

# Parish Council of Langton Matravers

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## Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held in the Village Hall on Thursday 13th October 2016 at 7 pm.

Present: Cllr W Knight in the Chair, Cllrs P Christie, M Turner, R Lucas, C Drayson, M Lovell, P White, P Loudoun. Mr Steve Mephram and Mr Martin Hill from DCC Highways attended.

There were 21 members of the public present.

The meeting was audio-recorded.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr Sheppard.

2. Declarations of Interest / Grant of Dispensations. Cllr Christie, Planning 1a (neighbour), Cllr Drayson, Item 15, Allotments, (LMAA member).

3. Dorset Highways Presentation. Mr Mephram updated the meeting on plans for **Coombe Junction**; a formal plan will be going forward for installation in 2017, with pedestrian island (not lights) on the A351, The 30mph zone on the A351 will be extended past the junction westwards from Swanage at the same time. DCC have no authority to deal with **speeding cyclists**, but could look into small warning signs to deter. 10 mph is too slow for any measurable speed limit, but **20mph** could be explored **at Acton and in Langton**, though extra conditions apply such as not being a 'strategic' or main road, and the results of speed surveys. It would be expensive, as there would need to be a 30mph zone going to 20 and back. A formal application is needed for a pedestrian crossing outside the school. It was agreed that DCC would look into 20mph options for Langton and Acton. **ACTION: Steve Mephram, Martin Hill**. The meeting was adjourned and the public were invited to ask questions of DCC. It was pointed out that the **maximum** actual speed travelled by any motorised vehicle/bicycle is the problem, not the average speed of several vehicles, though the latter is usually used in evidence. A lady who had sustained a serious injury from an accident with a speeding cyclist in Langton asked that proper rules for cycling were taught in schools. It was suggested that the 20mph advisory zone be extended. Traffic calming measures for both Langton and Acton were proposed. The legality of PCs taking on DCC Highways work as suggested in the DCC 'Working Together' document was questioned; there will be a meeting shortly to discuss this further. Mr Hill emphasised that DCC would not be delegating powers to PCs, but suggesting eg. increased frequency of gully clearing etc. He reported that Highways' Capital Fund is still in good shape, and central Govt are providing more for potholes, though the Maintenance Fund is a problem. The Chair thanked Mr Mephram and Mr Hill for their presentation and for answering questions. The meeting resumed.

4. Pedestrian Crossing for St George's School. **RESOLVED: To make a formal request to DCC Highways for a zebra or pelican crossing for St George's School. ACTION: Clerk to contact DCC Highways and advise St George's School to do the same.**

5. National Trust Report. Mr Kershaw had supported the **Preparation day for the Council's Natural Amenity area** on Oct.8<sup>th</sup> with tools, equipment and manpower, and asked for pictures to include in NT reports. **ACTION: Clerk to supply, having obtained permission from parents as necessary.** £20,000 has been earmarked for mending and clearing vegetation from **dry stone walls**, and will be used by the end of the year. Owing to issues of the expense of water management at the site, plans for **Spyway Car Park** have been shelved for the present, and an application will go in to PDC for only signage and pay and display machine, maintaining the grass surface. The next phase will be to explore **refurbishing the toilet at Spyway Barn**, and look more broadly at the **water catchment systems in the region** to see if a combination of holding tanks and changes in farming practice including planting might reduce the flow to the car park area. A topographical survey will be done to look at the water flow, and there will be consultation with farmers and the PC before firm plans are put in place. The NT can then return to formal plans for Spyway car park. There had been complaints about **coaches carrying activity groups into Durnford Drove**, contrary to the Code of Conduct: this appears to have been a problem of communication, and Mr Kershaw has a meeting to sort this out with the firms concerned. It was suggested

that we ask for a 'No Coaches' sign for the N end of Durnford Drove. **ACTION: Clerk to ask DCC Highways.** Mr Kershaw was thanked for his report.

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

a) Mr Chris Spilling thanked Mr Kershaw and all those attending the **Preparation day for the Council's Natural Amenity area** who had helped to make a good start in preparing the ground. He also thanked Cllr Loudoun for clearing the orchard section, and asked for permission to have a bonfire there. He suggested that the Council consider starting a 'Friends of Langton Matravers Natural Amenity' group to help look after the site in the future. Gates need to be sorted out shortly. The recent **bat survey** had revealed 7-8 different species feeding on the land. The Chair thanked Dr Spilling for all his hard work.

b) Mr George Crabb asked that early morning weekend checks be made for **campers at Spy Car park.** The NT cannot always do this, and asks that members of the public report registration numbers etc. He expressed concern that the **new pay and display machine** would encourage people to park in Durnford Drove again.

c) Mr Barrie Mayes announced that there will be a **Langton CLT meeting** in the Village Hall at 7pm on 14<sup>th</sup> November. **ACTION: Clerk to put on website, Cllr Lucas to advertise to locals in housing need.**

d) Mr David Senior gave further details on plans for a new, **outdoor War Memorial.** It would provide a focal point to remember those who died or were injured in all conflicts. Several individuals and organisations have already offered support for the project, which, if approved by the Diocese, would be erected in the church grounds, funded by public subscription.

