had had a meeting that day on the matter. Mr Ian Vaughan-Arbuckle, previous RoWLO advised on previous actions. **RESOLVED: To write formally to DCC asking them to serve 'Notice to remove an obstruction on a Right of Way' (Section 143 Highways Act 1980) on Mr Dicker in respect of Footpath 51. (Copies to Henry Scott/K.Black's superior/DCC Solicitor/County Councillor).** **ACTION: Clerk to draft letter and send to CH and IV-A for approval before posting.**
b) Mr Hedley outlined plans for a sustainable system for managing Langton's footpaths in the future, to be launched at the Parish Assembly at the end of April. He hopes that will be a good opportunity to encourage participation; parishioners will be invited to monitor a favourite footpath, and report problems.

5. Public Discussion Period. The meeting was adjourned for this agenda item.

a) Dr Chris Spilling thanked Mr Kershaw and all volunteers for support at the Council's clearing/planting day on Feb 11th at the **Natural Amenity area**, when the rest of the path was cleared and more apple trees and one pear tree were planted. 300 mixed hedging plants are now in, and necessary fencing has been added except in front of the compost toilet. Bryony Baxter of Dorset Wildlife Trust will come to visit the site on March 31st, and suggest further ideas: she may also have information about grant funding for bat boxes, wild flower seeds etc. Jon Kershaw has discussed the site with James Godsmark, NT Surveyor, and the necessary paperwork for the **permissive path from the east end of the site** onto Coles Ground is in preparation. Dr Spilling was warmly thanked by the Council for his work on the project.

b) Mrs Bridget Mayes reported on recent Litter Picks run under the umbrella of 'Litter Free Purbeck' and 'Love Langton', also linked to the Great British Spring Clean. 'Love Langton' has undertaken 33 picks in the last six years, and Mrs Mayes recently visited both St George's and the Swanage schools to outline the problems of litter. Langton's group now has 12 volunteers, and picked up 22 bags of rubbish at the last pick. She thanked the Council for their support. The matter of the lack of litter bin at the Steppes playground was noted **ACTION: Clerk to verify ownership of site.** The Chair thanked Mrs Mayes very much for all her efforts.

c) Mr George Crabb thanked Jon Kershaw for repairs to stone walls in the area, but asked that paint not be used to identify repairs in future. Mr Kershaw explained that the paint is biodegradable and helps him to establish how much the contractor should be paid.

The Meeting was reconvened.

6. Matters Arising from the Public Discussion. As above.

7. Planning Matters.

1. No Comments had been received by LMPC on the Planning Applications below.

2. a) 6/2017/0048 Messrs Keith & Steve Bower, Verney Farm, Gully, Langton Matravers, Swanage BH19 3EX. Variation of condition 3 (6/2013/0622) to allow temporary use of land as a caravan site by agricultural worker for 3 years. **No Objection**
- b) 6/2017/0052 Mr and Mrs Loudoun, Capitol House, Mount Pleasant Lane, Langton Matravers, Swanage, BH19 3HY. Demolish existing garage, alter and extend dwelling and change of use of adjoining land from educational to private residential use in conjunction with dwelling. **The Council was unable to discuss the matter as it was iniquorate for this item (Clause 13, Code of Conduct)**
- c) 6/2017/0058 Mr. Roderick Watt & Mrs Daryl Fielding, Grayling, Acton, Langton Matravers, BH19 3LA. Erect new entrance porch, replace all windows, insert new doors and remove two chimneys. **Leave decision to Conservation Officer.**
- d) 6/2017/0063 Mr Paul Schuster, Hideaway, Mount Pleasant Lane, Langton Matravers, Swanage, BH19 3HH. Erection of sunroom to rear. **The Council objects to this application on the grounds of overlooking and loss of privacy for neighbours.**
- e) 6/2017/0093 Mr & Mrs PHILIP, 40 High Street Langton Matravers BH19 3HB. Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 6/2016/0452 (Demolish carport and outbuilding. Make alterations and erect single storey extensions to existing dwelling) window removed, velux repositioned, window reduced in size. **No Objection**
- f) TWA/2017/032 Mr Daniel Kossoff, Durnford House, 64 High Street, Langton Matravers, BH19 3HB. (T1) Sycamore - prune branches overhanging churchyard back to main stem as shown in submitted photographs; (T2) Sycamore - prune branches overhanging churchyard back to main stem as shown in submitted photographs - Langton Matravers Conservation Area. **Leave Decision to Tree Officer.**
3. Receive planning decisions affecting this parish since the last Parish Council Meeting: a) 6/2016/0776 The National Trust, Durnford Drove (Spyway Car Park), Durnford Drove, Langton Matravers, Swanage, BH19 3HG. Installation of pay & display machine and proposed signage. **APPROVED**
- b) 6/2016/0771 Toms Field Camp Site and Shop, Toms Field Camping Site, Toms Field Road, Langton Matravers, BH19 3HN. Use of part of existing campsite, by motorised caravans and tents, throughout the year. **APPROVED**
4. Any other planning matters: a) By agreement with PDC, discussion of a Tree application from the Cothill Trust (OMH site) will be held over until the next meeting on 13th April.
8. Minutes of the Meeting held 9th February 2017. These were agreed to be a correct record and signed.
9. Matters Arising from the Minutes. Item 9g), Natural Amenity Gates: Cllr Loudoun offered to supply and fit the gates at the east and west ends of the Natural Amenity, with support from Jon Kershaw and the National Trust. This offer was accepted by the Council and grateful thanks expressed ***ACTION: Cllr Loudoun, Jon Kershaw.***
10. The Clerk's Report for the period 6.2.-1.3.2017. A list of correspondence received and actions taken can be read on p.3 of the agenda. Report received.
- a) Item C1. DAPTC Training Courses 2017: the Chair urged all Cllrs to attend training to keep skills and knowledge up to date.
- b) Item C2) David Fairbairn (PDC) – Advice on ‘leaving the room’. Mr Fairbairn had made clear that Cllrs should always leave the chamber as long as there was another room available. It was agreed that in future Cllrs should use the Memorial room as necessary.
- c) Item C3) LMPC letter to Gary Suttle (PDC) about ‘undue pressure’ affecting PDC’s recent Unitary Authority vote. Cllr Suttle had not so far responded. ***RESOLVED: To write again, explaining that LMPC has serious concerns about this matter, and wishes to raise them elsewhere, but wanted to give Cllr Suttle a chance to respond first. ACTION: Clerk.***
- d) Item D1) DCC Questionnaire about ‘Great Wall’ project. After discussion, it was agreed that the wrong questions were being asked. ***ACTION: Clerk to respond.***
- e) Item D2) Purbeck Local Plan Review. i) Meeting 16th March. It was ***RESOLVED: That Cllr Drayson represent LMPC at the meeting, and ask a question on behalf of LMPC at the Q and A session: ‘Has PDC the intention to develop a Second Homes Policy?’ ACTION: Cllr Drayson.***
- ii) Re: Invitation to join Local Forum to discuss changes to the PLPR. ***RESOLVED: that Cllrs Christie and Loudoun be put forward as LMPC representatives for this forum. ACTION: Clerk to put names forward to PDC.***
- f) Item D3) Steve Tapscott e-mail string about alternative sites in Langton. As Cllrs did not feel that they could comment on any development sites not in Council ownership, they declined to respond further.
- g) Item D4) DCC – Minerals and Waste Consultation. The council did not wish to respond.

