

Parish Council of Langton Matravers

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Minutes of a virtual Council Meeting held on 'Zoom' on Thursday 12th November 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, also attended.

There were 2 members of the public 'present', including Helen ffitch, journalist.

The meeting was recorded.

1. Apologies for absence. Tom Clarke (National Trust).

2. Declarations of interest/ Grants of Dispensation. Cllrs Loudoun and Harding, Planning 1b), Cllrs Christie, Kirby, Item 14 (allotment holder/spouse of).

3. National Trust Report. The Clerk noted that Mr Clarke had been approached by LMPC to see if the Trust might make a contribution to the latest Priest's Way leaflet reprint. All are encouraged to feed back to Google about misinformation on vehicular access to Dancing Ledge.

4. Dorset Cllr's Report. Cllr Brooks said that there has been a **big rise in Covid cases in Dorset**: people are not abiding by the guidelines, and are still going out. Covid marshals will be deployed to try to police the restrictions in areas of high population. **Local tips** will remain open during the current lockdown. Cllrs noted a lot of holiday/leisure visitors to the area: Cllr Brooks reported that traffic surveys showed this too. **ACTION: Cllr Brooks to forward details of Community support grants available to LM Pre-School.**

5. Public Participation. None.

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

2. Make decision on applications.

a) 6/2019/0641, P & J Dyer Ltd, Knaveswell Farm, Knitson, Corfe Castle, Wareham, BH20 5JB. Outline Planning Permission for conversion and alteration of farm buildings to tourist accommodation and formation of new car park with landscaping as a Reserved Matter. As the application had only just been posted by DC, it was felt that Cllrs and members of the public had not had sufficient time to consider. **ACTION: Clerk to ask Planning officer for extension.**

b) 6/2020/0438, Mr Ben Young, Nursery Bridge Farm, Valley Road, Harmans Cross, Swanage, BH19 3DX. Change of use of existing farm building to farm shop and office (Class E) & function room (Class F1) **No Objection, though, assuming that the proposed change of use will increase the volume of traffic to the site, we ask that a suitable solution is worked out for traffic ingress and egress onto the A351, which has a national speed limit at that point.** (Cllrs Harding and Loudoun left the meeting during this item)

c) Application 6/2020/0449, Sean Lock, Knitson, had just been posted: **ACTION: Clerk to ask Planning officer for extension.**

3. Decisions since last meeting:

a) TWA/2020/094 Ms Ann Hitchcock, 47 High Street, Langton Matravers, BH19 3HA, (T1) Ash - crown reduce back to previous pruning points Langton Matravers Conservation Area. **Approved.**

b) TWA/2020/101 Mr Dennis Browne, Mulberry Cottage, 62 High Street, Langton Matravers, BH19 3HB. (T4) Horse chestnut - fell Langton Matravers Conservation Area. **Approved.**

4. Other Planning Matters. The clerk update the meeting on Crack Lane appl. 6/2019/0656; she had spoken to Mr Lytton-Trevers, the officer in charge of the case, who explained that he was waiting on legal advice in relation to the impact of emerging Purbeck Local Plan before announcing his recommendation to the planning committee. Cllr Christie noted that there was a recommendation of 70% affordable homes for Rural Exception Sites in the latest version of the PLP; Mr L-T had been looking at 100%

7. Minutes of the virtual Meetings held 8th October 2020 and 19th October. These were both agreed to be a correct record. They will be signed by the Chair in due course.

8. Matters Arising from the Minutes. a) Extraordinary Meeting: Ferry Inquiry. The Chair will represent LMPC and speak to the objection agreed. Despite consensus between T&PCs in the area, it has not been possible to find 'common ground' for a joint objection thus far.

b) Item 6.3 (Planning); Further to frustration expressed at the previous meeting about lack of notice being taken of LMPC comments on planning applications, Cllr Christie proposed that LMPC issue a statement that 'it has no confidence that DC give any weight to local knowledge...' The matter was fully discussed, and it was noted that Cllrs have a duty to their parishioners to engage with the planning system. It was suggested that the matter should be addressed at the highest level. The Chair remarked that there may be a problem of perception and understanding on the part of some officers and Cllrs at County level, in that they need to remember that there should not be a master/servant relationship between them and T&PCs: we are ALL here to serve the public. Cllr Brooks concurred, and said that officers should be better at listening. She again invited LMPC representatives to meet her and Matthew Piles to discuss this further, and also to address the issue which had been raised about unbalanced representation on the Wimborne-based Planning Cttee which serves the Purbeck area. It was **RESOLVED: To let the proposal lie on the table until after a meeting with Cllr Brooks and Matthew Piles.**

Cllr Brooks left the meeting.

