

Parish Council of Langton Matravers

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Minutes of a Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Thursday 13th June 2019 at 7 pm.

Present: Cllr W Knight in the Chair, Cllrs P Christie, I Vaughan-Arbuckle, P White, D Pearson, M Lovell, P Loudoun, N Harding, A Bell.

There were 15 members of the public present, including Dorset Cllr Gary Suttle.

The meeting was audio-recorded.

1. Apologies for absence. Dorset Cllr Cherry Brooks.
2. Declarations of Interest / Grant of Dispensations. Cllr Christie declared an interest in Planning Item 1.a) (friend and neighbour).
3. National Trust Report. The Trust has doing much **strimming and access infrastructure repair work**; outstanding issues relating to LM RoWs are now complete. 25 people went on a **guided walk** to see puffins and orchids: another is planned for 27th June. **ACTION: Clerk to liaise with NT and publicise walk.** **ACTION: All Cllrs.** Cllr Christie asked about a **fatality at Hedbury** during a recent 'Coasteering' session run by Land and Wave; Mr Kershaw thinks that the group entered the water at Hedbury, and emphasized that the incident took place outside the seasonal bird restriction zone. The proposed date for the **Open Biodiversity meeting** has been postponed to allow time to liaise with Tom Clarke (NT) who has been on leave. Cllr White offered to take Cllrs out in a boat to see birds from the sea.
4. RoWLO Report. Mr Hedley said that the footpaths are in a good state. He and Mr Kirby had done work on a section of the Windmill Lane path. After discussion, it was **RESOLVED: To discontinue the Service Level Agreement with Dorset Council for Path 44 to St Michael's garage, to retain that for Path 51 (Windmill Knap) and to ask for a new agreement for Path 15, westward from Putlake to Durnford Drove, both for a three year term.** **ACTION: Clerk to sort out detail with Katie Black, DC.** Cllr Knight thanked Mr Hedley for his report.
5. Dorset Councillor's Report. Cllr Brooks was not present. Cllr Suttle noted that all key officers and roles in the new Council had been agreed. He had held a brief meeting with Alan Davies (DC Development Manager) and confirmed that aspects of the Spyway Orchard Reserved Matters would be discussed by DC Planning Cttee on 31st July. Cllr Knight asked how setting up of the new Timson Trust was going: Cllr Suttle will follow up and report back. **ACTION: Cllr Suttle.** He is happy to make DC reports if Cllr Brooks is absent in future, and asked that he be included in circulation of LMPC agendas etc. **ACTION: Clerk.**
6. Town and Parish Council role in Local Democracy. Cllr Christie expressed his frustration with the present situation relating to planning applications, whereby unpaid Cllrs, who know their local area well, put a lot of time and effort into training and consideration of plans, only to have their comments apparently ignored by officers at Dorset Council who don't know the area in the same way. Comments by a Parish Council only have the same weight as those of an individual, and consultation with T&PCs is not statutory. This goes against the spirit of the Localism Act (2011). Recent notifications from Dorset Council regarding the necessity for a 21-day response by T&PCs to applications, meaning extra meetings and expense, and the new scheme of delegation, which ultimately leaves the decision with the Development Manager, show that the situation may be even worse under DC. Cllr V-A, who had recently attended a DC Licensing meeting, suggested that the issue was wider than just the planning system, and that a meeting should be set up with DC, DAPTC and our MP. Other local T&PCs are also unhappy, and it was agreed to prepare a proposal for the DAPTC AGM to encourage them to lobby NALC and the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Govt, to make T&PCs statutory planning consultees, and to make sure that their views have more weight than individuals'. **ACTION: Clerk to add to July agenda.**
7. Public Participation Period. The meeting was adjourned for this agenda item.
 - a) Barrie Mayes noted that the **CLT request for Council support** did not relate to an actual planning application. Before any formal proposal for a particular site is made, the matter will be put to the village

for consideration. The CLT's aim is to build 10 affordable residential units on a Rural Exception Site of approx. 1 acre somewhere in the village: the current Housing Needs Survey indicates that there is demand for these as well as proposed units at Spyway Orchard.

b) Julie Baker, LMAA Chair, said that they had spent £468 on **2 skips** to clear a 10yr build up of rubbish from allotment plots. This is intended as a 'one off'; no future skips are planned. She asked the Council again for a contribution to the cost.

c) Collette Drayson thanked the Council for standing up for **local democracy** and supporting Localism.

d) Jasmine Cattle i) deplored the recent '**Jurassic Beast**' sportive which had turned the village street into a cycle track, with large groups of cyclists using foul language. ii) She also complained about the unkempt frontage of the **Old Malthouse**, bordering the High Street.

e) George Crabb asked if the large new wall behind the Ship Inn should have been subject to Planning permission. The meeting was reconvened.

