

Parish Council of Langton Matravers

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Minutes of a virtual Council Meeting held on 'Zoom' on Thursday 8th April 2021 at 7 pm.

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

2 members of the public were also 'present': Cllr Brooks joined the meeting at c.7.45pm.

The meeting was recorded.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr Harding, Tom Clarke (NT).

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

3. National Trust Report. (read by the Clerk). Mr Clarke asked for a meeting with representatives of LMPC to talk about **car parking at Spyway and in Langton**. There will not be a **portaloo** at the car park this year as it is too expensive to keep clean; visitors will be signposted to PCs at Putlake. **ACTION: Cllrs Pearson, V-A, Bell and Kirby to meet TC to discuss. Clerk to set up meeting date/time and advise TC of Council's concerns about inadequate parking and lack of toilet facilities at Spyway car park.** Mr Clarke had met with Bridget Mayes and Julie Baker to discuss ways to discourage **dog poo litter** in the countryside; the bags and poo will be spray-painted to discourage future 'leavings'. Cllr Knight expressed the Council's thanks to Ms Baker and Mayes for their work in the matter. **Activity providers** are back in action. **Puffins** are back too: Tom is hoping to hold a puffin count day in June for Langton residents.

5. Public Participation. None. Therefore no Item 6.

7. Planning Matters. 1. Receive comments from the public on following applications: 10 objections to c).

- a) 6/2021/0121 Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks, South Barn, Gully, Swanage, BH19 3EX. Upgrade existing 11kV overhead line from 2 wire to 3 wire. **No Objection.**
- b) 6/2020/0533 Mr D Lucas, Land off Valley Road, Harmans Cross, Swanage, BH19 3DX. Raise roof of agricultural building and convert to form tourist accommodation with new driveway and parking from existing vehicular access. **The Council OBJECTS to this application on the grounds of negative impact on the AONB: it is very visible from all angles in the landscape.**
- c) TPO/2021/023 Moll, The Old Malthouse School, High Street, Langton Matravers, BH19 3HB. T1 Beech - fell due to excessive overhang into school playground T2 Chestnut - fell due to excessive overhang into school playground T3 Beech - fell due to excessive overhang into school playground T4 Pine - fell due to no amenity value and recent limb drop No replacement planting proposed District of Purbeck (The Old Malthouse School No.1) TPO 2007 (Ref. TPO 332). **The Council strongly OBJECTS to this application; the trees are neither dying nor diseased and therefore there is no justification for felling; they provide amenity value in the landscape and are visible from footpaths etc (AONB); they provide shade and educational benefit to the Pre-School whose playground is directly adjacent. Furthermore, contrary to the email message in the application documents, there are no known plans for any extension to the playground.** The Clerk was asked to write to both St George's School and Pre-School to ask about this. **ACTION: Clerk.**
- d) 6/2021/0106 Miss K Travers & Mr J Cartwright, 12 Capston Field, Langton Matravers, Swanage, BH19 3HP. Non material amendment to Planning Permission 6/2020/0353 (Sever land, erect 2 semi-detached dwellings) to alter the internal & parking layouts. (**No comment** required).
- e) 6/2021/0165 Downs Quarry, Kingston Road, Langton Matravers, Swanage BH19 3JP. Application to vary Conditions 9, 20, 21 & 22 of planning permission 6/2013/0592 (Variation of Conditions 2 & 18 of planning approval 6/2011/0694 to extend the end date of the development to 30 September 2026 and to change the Phasing and Working Scheme) to change the end date of the development and to extract the stone from the soil and overburden storage area in the Extension Area of Downs Quarry. **No Objection**
- f) 6/2021/0167 Downs Quarry, Kingston Road, Langton Matravers, Swanage BH19 3JP. Application to vary Conditions 20, 21 & 22 of planning permission 6/2013/0593 (Variation of conditions 2 & 3 of planning approval 6/2012/0699 to change the end date of this development to 30 September 2026 and to change the Phasing and Working Schemes) to change the end date of the development and the working plans to all soil and overburden storage. **No Objection**

g) 6/2021/0023 Mr and Mrs P Woodward, Giverny, Coombe Hill, Coombe, Swanage, BH19 3EU. Demolish garage and rear lean to and erect single storey rear extension, two storey side extension and integral garage. **No Objection**