The next final date for inclusion of correspondence-related agenda items received between meetings is 5th April 2017.

11. Chairman's Announcements.

- a) Cllrs Christie, Drayson and Clerk had attended PDC Planning Training on 6th March.
b) The Chair had been proud to present a Volunteer of the Year Award to Mr Ian Vaughan-Arbuckle at a recent ceremony at Westport House. The award acknowledges Mr V-A's excellent work while RoWLO for Langton Matravers, especially his role in the renovation of the Priest's Way.

12. County and District Councillor's Report. Cllr Lovell was not present.

13. Report on Meeting with DCC Highways. Steve Mepham and Paul Eastwood from DCC Highways had met with Cllrs Loudoun, Christie and White, and surveyed the length of the High Street, looking at current topics: Coombe junction alterations, speed limits for cars and cyclists, the proposed zebra crossing outside St George's School and a replacement for the 'cyclist warning' sign at the west end of the village. They will feed back on our concerns to the relevant officers on these matters, and send links to Dorset Road Safety, who will come to do speed checks. They proposed village Gateway signs coupled with chevrons painted on the road, rather than traffic calming measures which would be prohibitively expensive and unsightly. **ACTION: Mr Eastwood.**

14. Langton Housing Stock Survey. Steve Tapscott of PDC had asked Councils in Purbeck to undertake a survey of the number of second homes in their parishes in order to provide further evidence for a proposed policy to restrict second home ownership in the area. After discussion and a suggestion that postmen may already have the necessary information, it was agreed to follow this up and report back to LMPC. **ACTION: Cllr Christie to ask postman.**

15. Review of Code of Conduct for Activity Groups. The Clerk had not been able to circulate a copy of the latest version to Cllrs. **ACTION: Clerk to ask Jon Kershaw.** The matter of litter at Dancing Ledge was raised. **ACTION: Clerk to ask Bridget Mayes if litter has increased there recently.** Cllr Sheppard noted that there is a proposal being prepared by local wildlife experts to make Dancing Ledge an SSI.

14. Financial Matters: (1) Additions to Council funds since the last Council Meeting:

- £ 60.00 Allotment rent payments 2017
£ 1,837.31 VAT repayment 1.4.2015-31.3.2016.

(2) Note the following Payments by cheque or cash to be made since last Meeting:

- £ 707.74 Clerk's salary (February).
£ 18.67 HMRC – National Insurance payment (February).
£ 120.00 Elliott's Cleaning Co. Public Toilets (February).
£ 542.06 Ashridge Nurseries (Natural Amenity Hedging).
£ 100.00 Purbeck Citizens Advice (S137).
£ 100.00 The Dubber (S137).

(3) Payment by Direct Debit:

- £ 44.33 XLN Telecom for phone and broadband.
£ 22.40 NEST - PC contribution to Clerk's pension.

(4) Any other Financial Matters: Award of grants to Community groups etc. under S137: Burngate: **ACTION: Clerk to ask Burngate who is responsible for their drive: Could scars be used ?** Langton Village Hall will present accounts and quotes later in the month.

15. Confirmation of the date of the next Council Meeting – 13th April 2017 at 7 pm.

16. Additional Items for the Agenda of the next Council Meeting: Parish Assembly Arrangements / Village 'Gateways' / LMVH donation.

Closed 9.12 pm.

Signed..... (Chairman) Date.....