8. Matters Arising from the Public Participation.

d) i) 'Jurassic Beast' sportive. It was agreed that the 'sportive' is an unacceptable safety hazard; previous attempts to alter direction of travel, get numbers on backs etc. were explained: none has so far had any effect. Cllr Christie suggested a sign asking cyclists to go slowly through the village. It was agreed to write again to the organisers indicating the Council's displeasure, especially relating to the size of the groups, and asking that they take particular care to monitor cyclists' behaviour through Langton in future; copies to DC and the local police, suggesting that they are not enforcing rules about groups etc. **ACTION: Clerk.** ii) OMH weeds. **ACTION: Clerk to write to Stour Developments asking that they clear them.**

e) New wall at Ship Inn. **ACTION: Clerk to contact DC planning and ask them to have a look and report back.**

9. Planning Matters. Cllr Christie left the room during this item.

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

2. a) 6/2019/0291 Merrick, Headbury, Old Malthouse Lane, Langton Matravers, BH19 3JA. Erect two storey side extension, single storey side extension and pergola. Insert second floor window in North elevation. **No Objection.**

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

a) TWA/2019/076 Ms Panchal, Ivy Cottage, 83 and Enzeli, Acton, Langton Matravers, BH19 3JS. T4) Ash - fell; (T5) Ash - fell; (T6) Cypress - fell; (T7) Goat willow - fell; (SG1) Elder - fell - Acton Conservation Area. **Approved**

b) TWA/2019/097 Mr Ian Garratt, 5 North Street, Langton Matravers, BH19 3HL. T1) Bay - fell to ground level - Langton Matravers Conservation Area **Approved (before decision date of 18.6.2019)**

Cllr Christie rejoined the meeting.

4. Any other planning matters: a) MWDF Consultation. After discussion, it was agreed to note the current plans, which are generally supportive of local mineral works, without formal comment.

b) Trees at Spyway Orchard – TPOs and Biodiversity report. Cllrs Loudoun and Christie had inspected trees at the site, with reference to TPOs from 2014 and the current plans for felling outlined in the Biodiversity report discussed at the May meeting. Some trees have already been felled, and some are in a very poor state, (partly because of selective pruning by SSE for power lines), and are of low value (eg small sycamores). **RESOLVED: To set up a working group, and ask for a site meeting with the Tree Officer before the 31st July to ascertain/mark which trees should be protected, and for those to be felled, what compensation in the form of replacement trees will be provided in mitigation.** Working group to consist of Cllrs Loudoun, Christie, V-A and Dr C Spilling. Copy of results of site meeting to be sent to Anthony Bird, DC Planning Officer with responsibility for the application. **ACTION: Clerk to contact Tree Officer to ask for site meeting as soon as possible.**

10. Minutes of the Meetings held 9th May 2019, including the APM, 2019. These were agreed to be a correct record and signed.

11. Matters Arising from the Minutes. a) Item 20.4.b). Mowing at community orchard. Dr Spilling had recommended rough mowing in the orchard every 3 weeks during the growing season, avoiding specific wild flowers. **RESOLVED: To ask Mr Bugler to add this to his regular work for LMPC.** **ACTION: Clerk.**

12. The Clerk's Report for the period 1.5. – 4.6.2019. Correspondence received and actions taken can be read on p.3 of the agenda. Report received.

A7 Climate Emergency. Cllrs agreed to put this on the next agenda.

A3 Reggae Festival. Cllr V-A had attended the DC meeting where complaints about this were discussed. In future T&PCs will be invited to attend Safety Advisory Groups.