4. a) House adjacent to 'Meadowcroft' Durnford Drove: Complaints about summer house.. It was **RESOLVED: To ask the Enforcement officer to look into this breach of planning conditions.**
ACTION: Clerk.

b) 1st Passing place, Crack Lane. Cllr Pearson expressed concern that plans for the new affordable housing include a pavement at this point.

Cllr Brooks joined the meeting.

c) Cllrs and parishioners are having problems using the Tree part of the DC website to submit comments:
ACTION: Cllr Brooks to follow up.

8. Minutes of the virtual Meetings held 11th March 2021. The Minutes of the meeting were agreed to be a correct record. They will be signed by the Chair in due course.

9. Matters Arising from the Minutes. a) Item 10a). Site of phone box. Cllr Brooks had reported that DC Highways would be happy for the site to be used again.

b) Item 10b) Changes to cutting regime at closed cemetery. After making enquiries, Ms Bibra had reported that her team had decided to stay with the *status quo*.

10. The Clerk's Report for the period 3.2. – 2.3.2021. Correspondence received and actions taken can be read on p.2 of the agenda. Report received.

a) B1. DC 'Summer Visitor' Planning briefing. The Clerk and Cllr Pearson had attended. Matthew Piles and Kirstie Snow of DC explained the complex measures and strategies which DC are putting in place, in collaboration with major landowners, emergency services and police, to manage the expected large volumes of visitors to Dorset over the next months. T&PCs and members of the public are encouraged to report local difficulties as they develop. Cllr Brooks offered to be a point of contact until a specified helpline number is available.

b) B2 Play Area Repairs. The Working Group had made a list of 'patch up' repairs necessary to make the play equipment safe to use while further funding is sought and negotiations about the new lease are ongoing. The Clerk had met Tristan Emery on site and agreed a price within the agreed repair budget; the work will be done in May, after which the Play Area will re-open.

c) C.A1. Listing for street furniture ? **ACTION: Cllr Pearson to make a list all street furniture for discussion at a future meeting.**

d) CA5/7. Simultaneous cycling/running events in village, 22nd May. Cllr Brooks to discuss with DC officer. 'Slow down' signs to the west of the village may help, + marshals. **ACTION: Cllr Brooks.** Cllrs expressed frustration that, despite complaints to UK Cycling and others every year about speeding cyclists and a refusal on the part of the company to agree to have numbers on riders' backs, nothing has changed. Cllr Brooks suggested exploring the idea of a by-law.

e) DA19. Concerns about changes to new Play Area lease. **RESOLVED: To delegate powers to Clerk to negotiate with St George's School Governors to resolve issues.** **ACTION: Clerk.**

f) Peat and Pesticides Policies ? LMPC does not use Peat. Its Environmental Policy notes encouragement to eg DC Highways/Countryside to avoid use of pesticides/herbicides on roads/verges/trees, though it does not have a separate policy. **ACTION: Clerk to respond to Ms Haysom.**

The next final date for inclusion of correspondence-related agenda items received between meetings is 27th April 2021.

11. Chairman's Announcements. None.

4. Dorset Cllr's Report. DC are in the process of making a major bid to central government to **update all Dorset street lighting to LED.** She gave further information about strategies for managing **visitor numbers** and expectations over the summer. **Barbecues** will be banned in forests, with special 'barbecue areas' set up by eg NT. The DfT are 'refreshing' their **20mph criteria**, and DC are therefore putting their own proposals on hold until they see the outcome of this: Cllr V-A will be kept informed of developments. DC are trying to join up the various elements of **highways/verge care** which currently involve 3 different teams. Cllr Knight said that it would be useful to know when verges and hedges were

to be cut, and deplored the use of flails by landowners and DC for hedge maintenance. **ACTION: Cllr Brooks to find out more about other options.**

12. Street Lights: In view of Cllr Brooks's announcement, Cllr Christie did not make his proposal regarding street lights. However, he asked that while we were waiting for the money to be forthcoming and the work done, some lights in the village might be partially shaded so that the light was angled down.