7. Matters Arising from the Public Discussion.

a) Natural Amenity at Council's land. All agreed that Dr Spilling could go ahead with a bonfire on the Council's land when conditions are right. **ACTION: Dr Spilling.** Following discussion with **Zurich insurance**, the Clerk had changed the Asset Register (box 3) and Risk Register (23) to reflect changes of use of the land for a Natural Amenity. **RESOLVED: To approve changes to the Asset and Risk registers.** **ACTION: Clerk to send revised registers to Zurich Insurance for their records.** Access to the amenity was discussed, and concerns over the safety of children using the school field both within and after school hours. **RESOLVED: That the area be a dog-free zone.** **ACTION: Clerk to get notices made when access gates ready.** It was agreed that the Clerk write to St George's School saying that LMPC is pleased that they would like to use the Amenity Area in the future, informing them that the area will be dog-free and that though a boundary fence is a DCC/School responsibility, LMPC will work with them to promote the safety and enjoyment of all children as far as possible.

8. Planning Matters.

1. There were 4 comments on the plan 1a) (Cothill Educational Trust) and 2 from the proposer of 1d).

Cllr Christie left the meeting.

2 a) 6/2016/0520 Cothill Educational Trust, High Street (The Science Block; Old Malthouse School), Langton Matravers, BH19 3HB. Convert and alter existing laboratory building and bursar's flat to form a single dwelling with off road parking and associated works. **No Objection.** Cllr Christie rejoined the meeting.

b) 6/2016/0577 Mr and Mrs S.V.Robbens, 1-2 Coombe Court, Langton Matravers, Swanage, Dorset, BH19 3DP. Alterations and extensions comprising: two storey extension and porch to the west elevation, alterations to porches on north elevation and increase the size of hard standing and form retaining walls to rear. **No Objection.**

c) 6/2016/0578 Mr and Mrs S.V.Robbens, 1-2 Coombe Court, Langton Matravers, Swanage, Dorset, BH19 3DP. Alterations and extensions comprising: two storey extension and single storey porch to the west elevation. Re-model porches at north elevation. Internal alterations. Listed Building consent. **No Objection**

d) 6/2016/0485 Toms Field Campsite and Shop. Toms Field Road (Toms Field Campsite and Shop), Langton Matravers, BH19 3HN. Replacement of a seasonal use warden's caravan with a permanent use warden's bungalow. **The Council is keen to support facilities for visitors to the village. Therefore, the Council approves this application, subject to the condition that the bungalow remains part of the commercial unit (Tom's Field Camp Site) in perpetuity, and cannot be sold separately.**

3. Receive planning decisions affecting this parish since the last Parish Council Meeting:

a) TWA/2016/0120 Mr Peter Thomas, Alma Cottages (3), Acton, Langton Matravers, BH19 3LB. (T1) Sycamore - 4 lowest branches on north side of tree growing towards Crundel Cottages - cut back to boundary wall - Acton Conservation Area. **No Objection.**

- b) 6/2016/0452 Mr & Mrs J Philip, High Street (40), Langton Matravers BH19 3HB. Demolish carport and outbuilding. Make alterations and erect single storey extensions to existing dwelling. **Approved.**
- c) 6/2016/0463 Mr and Mrs Roger Free, Toms Field Road (Brendon), Langton Matravers, BH19 3HN. Sever land, demolish garage and erect bungalow (Revised scheme to planning permission 6/2015/0432). **Approved.**
- d) c) 6/2016/0465 H3G and EE Ltd, Nine Barrow Down, Knitson Farm, Corfe Castle. Replacement of three antennas and one cabinet. **Approved.**

4. Any other planning matters: None.

Cllr Loudoun left the meeting.

9. Minutes of the Meeting held 18<sup>th</sup> September 2016. These were agreed to be a correct record and signed.

10. Matters Arising from the Minutes.

a) Item 8.4b) Information about Pre-Planning Advice re: Cothill Educational Trust (Old Malthouse) site. The Clerk reported that the planning officer concerned had been unable to confirm that no enquiries had been made by the Trust about the site, but is not at liberty to discuss Pre-Planning advice.

