

Parish Council of Langton Matravers

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Minutes of a virtual Council Meeting held on 'Zoom' on Thursday 10th September 2020 at 7 pm.

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

Dorset Cllr Cherry Brooks, Tom Clarke (National Trust) and Christopher Hedley (RoW) also attended. No members of the public were 'present'.

The meeting was recorded.

1. Apologies for absence. None.

2. Declarations of interest/ Grants of Dispensation. None.

3. National Trust Report. Spyway and Dancing Ledge have been exceptionally busy, with a more diverse range of people visiting. The Trust have reviewed their website information, and have contacted Google to change data about vehicular access to the coast via the Priests' Way. Management of visitor numbers is a problem, and the Trust are looking at volunteer engagement teams as one solution. The Portaloo will be returned to Spyway car park next year. Tom reported more than 5,000 cycle trips through Langton so far this year: a 30%-40% increase on last year. He was asked to feed back concerns from LMPC about having sufficient staff 'on the ground' to manage visitor numbers in the future. **ACTION: TC.**

4. RoW Report. Mr Hedley had walked approx. 2/3 of the paths in the parish recently, after a 6-month gap during lockdown. Most are in good condition. 2 new stiles and 2 signs are needed. There are still some problems with the permissive path at Windmill Knap, and the route in the South Barn area needs to be clarified following access work by the landowner. Mr Hedley thanked Linda and Martin Kirby, John Kirwin and Elizabeth Hedley for their work on various paths this year. Mr Hedley will relinquish his post in April 2021, and suggested that the Council start to consider a successor. **ACTION: LMPC.** Some obstruction was noted on the footpath adjacent to Spyway Orchard, though Mr Hedley said access is still possible: this will be mentioned at the forthcoming meeting with Aster. **ACTION: LMPC.**

5. Dorset Cllr's Report. Following a Cabinet reshuffle, Cllr Brooks is now the Lead Member for Highways and Parking; she is no longer on the East Planning Cttee. Cllr Jill Haynes is now the member for customer and community services. Covid regulations mean that many staff are still working from home, probably until next May: Waste and Recycling are also affected. DC will produce a strategy for Transport in Purbeck. It might be possible to introduce some obstacles in the High Street to deter speeding cyclists.

6. Public Participation. None.

7. Planning Matters. 1. There were no comments received from members of the public.

2. a) 6/2020/0353 Miss K Travers & Mr J Cartwright, 12 Capston Field, Langton Matravers, Swanage, BH19 3HP. Sever land, erect 2 semi-detached dwellings. **No Objection.**

3. Decisions since last meeting:

a) TWA/2020/044. Mr John Wright. 85 High Street, Langton Matravers, BH19 3HA. (T1) Purple beech (*Fagus sylvatica* 'purpurea') - prune overhanging canopy back to suitable points: Prune to achieve clearance of 2m between tips of branches & fabric of the building; Prune to raise canopy by not more than 4m above the bottom of the drystone wall; Prune to reduce canopy overhanging the property back to not less than 5m out from the main stem (as indicated by broken cyan arc on submitted site plan) Langton Matravers Conservation Area. **Approved.**

4. Other Planning Matters. None.

8. Minutes of the virtual Meeting held 9th July 2020. These were agreed to be a correct record.

9. Matters Arising from the Minutes. a) Item 11.1. Durnford House-St George's Close footway. LMPC had been quoted £17,000 for the cost of 'Imprint' as it is a small section: we would need to pay half. The Council felt that this was unreasonable. **ACTION: Clerk to forward correspondence from Steve Mepham to Cllr Brooks for action.**

b) Item 11.3. 20mph request. Cllr V-A had prepared a 'Way Ahead' document which was presented to Council. It was **RESOLVED: To fulfil the wishes of the parishioners of Langton Matravers to create a 20mph speed limit through the centre of the village. Further, the Council does not accept that these wishes are unachievable until and unless the Council is unanimous in the view that all possible solutions have been exhaustively explored.** Cllr Pearson requested that the speed limit extend from the 'Langton Matravers' sign at the West end of the village as far as Coombe junction, as much speeding happens at each end of the village. Cllrs expressed frustration that, despite many years of requests, DC were still unwilling to support the proposal. Cllr Brooks noted DC's need to use budgets wisely under Covid restrictions, and that any action has to be based on DC's data within the context of Highway Law. **ACTION: Cllr Brooks to feed back LMPC resolution/concerns to Highways team. Clerk/Cllr V-A to update parish through website/ Dubber.**