9. The Clerk's Report for the period 30.9.-3.11.2020. Correspondence received and actions taken can be read on p.2 of the agenda. Report received.

a) Bus Shelter anti-litter posters. Cllr Kirby had advised that posters should not be attached to bus shelters. Cllr Knight noted that the shelter by the Ship Inn belonged to LMPC, which has a noticeboard for the use of the public.

b) A9. Marion Page – concerns about Spyway Orchard building start. Nigel Jarvis, of Aster, had responded to Mrs Page explaining that drainage plans had been submitted to DC on 9th October. Aster awaits a response.

c) C.A3. Acton sign. The formal application for the sign has been sent to the NT. A representative of Acton residents had spoken to the Clerk: though not entirely happy with LMPC's decision, they will wait to see how it works, and discuss revision if necessary in future.

d) C.A8. Plans to remove Ambulance car in December 2020. **RESOLVED: That a letter be sent to the SW Ambulance Trust recording LMPC's displeasure; copies to MP and Spencer Flower. ACTION: Clerk.**

e) C.A11. Request for LMPC support with 2021 census. It was agreed to wait to see how DC will support.

f) D. A10. It was agreed to support the Village Hall with its bid for funding. **ACTION: Clerk.**

g) **RESOLVED: To approve suggested dates for 2021 Council meetings.**

The next final date for inclusion of correspondence-related agenda items received between meetings is 1st December 2020.

10. Chairman's Announcements. The Chair and Clerk will attend the DAPTC virtual AGM on 14th November the Council's behalf. Cllr Knight will report back to the next meeting.

11 Highways. a) 20mph Proposal. Cllr V-A praised a resident's letter of support to Cllr Brooks on the topic, and asked that more parishioners write. Both Cllr Brooks and Steve Mepham's formal responses reject the 20mph request; he finds their reasons 'unconvincing' and noted problems with statements made. Cllr V-A suggested that LMPC wait until other PTAG Councils express a view: a joint approach might strengthen the case. **ACTION: Cllr VA to put notice in the December Dubber asking for written support for the 20 campaign addressed to Cllr Brooks.** b) PTAG report. Other villages are concerned about speed issues, and a group of 4 (including Cllr V-A) will prepare a paper addressing this. Parking was also discussed, and Cllr V-A will review options for Langton to control illegal and inconsiderate parking. The village still needs a car park. c) '20 is Plenty'. Cllr V-A has joined the group, and gained useful advice. He suggested a donation of £50 to the group, which might be agreed at the February grant item. 'Speed Watch' is on hold at present, due to Covid. d) Speed limit proposal on A351. DC's Andrew Bradley and Mike Potter are following this up, though a proposed speed survey is on hold due to Covid. They are addressing it as two separate sections, the section from St Mark's school to the

current national speed limit sign to the west of Coombe junction, and the section around the Crack Lane junction. LMPC would like this to be a continuous stretch to beyond Crack Lane westwards. It was **RESOLVED: To agree to a meeting between LMPC representatives, Cllr Brooks and DC's Matthew Piles, to discuss principles behind Planning and Highways decisions. ACTION: Clerk to agree dates for meeting with Cllr Brooks.**

12. Play Area update. HAGS have now withdrawn their proposal, but Lappset and Sutcliffe Play have sent revised layouts/quotations. Concerns raised by neighbours were discussed: LMPC are waiting on a positive response from St George's School governors regarding space. **ACTION: Clerk to set up a meeting with the Working group as soon as there is a response form Governors.**

13. Dorset Council Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy Consultation. Cllrs Christie and Pearson had done in-depth work on the document and questions, and gave their recommendations about responses to Council. There is concern that unless planning law is changed to ensure carbon-neutral building standards, little progress can be made in that area, though some said this was too expensive an option. Cllr Christie also recommended more emphasis on tree-planting. Given those provisos, it was **RESOLVED: that LMPC agrees with the proposals in the strategy. ACTION: Clerk to respond accordingly on LMPC's behalf.**

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

£ 250.00 Interment fee, the late Peter Beech, Plot D17.

(2) Note the following Payments by cheque or cash made since the last meeting:

£ 918.68 Clerk's salary (October).

£ 25.76 HMRC – PC National Insurance payment (October).

£ 204.00 Ian Bugler, Grounds Maintenance (October).

£ 485.30 Linda Mc Morrow. – cleaning of Public Conveniences and materials.

£ 240.00 PKF Littlejohn – External Audit fee 2019-20.(already paid)

£ 211.97 DC Grounds Maintenance (footpath SLA) 20-21.

(3) Payment by Direct Debit:

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

£ 27.56 NEST - PC contribution to Clerk's pension (October).

(6) Any other Financial Matters: a) **RESOLVED: To approve the second quarter accounts.**

16. Confirmation of the date of the next virtual Council Meeting 10th December 2020 at 7 pm.

17. Additional Items for future meetings: Memorial to the late Cllr Lovell / Street Lights / Volunteer of the Year decision / Purbeck Plan Modifications consultation.

14. Allotment Rent 2022 Cllrs Christie and Kirby left the meeting and did not re-join. After agreement that though LMPC should not make a profit on the allotments, they should not run at a loss, possible ways to make savings were discussed. It was **RESOLVED: To raise the rent for 2022 by £5.00 for a full plot and £2.50 for half a plot.**

Closed 9.20 pm.

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