

# Parish Council of Langton Matravers

[www.langtonmatravers-pc.org](http://www.langtonmatravers-pc.org)

## Minutes of a Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Thursday 11th April 2019 at 7 pm.

Present: Cllr W Knight in the Chair, Cllrs P Christie, M Turner, P White, C Drayson, M Lovell, P Loudoun.

There were 13 members of the public present.

The meeting was audio-recorded.

1. Apologies for absence. None.

2. Declarations of Interest / Grant of Dispensations. None.

3. National Trust Report. The Trust has supported recent **Litter Picks** in Langton, Wool and Corfe. The **new Area Ranger**, Ben Cooke, will be starting on 15<sup>th</sup> April. Mr Kershaw had met with camp site owners regarding **access to the Acton Fields site**. A copy of the NT letter addressed to Acton Fields residents in response to their expressions of concern was read to the meeting. The Trust are not considering re-routing the track at present, but intend to work with the camp site owners and local residents to alleviate problems relating to speed, dust, public safety, emergency access and track repairs: the camp site owners' offer to resurface the track is being explored. Ongoing work with tenants will **improve the ecology** of the area. Mr Kershaw was thanked for his report. After discussion, the Council agreed to monitor developments at Acton Fields and wait for remedial work to be done before re-evaluating the situation. ***ACTION: All Cllrs.***

4. RoWLO Report. Mr Hedley said that the footpaths are in generally good repair. He has carried out a **formal survey** and listed issues, drawing them to the attention of landowners and DC as necessary. There are now 5 **volunteers** managing the paths in the parish: more could perhaps be recruited at the Parish Assembly. He does not feel that the present **Service Level Agreements** with DCC have been very effective, and feels that they should not be renewed for a further three-year period when they end on 14<sup>th</sup> July. Mr Hedley will carry on as RoWLO for two more years. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the new Dorset Council and ask what will be the benefit to LMPC of renewal of the SLAs. ***ACTION: Clerk.*** Cllr Knight thanked Mr Hedley for his report.

5. Shadow Councillor's Report. Cllr Brooks was not present. Cllr Lovell stated that there was nothing much going on.

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

a) Chris Spilling noted that the **Post Office/Village Shop is up for sale** as a private dwelling. He asked that the Parish Council formally ask the Planning Authority about the status of proposed developments at Putlake Farm. ***ACTION: Clerk; also to ask Steve and Karen about the Post Office transfer.***

b) George Crabb asked that residents be informed in advance if an item on the agenda is not to be discussed at that meeting.

c) Bridget Mayes, Love Langton Litter Picks, noted that reported **fly-tipping at Crack Lane** had still not been cleared away by DWP: have arrangements changed since the new council appeared ? ***ACTION: Clerk and Mrs Mayes to both establish who is now responsible.*** Land and Wave will be joining with Love Langton on a **clear up at Dancing Ledge** on April 29<sup>th</sup>: could the Parish Council's insurance cover local volunteers for this occasion ? ***RESOLVED: To support the event with insurance for volunteers.*** ***ACTION: Mrs Mayes to provide Risk Assessment.***

d) Ian Vaughan-Arbuckle reported that a **caravan is now regularly parked in Crack Lane**: this could be detrimental to the village.

e) Val Murray, **Acton Field camp site**, stressed that she and her husband are both keen to negotiate with residents of Acton Fields to overcome access issues.

The meeting was reconvened.

7. Matters Arising from the Public Participation.

b) Agenda items. The Chair apologised and explained that items are sometimes ‘timed out’ owing to pressure of business; alternatively the item may be only a short update on an ongoing matter on which the Council is working (as in this case). The Clerk suggested that parishioners can contact the office between 6pm and 6.25pm on the day of the meeting to check the status of an agenda item.

d) Caravan in Crack Lane. Cllr Christie explained the reasons behind the presence of the caravan; the owner parks it in other places too. Concern was expressed that the gentleman may need support.

***ACTION: Cllr Christie to ask him if he would like the Council’s support to alleviate his situation and report back.***

e) Access to Acton Field camp site. Mr and Mrs Murray were thanked for their willingness to negotiate to improve the situation.

## 8. Planning Matters.

1. Receive comments from the public concerning the following plans: None.

2. a) [TWA/2019/061](#) Mr David Fisher, 52A High Street, Langton Matravers, BH19 3HB. (T1) Ash - reduce entire crown by 4m retaining the natural shape of the tree; (T2) Beech - reduce entire crown by 4m retaining the natural shape of the tree - Langton Matravers Conservation Area. **No Objection.**

b) [6/2019/0021](#) Lovell Purbeck Ltd. Quarry 4 Quarry Field Acton Swanage Dorset. Small western extension and deeper working to enable extraction of Downs vein stone beds at Quarry 4 Quarry Field Acton. **No Objection.**

3. a) [6/2019/0039](#) Dorset County Council, Leeson House Field Studies Centre, Langton Matravers, Swanage, BH19 3EU. Replace eight critical windows with aluminium double glazed heritage windows. **Approved**

b) [6/2019/0075](#) Mr S Jones, 3 East Acton Field access To Acton Fields Langton Matravers BH19 3HR. Demolish existing garage and erect new garage. **Approved.**

c) [6/2019/0096](#) John Wright, Land adjacent to Meadowcroft, Durnford Drove, Langton Matravers, Swanage, BH19 3HG. Non material amendment to planning permission 6/2017/0542 (Erect two dwellings on a vacant plot and alter access) to alter materials on elevations. **Approved.**