C.1.A12. Swanworth Quarry liaison meeting. As this is always on a second Thursday evening, it is not possible for Cllrs to attend: ***ACTION: Clerk to ask if it could be held on a different day next year.***

C.3.A11. Superfast 'Digital Norm' campaign. Cllr Lovell will attend a meeting about it and report back. ***ACTION: Cllr Lovell.***

C.4. B.5. CIL Report. The Clerk reported that there is £3,034.58 + £772.20 in the CIL fund.

C5. B8. The RoSPA Play Area report had been received and most issues had already been sorted out; thanks to Cllr Christie for work. Some items have been referred to St George's School premises team.

D.A15. ***RESOLVED: To pay £234 to the LMAA as a half share of the cost of skips.***

The next final date for inclusion of correspondence-related agenda items received between meetings is 2nd July 2019.

13. Chairman's Announcements. a) The Council agreed to send certificates of thanks to students from St George's school who sang at the Parish Assembly. ***ACTION: Clerk, Chairman.***

b) Cllr Christie reported on the SE Purbeck Chairs and Clerks meeting on 17th May; items discussed included lack of democracy, over-tourism, Highways issues and the new Dorset Council.

14. Report and Recommendations of Traffic and Parking Group. Owing to pressure of time, this was held over until the next meeting.

15. Proposal re: LMPC Development Liaison Officers. A discussion paper from Cllr V-A had been circulated in advance. He explained the advantages of the Council having a member who could act as a conduit between major development projects such as Spyway Orchard and the Old Malthouse, and the Council. After discussion, it was agreed that the proposal must be in compliance with LMPC's own protocol on communication with developers, and DC's Monitoring Officer, Mr Mair, will be asked for his view on potential issues of predetermination etc., before bringing the matter back to a future meeting.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Mr Mair.

16. CLT request for support for site development. ***RESOLVED: This Council supports the principle of Langton Matravers CLT building affordable housing on a Rural Exception Site within the parish on land provided by any landowner; but for the avoidance of doubt this resolution does not imply that the Council has taken a predetermined view on any planning application(s) which may be submitted by the CLT or related parties.***

17. DC Highways Work: a) Coombe junction. The remedial works have already been carried out.

However it was ***RESOLVED: That LMPC continue to press DC Highways for a 30mph limit between the present 30 mph limit on the Swanage side and the West side of the junction.*** ***ACTION: Clerk to advise DC Highways.***

b) St George's School build out. Dorset Cllr Cherry Brooks, who attended the recent site meeting at which several Cllrs stated their preference for a zebra crossing, is setting up a Policy Development Panel to see if this can be achieved. It was decided to wait for the results of this.

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

£ 14,715.00 Dorset Council, 1st half year payment of Precept.

£ 300.00 Mr J. Bradford - Purchase of Burial Plot V11.

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

£ 815.53 Clerk's salary (May).

£ 13.32 HMRC – PC National Insurance payment (May).

£ 187.00 Ian Bugler - Grounds Maintenance (May)

£ 480.50 Elliott's Cleaning Co. Public Toilets.

£ 502.40 Came and Company Ltd, Annual PC Insurance fee 2019-20 (already paid).

£ 82.20 Playsafety Ltd. RoSPA inspection fee for Play Area.

£ 647.50 Emery Carpentry – repairs to cemetery shed and Play area equipment.

£ 13.19 UK2 – Website domain name fee 2019-20. (cheque to Clerk)

(3) Payment by Direct Debit:

£ 59.93 XLN Telecom for phone and broadband.

£ 24.46 NEST - PC contribution to Clerk's pension.

(4) Any other Financial Matters: i) **RESOLVED: To approve the Annual Governance Statement.**

ii) **RESOLVED: To approve the annual accounts for 2018-19.**

19. Confirmation of the date of the next Council Meeting: 11th July 2019 at 7 pm, Village Hall.

20. Additional Items for future meetings: Report and Recommendations of Traffic and Parking Group / Proposals for DAPTC AGM / Climate Emergency declaration ? / Possible changes to meeting/working group/committee structures / Traffic issues at Crack Lane + footpath on Valley Rd. / LMPC Development Liaison Officers ?

Closed 9.30 pm.

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

DRAFT