11. The Clerk's Report for the period 1.9.2016 – 4.10.2016. Correspondence received and actions taken can be read on p.3 of the agenda. Report received.

a) Item Ba). The Clerk and Cllr Christie had attended a useful **meeting at St George's School** on 30<sup>th</sup> September with new Head Teacher Mrs Wemyss, Chair of Governors Anthony Moore and others, to discuss plans for the Council's Natural Amenity Area and other points of common interest.

b) Bb). It was agreed that the Policy and Governance Cttee. consider a **Social Media policy**. **ACTION: Clerk to put on next PGC agenda.**

c) Item C1) New Purbeck Affordable Social Housing Forum. **RESOLVED: That Cllrs Drayson and Christie attend, and report back to Council. ACTION: Clerk to inform Chris McDermott**

d) Item C2. It was agreed that the Clerk send evidence of **groundwater flooding** in Langton to the Environment Agency. **ACTION: Clerk.**

e) Item C3) Telephone Box Removal. After discussion, and an offer from Cllr Lucas to help in maintaining the box, it was **RESOLVED: That LMPC seeks to retain the BT phone kiosk by the King's Arms, without working phone, for the sum of £1. ACTION: Clerk to inform PDC and BT.**

f) Item C5) Joint parishes NT meeting. It was agreed that it would be useful for Chair and Clerk to attend if possible. **ACTION: Clerk to inform Mr Bowyer.**

g) Item A8) Publicising position of Public Toilets in village. It was agreed to ask Mrs Mayes where she thought might be useful places for a signs, and make a decision thereafter. **ACTION: Clerk.**

**The next final date for inclusion of correspondence-related agenda items received between meetings is 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016.**

12. Chairman's Announcements. Cllr Knight reminded the meeting of the Extraordinary Meeting at St George's Church on 18<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm to make a formal response to the 'Reshaping your Councils' consultation.

13. County and District Councillor's Report. Cllr Lovell asked individuals to respond to the above questionnaire too: Purbeck's response has so far been very poor. There will be a meeting about PDC's **Partial Review of the Local Plan** on 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 5pm at the Purbeck School.

14. Outdoor War Memorial. The Chair thanked Mr Senior for his presentation. It was **RESOLVED: That whilst recognizing the many war memorials already in the village, and the Annual Remembrance Service which has been held in the parish church for over 90 years, the Council does not wish to oppose any attempt by parishioners to fund and erect an additional and accessible memorial. We would encourage the proposer(s) to ensure that there is substantial support for the project from within the community and that such a memorial does not detract from existing remembrance practices.**

15. Allotment Rent and Water Charge.

Following a proposal from the Clerk, it was **RESOLVED: a) That allotment rent and water charges are put together. b) That the rent/water rate charge be increased by 50p per full plot to bring the total amount to £30 per half plot, and £60 per full plot. ACTION: Clerk to revise Allotment documents as necessary.**

16. Council Tax/Precept Consultation. Cllr Knight explained relevant questions from the DCLG ‘2017-18 Local Government Finance Settlement’ consultation paper. After discussion, Cllrs responded to qus.4, 5, 6 on p24 thus : **Qu 4: Referendum principles should be extended to larger, higher-spending T&PCs. Qu 5: Parishes should not be subject to referenda if the increase in precept is the result of transfer of services from District or County Councils. Qu 6: LMPC strongly disagrees with the idea of extending referenda to all parishes. ACTION: Clerk to forward to DCLG.**

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

£ 9,367.50 2nd part Parish Precept (PDC).

£ 29.25 Allotment fee and water charge: Plot 7b.

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

£ 150.00 Ian Bugler. Work at Cemetery and Play Area (September).

£ 707.74 Clerk’s salary (September).

£ 18.67 HMRC – National Insurance payment (September).

£ 457.16 Elliott’s Cleaning Co. Public Toilets + Materials. (September).

£40.00 DAPTC – Clerk’s seminar fee.

£ 59.87 SSE Electric supply to Toilet block 24.6.2016 - 22.9.2016.

£ 140.08 Wessex Water - Water supply to Toilet block, 8.03.2016 – 19.9.2016.

£ 123.36 Wessex Water – Water supply to Allotments, 10.3.2016 – 19.9.2016

£ 200.00 Flavourfy – New website update support Sept 2016-Sept.2017.

£ 60.00 Puzey and Co Ltd. Repair to leak at Gents toilet.

£ 126.00 DCC Footpath Maintenance fee 2016/17.

£ 48.00 Puzey and Co Ltd. Repair to syphon system at Gents toilet.

£ 14.98 Laminating Pouches: CASH payment to B.Graham.

£ 10.50 Printer paper: CASH payment to M.Lovell.

(3) Payment by Direct Debit:

£ 44.33 XLN Telecom for phone and broadband.

£ 22.40 NEST - PC contribution to Clerk’s pension.

£ 42.55 TalkTalk Business: office e-mail account

4) Any other Financial Matters: Review 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter accounts. These were reviewed and accepted. It was decided that as the allotment fence did not need replacement during this financial year, the amount should be replaced in reserves. **ACTION: Clerk.**

17. Confirmation of the date of the next Council Meeting – 10<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 7 pm.

24. Additional Items for the Agenda of the next Council Meeting: PDC consultation processes ?

Closed 9.30 pm.

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