4. Change to Planning Response times. Dorset Council will in future be operating a response time for PCs of 21 days rather than 28: this may mean that some applications will fall between meetings. According to LMPC Standing Orders there is provision for a sub-committee of 3 headed by the Chair to comment between meetings. It was agreed to write to Dorset Council expressing the Council’s strong disapproval of the change: the difficulties for T&PCs which it will engender in terms of extra meetings, admin etc. are against the underlying spirit of the Localism Act (2011). ***ACTION: Clerk.*** It was noted that the new LMPC may have a view on additional meetings/working groups/committees too, and may wish to alter present arrangements in view of the change: the matter will be reviewed in May/June. Cllr Drayson suggested that the Clerk should have the weekly Planning List from DC. ***ACTION: Clerk to ask DC.***

9. Minutes of the Meeting held 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019. These were agreed to be a correct record and signed.

10. Matters Arising from the Minutes. a) Item 16.4.a). **Savings Account:** The Clerk will wait to do this until the end-of-year accounts are completed and internally audited. b) Item 15. **Play Area:** Poppy Maltby has offered to liaise with the school PTA and get suggestions from children about future play equipment. This suggestion was welcomed by the Council.

11. The Clerk’s Report for the period 6.3. – 2.4.2019. Correspondence received and actions taken can be read on p.3 of the agenda. Report received.

A9 Support for DWP Recycling campaign. Cllrs agreed to support this with advertising on website and noticeboards.

C1. Election Posts on website. As the Council has a contested PC election, it had been suggested that candidates could post information about themselves on a special page of the LMPC website. Cllr Lovell advised that this may be illegal. ***ACTION: Clerk to check with DC’s Kirsty Riglar.***

**The next final date for inclusion of correspondence-related agenda items received between meetings is 30th April 2019.**

12. Chairman’s Announcements. The Chair paid tribute to the commitment, passion and hard work of retiring Cllrs Drayson and Turner, who will not be seeking re-election to the Council. All Cllrs offered their thanks and echoed his comments. He reported on the recent DAPTC conference, noting that Matt Prosser, the new CE of Dorset Council, had missed the opportunity to engage with issues around working

with Town and Parish Councils in the future. One speaker had emphasised the importance of the ‘servant-servant’ relationship in joint working between County and local levels. Concern had been expressed at the conference about DAPTC not representing the views of its membership.

13. Timson Trust Future. Gary Suttle had reported that after problems with finding legal experts to carry out the work, the Trust is now in the process of being legally constituted. It will have 5 members, including 1 DC officer, 1 Dorset Council member, 2 LMPC members and a Langton Parish member.

14. Meeting with National Trust re: land/habitat management. Cllrs Christie suggested that, following David Brown (NT)’s talk about their work to improve biodiversity across Purbeck, the PC should organise an open meeting for all interested parties, to include Jon Kershaw and David Brown, to generate ideas from Council and community about improving the local environment through tree planting, habitat creation etc. Local expertise could be used to advise on how this might be done, and volunteers might be sought for eg species monitoring. Mr Kershaw was positive about the idea, suggesting that a key focus might be ‘connecting areas in the landscape’. It was agreed that the proposals be put to the new Council for action after May. JK will discuss with the NT Conservation team, and other Purbeck PCs.

15. Parish Assembly arrangements. Catering, guest lists etc are in hand, though as yet we have not had many responses from local groups. Cllr Turner sent his apologies.

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

- £ 170.00 Ashes interment + monument add. inscription fee, the late Heather Chapman, Plot F19.
- £ 100.00 Monument fee – the late Michael Barnes, Plot R17.
- £ 772.20 Share of CIL Oct/March 2018/19 – Durnford Drove devt.
- £ 30.00 Allotment rent – Curtis Plot 17b

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

- £ 794.53 Clerk’s salary (March)
- £ 12.77 HMRC – PC National Insurance payment (March)
- £ 170.00 Ian Bugler - Grounds Maintenance (March)
- £ 176.15 Elliott’s Cleaning Co. Public Toilets (March).
- £ 128.69 SSE- Electricity at Public Conveniences, 20<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2018 – 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019
- £ 79.09 Water2Business – water supply at Public Conveniences, 21.9.2018 – 20.3.2019
- £ 26.09 Water2Business – water supply at allotments, 22.9.2018 – 20.3.2019
- £ 373.91 Dorset County Council – new SID post.
- £ 108.00 Drainability – unblock drain at Public Conveniences.
- £ 5.99 WH Smith, Office stationery – CASH payment to Clerk

(3) Payment by Direct Debit:

- £ 53.93 XLN Telecom for phone and broadband (March).
- £ 23.83 NEST - PC contribution to Clerk’s pension (March)

(4) Any other Financial Matters: a) PC Insurance: **RESOLVED: To get three quotations for PC insurance for the next three years and bring to next meeting for discussion. ACTION Clerk.**

17. Confirmation of the date of the next Council Meeting to include Annual Parish Meeting and Declaration of Acceptance of Office by all elected Councillors – 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 7 pm, Village Hall.

18. Additional Items for future meetings: Role of T&PCs in Local Government (PC) / Proposed Plan of Action relating to traffic/parking questionnaire / National Trust land/habitat management meeting / Possible changes to meeting/working group/committee structures.

Closed 8.50 pm.

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