

Parish Council of Langton Matravers

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Minutes of a Council Meeting held in St George's Church on Thursday 13th February 2020 at 7 pm.

Present: Cllr P Christie in the Chair: Cllrs P White, D Pearson, P Loudoun, A Bell, I Vaughan-Arbuckle.

There were 9 members of the public present. Dorset Cllr Brooks also attended.

The meeting was audio-recorded.

1. Two Minutes' silence was held to honour the memory of the late Cllr Mike Lovell.
2. Apologies for absence: Cllrs Knight and Harding, Christopher Hedley (RoWLO), Tom Clarke (National Trust).
3. Declarations of Interest / Grant of Dispensations. Cllr Bell (Item 18, the Dubber).
4. National Trust Report (read by the Clerk). **Fencing work at Acton** has finished for the present: the small unfenced area will be done next winter. The **dumped car** is being dealt with. Stone pitching works are completed at **Dancing Ledge**. Scrub management work will be finished at **Spyway and Eastington** by the end of the month. A big thank you to all those who came hedgelaying a couple of weeks ago, we're looking at one more day soon.
5. RoWLO's Report: Nothing to report for February.
6. Dorset Councillors' Report. Cllr Brooks offered her condolences to the Council on the loss of Cllr Lovell. The recommendations from the EAP for Highways (previously DPD) have now been approved by the Scrutiny Cttee, and should be put into action soon – these include **Proactive Maintenance Units** linked with the parishes which could help with some of the non-statutory Highways tasks. DC are exploring new ways to set Budgets. The Council are looking at a possible 300% Council tax fee for **empty homes** in the area. A new **permit scheme** has been set up so that utility companies must apply to DC to dig up the roads before the work is done. The recent **Peer Reviews** suggested minor changes; more community feedback is needed. The **Environment EAP** have issued a holding statement: Extinction Rebellion are holding three events in Dorchester to canvass ideas. Re: **Planning Cttee requests for the OMH and Crack Lane sites**, Cllr Brooks said that a decision has not yet been made. The hearings cannot be held jointly with the hearing for the Spyway site, to reflect the cumulative impact on the village: the system does not allow for this. She has not yet heard whether developers in Dorset can 'buy out' their responsibility for building affordable housing: **ACTION: Cllr Brooks to ask again.** Re: **3-1 Tree policy: ACTION: Cllr Christie to send through info to Cllr Brooks.**
7. Public Participation Period. The meeting was adjourned for this agenda item.
 - a) Colette Drayson i) Thanked Cllrs V-A and Christie for a useful meeting held to discuss **Principal Residence/ 2nd Homes Policy**. ii) asked the Council to 'urgently adopt a **no chemical weedkiller/ chemical free pest control policy** for Langton.' She asked that LMPC demand that DC use chemical free methods for clearing gutters and pavements. The LMAA have already agreed a chemical-free policy.
 - c) Sue Spilling asked that the Council support Deb Monkhouse's call for concerned local groups of all sorts to write to the Govt, CCG etc asking for an 'A&E Local'.
 - d) Barrie Mayes asked if the proposed 300% increase in Council tax for empty houses will apply to unsold buildings. **ACTION: Cllr Brooks to report back with more details on the proposed policy.**The meeting was reconvened.
7. Matters Arising from the Public Participation.
 - a) Chemical-free Policy. The matter was discussed and it was noted that the LMAA will be submitting a formal proposal to LMPC regarding changes the Council's allotment tenancy regulations. It was **RESOLVED: To write to Dorset Council supporting their moves to reduce the impact of chemical sprays across the region.**
8. Planning Matters. 1/2. There were no comments received from members of the public.

a) 6/2020/0056 Mrs Linda Politt, Palafox, The Hyde, Langton Matravers, Swanage, BH19 3HE. Palafox, The Hyde, Langton Matravers, Swanage, BH19 3HE. Change of use of second floor office (use class B1a) to residential (use class C3) and convert all existing flats into one single residential dwelling. **No Objection.**

b) TWA/2019/283 Mr Ben Cooke, Northern boundary of Leas Wood House, High Street, Langton Matravers, BH19 3HB. (376) Poplar - re-pollard; (541) Sycamore - reduce on south side of tree by approximately 4-5m - Langton Matravers Conservation Area. **No Objection.**

c) 6/2020/0054 Mr and Mrs J Garnish, Greystones, The Hyde, Langton Matravers, Swanage, BH19 3HE. Single storey rear extension over existing terrace roof. Enlarge 1 rear dormer window. Replace flat roofs with pitched roofs on all 3 rear dormer windows. **No Objection.**

3. No Planning decisions have been received within the last month.

4. Other Planning matter: **OMH site (6/2019/0604) Highways report.** It was agreed that Mr Graham's report was 'weak' and 'disappointing', and did not properly address the relevant concerns of LMPC and parishioners. ***ACTION: Clerk to write to the Highways Dept, Cllr Ray Bryan (Highways Portfolio holder), Cari Wooldridge DC Planning Officer expressing concerns about the content of the report and asking for an independent traffic survey, paid for by the developer, on the impacts of both the OMH and Spyway Orchard projects, not only during the construction phase, but afterwards.***

10. Minutes of the Meeting held 9th January 2020. These were agreed to be a correct record and signed.

11. Matters Arising from the Minutes. None.

12. The Clerk's Report for the period 4.1. – 4.2.2020. Correspondence received and actions taken can be read on p.3 of the agenda. Report received.