13. Entrance to Mt Pleasant Lane. The uneven and loose paving where vehicles cross makes the pavement unsafe for pedestrians and parishioners have been injured and complained. The matter has been reported to DC but currently does not meet their safety criteria for action. Cllr Christie had proposed replacement of the area with tarmac with kerbs to make the surface safer plus provide a visual prompt to pedestrians that there is a road junction at this point. The proposal discussed by Cllrs but not put to the vote.

ACTION: Cllr Brooks to inspect problem areas of pavement (footway) in the High Street and make proposals about what might be possible at the next meeting.

14. Highways Update. Cllr V-A proposed that the Council takes on responsibility for moving its SID between poles, which currently costs £800 per year (pd to DC). He is prepared to be trained and asked for a volunteer to assist him. Cllr Kirby suggested buying a second SID. **ACTION: Cllr V-A to explore cost.** As the Dorset 20 is Plenty campaign is still in its infancy, and Langton's is well established, he recommends that we maintain our own momentum in the matter. He awaits the DfT changes to 20 mph criteria with interest. **PTAG's Transport strategy** has received a detailed response from DC's Matthew Piles: some elements may be delivered through their Local Transport Plan, though he noted difficulties with knock-on effects of eg 20mph limits on bus timetables, and funding is a major block on some proposals. Cllr Brooks reported that Purbeck is involved in a wider BCP/DC Transport strategy, though getting funding for non-urban areas is challenging. She said that the PTAG plan was helpful in knowing what local communities want. She reported that a request had been made for a **TRO for a 30 mph limit on the A351** from beyond the Swanage School to the West side of Coombe junction.

15. Plans for future Council Meetings and Parish Assembly. As the government cannot change a law which says that virtual Council meetings will be illegal after 7th May, while not allowing indoor face-to-face meetings owing to Covid restrictions until least the end of May, it was agreed to hold the Council's Annual Parish Meeting on 6th May. If it remains illegal to meet face-to-face in June or beyond that time, it was **RESOLVED: To continue to hold virtual meetings after 6th May until safe to do otherwise, on the understanding that decisions taken at such meetings will be formally approved at a face-to-face meeting when it is legal to do so.** Cllr Brooks advised that the government will review the matter, and a decision may be made by May 17th.

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

£ 500.00 Interment fee, the late Mrs Angela Walters, Plot J19.

£ 550.00 Ashes Interment fee and Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial, the late Mrs Mary Goodhand, Plot XaCr7, Grant E61.

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

£ 928.20 Clerk's salary (March).

£ 27.07 HMRC – PC National Insurance payment (March).

£ 119.00 ITB Gardening (March).

£ 239.25 Linda Mc Morrow. – cleaning of Public Conv. (March)

£ 75.00 Memorial tree for Cllr Lovell (cheque to Cllr Loudoun).

£ 17.73 SSE Unmetered footway lights supply 24.12.2020 – 6.3.2021

£ 107.94 Wessex Water – supply to PCs 26/09/20 – 25/03/21.

£ 21.07 Wessex Water – supply to allotments 26/09/20 – 25/03/21.

£ 66.08 Bartlett's – rabbit fencing for allotments – cheque to Keith Coombs.

(3) Payment by Direct Debit:

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

£ 27.85 NEST - PC contribution to Clerk's pension (March).

(4) Any other Financial Matters: None.

17. Confirmation of the date of the next virtual monthly Council Meeting, to include the Annual Parish Meeting, 6th May 2021 at 7 pm.

18. Additional Items for future meetings: Neighbourhood Plan / Changes to Working Group/Cttee meeting structure / Allotment officer roles, fees and insurance / Listing of Street furniture / Lost paths.

Closed 9.30 pm.

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

DRAFT