Speed Watch. **RESOLVED: To attempt to form a volunteer LM Speed Watch team. ACTION: Clerk/Cllr V-A to advertise on website / in Dubber**

10. The Clerk's Report for the period 2.7. – 1.9.2020. Correspondence received and actions taken can be read on p.3 of the agenda. Report received.

a) A16. Nigel Jarvis (Aster). The Clerk is still working to set up an informal meeting to discuss development conditions relating to the Spyway Orchard site.

b) B5. Letter to NT re; contribution of Jon Kershaw to the area: Mr Kershaw had expressed thanks to LMPC for the letter.

c) B4. Key Areas for Action 2020-21. Cllrs approved the proposed list.

d) C.A22. Bridget Graham. Litter Pick dates and proposal re: volunteer teams. Cllrs approved both, and thanks were expressed to Ms Graham for all the wonderful work she does to keep the parish litter-free.

e) D/A9. National Trust. License for Acton notice. Cllr Harding noted that the proposed wording of the sign was inaccurate; the approach road to Acton is not a private road. Subject to changes in the wording, it was **RESOLVED: To ask that a license be issued by the NT to LMPC for the proposed vehicular access sign at Acton.** As the sign was requested by residents of Acton, they will bear the cost.

The next final date for inclusion of correspondence-related agenda items received between meetings is 29th September 2020.

11. Chairman's Announcements. None.

12. 20mph Proposal and associated matters. See 9b above.

13. Proposals for the Play Area. **RESOLVED: To establish a Working Party to explore options and make recommendations to Council.** Cllrs Loudoun, Bell, Knight, Harding. **ACTION: Clerk to set up meeting.**

14. Annual Cemetery Report. Report received. Cllr Loudoun noted full bins and grave spoil dumped in the wrong place. **ACTION: Clerk to follow up with groundsman/undertaker.**

15. NALC Devolution survey/consultation. Cllrs considered this point by point and prepared responses as appropriate. **ACTION: Clerk to respond on behalf of Council.**

16. Future Meetings of LMPC. As HM Government are about to introduce a 'Rule of 6' Covid restriction, it was agreed that meetings will have to remain virtual for the immediate future.

17. Financial Matters. (1) Additions to Council funds since the July Council Meeting:

£ 20.00 Monument additional inscription fee, the late Mrs Betty Tatchell.

£ 500.00 Interment fee – the late William Ormerod, Plot N19.

£ 250.00 Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial E59 – Plot B16.

(2) Note the following Payments by cheque or cash made in August:

£ 894.20 Clerk's salary (July).

£ 22.38 HMRC – PC National Insurance payment (July).

£ 272.00 Ian Bugler, Grounds Maintenance (July).

£ 515.08 Linda Mc Morrow. – cleaning of Public Conv. + materials + bus shelter (July)

£ 42.79 Tradevault – plastic mesh to close off Play Area + cable ties (cheque to Clerk).

£ 160.78 Puzey and Co. Supply and fit new basin taps at Ladies' and Gents' WCs.
£ 35.00 DAPTC – Agendas and Minutes training course (Zoom).

(3) Payment by Direct Debit:

£ 61.13 XLN Telecom for phone and broadband (July).
£ 26.83 NEST - PC contribution to Clerk's pension (July).

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

£ 918.68 Clerk's salary (August).
£ 25.76 HMRC – PC National Insurance payment (August).
£ 187.00 Ian Bugler, Grounds Maintenance (August).
£ 467.77 Linda McMorrow – cleaning of Public Convs. (August).
£ 63.90 Puzey and Co. – new toilet seat at Gents, PCs.

(5) Payment by Direct Debit:

£ 61.13 XLN Telecom for phone and broadband (August).
£ 27.56 NEST - PC contribution to Clerk's pension (August)

(6) Any other Financial Matters: a) Approve first quarter accounts. This was deferred to the next meeting.

b) Announcement of Conclusion of Annual External Audit. c) Clerk 36p. p.h. rise in pay rate.

18. Confirmation of the date of the next virtual Council Meeting 8th October 2020 at 7 pm.

17. Additional Items for future meetings: Neighbourhood Plan / Changes to Working Group/Cttee/ Meeting structure / Memorial to the late Cllr Lovell / Local hospital improvements / Approve 1st and 2nd quarter accounts / Response to 'Planning for the Future' consultation.

Closed c.9.30 pm.

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