A1. Sarah Bibra – OMH Windows. It was agreed that Cllr V-A and Loudoun would relay to Ms Bibra the Council's support for her letters to DC. ***ACTION: Cllrs V-A and Loudoun.***

A26. UK Cycling's 2020 response to LMPC concerns about 'Jurassic Wiggle'. The Council noted that it is not happy with their attitude.

B3. Meeting with Tree Officer and team Re: Spyway Orchard Trees. Cllrs Brooks was thanked for her help in setting this up. The meeting was useful, and the officer has said that he will be revising the report relating to the necessity for removal of trees on the eastern boundary outside the area of development.

C.1. Invitation to PCC candidate to speak at LMPC meeting. It was agreed that, on the grounds of political equality, if one candidate were invited, all should be; with already-full agendas, this is not best use of LMPC meeting time. The Council might invite the successful candidate in due course.

C2. A&E at Poole. It was agreed that the Council should write a strong letter of support, expressing LMPC's disgust that the local population's needs are ignored. ***ACTION: Clerk.***

C.3. VE Day Celebrations ? It was suggested that parishioners might join celebrations in Swanage.

C4. No Cllr expressed an interest in attending the Wessex Community Housing meeting in Dorchester.

C5. Love Langton Litter Pick dates 26th, 27th, 29th March. The Council agreed to support all the picks with insurance cover, as usual.

The next final date for inclusion of correspondence-related agenda items received between meetings is 3rd March 2020.

13. Chairman's Announcements. At the February Purbeck DAPTC Cllr Tony Alford had said that T&PCs having problems with getting planning comments in within 21 days are allowed to ask (and will get) an extension. That has not been LMPC's experience.

14. Construction Traffic Management Requirements document. Cllr V-A introduced the draft, explaining key aspects. ***RESOLVED: To endorse the document and send copies to the Planning and Highways Depts at DC, the planning officers working on the OMH, Spyway Orchard and Crack Lane applications, the developers of each site, with a copy to the SE Purbeck Parishes group for information. ACTION: Clerk.***

15. Purbeck Local Plan's 2nd Home/Principal residence policy. It was ***RESOLVED: That LMPC urge Dorset Council to fully adopt the St Ives 2nd Home/Principal residence policy in the forthcoming Purbeck Plan.*** This policy would relate to **new** development in the area. ***ACTION: Clerk to forward to DC.***

16. Environmental Working Group (LPA) update. Plans for the ‘Leap Day’ meeting are going well. The agenda for the next meeting is in progress.

17. Refurbishment of Parish Noticeboard.at Putlake. **RESOLVED: To accept the quotation from Red Hill Windows to fit new glazing units for a cost of £558.33 +VAT.**

18. Award of Grants (s.137) 2020. After discussion of the applications submitted, it was **RESOLVED: To make awards as follows: Dubber, £240.00; Purbeck CAB, £150.00; St George’s Pre-School, £500.00; plus £25 each to Langton Scouts and St George’s Church in lieu of flowers for the late Cllr Lovell’s funeral.**

19. Dorset Local Plan event report and response. Cllr Pearson reported that several other villages are experiencing similar issues to Langton: these are not necessarily reflected in the thinking of those structuring the DLP. It was agreed that Cllr Pearson and the Clerk should respond on behalf of LMPC.

ACTION: Cllr Pearson, Clerk. Cllr Pearson noted that Neighbourhood Plans only last for 2 years.

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

£ 250.00 Interment fee: the late Michael Lovell.

£ 980.00 Allotment fees 2020.

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

£ 894.20 Clerk’s salary (January).

£ 24.18 HMRC – PC National Insurance payment (January).

£ 187.00 Ian Bugler, Grounds Maintenance (December and January).

£ 168.95 Elliotts Cleaning Co. Public Toilets + Bus shelter + cleaning products.

(January).

£ 23.37 SSE – Unmetered electricity 23th Dec. 2019 -31, January 2020

(3) Payment by Direct Debit:

£ 61.13 XLN Telecom for phone and broadband (January).

£ 26.83 NEST - PC contribution to Clerk’s pension (January)

(4) Any other Financial Matters: New signatory for Bank account. **RESOLVED: To accept Cllr Pearson’s offer to apply to be a new signatory for the Council’s bank account. ACTION: Clerk, Cllr Pearson.**

21. Confirmation of the date of the next Council Meeting: 12th March 2020 at 7 pm, Village Hall.

22. Additional Items for future meetings: Possible changes to meeting/working group/committee structures / Future of OMH site / Memorial to Cllr Lovell / Improvements to local hospitals / Woodland burial site ?

Closed 9.25 pm.

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