

Parish Council of Langton Matravers

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Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at Langton Matravers Village Hall on Thursday 8th July 2021 at 7 pm.

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

Tom Clarke (NT) and 1 member of the public were also present.

The meeting was recorded.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr Brooks.

2. Declarations of interest / Grants of Dispensation. Cllrs Christie and Kirby declared an interest in Item 10.D.1 as allotment holders; they were permitted to speak as members of the public during Item 5.

3. National Trust Report. Mr Clarke said that the request for ‘ambassadors’ to support rangers’ work had been disappointing. The **parish puffin walk** had gone well, and four puffins sighted. He asked if there were other activities requested by the parish which might be led by the NT: ideas through the Parish Council, please. Work on reducing dog mess by **Jurassic Bark Purbeck** is being supported by advisory cows, currently being painted by St George’s School, to get the message through that Spyway is a working farm. The Trust are also working on **messaging on their website** to make clear that people need to be better prepared for eg access to Dancing Ledge. Post-Brexit, financial subsidies are changing, and **farm tenants are being encouraged to diversify** to improve outcomes for nature. Cllr Kirby asked if there could be **roundels** to signpost the Keates’ Quarry dinosaur footprints on the Priest’s Way; **ACTION: Tom Clarke.** Cllr Bell asked that the Trust develop a system for alerting the visitors to when Spyway car park is full (a notice at the N end of Durnford Drove); **ACTION: TC.**

4. Dorset Councillor’s Report. None.

5. Public Participation. a) Jon Kershaw, now working in Conservation Consultancy, explained plans he is preparing on behalf of farm tenants at Spyway Farm. They aim to diversify with alternative use of buildings, land etc; for this year it is hoped to trial glamping units and a pop-up camp site S of the farm. b) Martin Kirby, speaking as an allotment holder, noted that tenants have not been asked by the LMAA if they want a pond on site; LMPC should consult tenants before any decision is made. In the past such a pond has been seen as a safety hazard, given that children are allowed on the allotments. Pete Christie noted that the principle aim of the allotments are for food production, not to create a wildlife amenity; there might be a better place for such a pond elsewhere in the village.

6. Matters arising from Public Participation. Re: Spyway Farm Plans.

a) Cllr V-A noted that **access** to the proposed pop-up camp site is a problem, as vehicles are not permitted on footpaths or bridleways, nor on the Priests’ Way. JK said that the tenant can grant access with the agreement of the Trust. Concerns were expressed about the potential increase in volume of traffic (possibly an extra 120 vehicle mvts per day), especially at the north end of the route, given the new housing development and popularity of Spyway car park with activity groups and other visitors. Furthermore, the HPB section of the road between the end of Durnford Drove and the car park is in very bad condition already, and this will need support from the NT to repair. There is a risk too that if other visitors see campers heading up the track in vehicles, they may follow: JK has plans to mitigate this, using arrival/departure slots etc. Mr Clarke (NT) said that the Trust would not grant a license if the community had serious concerns. Cllr Loudoun, while expressing support in principle, said the Gully would be a much better site from an access point of view, despite additional costs of water supply.

JK and TC left the meeting at c. 8pm.

7. Planning Matters. 1/2. Receive comments from the public on the following applications: None.

3. Decisions by Dorset Council since last meeting:

a) 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. **Approved.**

b) 6/2021/0046 PA and PM Earley, Spyway Farm, Durnford Drove, Langton Matravers, BH19 3HG. Erect a barn.

Approved.

c) 6/2021/00506 Mr Rod Watt, Grayling, Acton, Langton Matravers, Swanage, BH19 3LA. To install a cat-slide dormer window at first floor level. **Approved.**

d) TWA/2021/052 Henry Jack Scott, Verge to north of Leeson House, Langton Matravers, BH19 3EU. T7 Sycamore - Crown reduction of up to 3m. Langton Matravers Conservation Area. **Approved.**

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.

Approved

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. **Approved**

4. Any other Planning Matters: None.

8. Confirm notes of the virtual informal Meeting held 10th June 2021. The notes of the meeting were agreed to be a correct record and signed.

9. Matters Arising from the Notes. a) Item 12; Ordering **speed gun**: **ACTION: Cllr V-A.**

b) Item 7.2.a) **Trees at Leeson.** Work on the tree in question had only just been done. Cllrs Loudoun and Christie reported that 15 ash trees at the site had recently been removed under a DC Highways Section 14, as they had ash die back: further trees will need to be removed on the N side of the Valley Rd.. It was agreed that LMPC write to the Tree Officer to ask that in future LMPC are informed if such Section 14 work is to be carried out in the parish. **ACTION: Clerk; copy to Cllr Brooks.**

c) Item 12. **Lengthsman to move SID.** Cllr V-A reported that he is in negotiation with a possible lengthsman from Corfe Castle PC. **ACTION: Cllr V-A.**

10. The Clerk's Report for the period 2.6. – 29.6.2021. Correspondence received and actions taken can be read on p.2 of the agenda. Report received.

a) C1. Code of Conduct Training. Cllr Kirby had already attended and recommended the training to Cllrs: **ACTION: All other Cllrs, Clerk.**

b) C2. LMAA BBQ 24th July/Open Event 15th August. Cllrs are happy to support both events. **ACTION: clerk to inform LMAA.**

c) D1. LMAA request for Wildlife pond at the allotments. The Clerk had ascertained that such a pond would add £75 to the cost of the insurance, and need safety features. It was agreed to discuss this further in the Autumn when other allotment matters are addressed: Cllr Kirby asked if separate allotment insurance is actually necessary, and this will be followed up too. **ACTION: Clerk to add to agenda.** It was **RESOLVED: To respond to the LMAA that Council would like to be assured that any plans for a pond have the full backing of all allotment holders.** **ACTION: Clerk.** Cllr Pearson reported that, while checking the NT allotment lease re: ponds, it had come to her attention that **herbicides and pesticides** are not permitted. It was suggested that all tenants be informed immediately and the tenancy agreement re-drafted to reflect this. It was agreed to clarify how this relates to eg slug pellets, ant powder etc before taking any action. **ACTION: Clerk to contact NT, and report back: Council to decide how to proceed at next meeting.**

d) D2 Aster press release re: Play Area Funding support. Cllr V-A suggested slight changes to the text, and supplied a quote for LMPC expressing thanks. **ACTION: Cllr V-A to forward to Clerk for inclusion: Clerk to send to Aster.** Cllr Pearson noted that the building team at Spyway Orchard are offering community use of the site's defibrillator during working hours.

e) A8. New Play Area Lease. Bill Wilberforce (DC) has taken over preparation of the lease from Jacqui Leaton. There appear to be misunderstandings about what is required. **ACTION: Clerk to write to Mr Wilberforce, explaining what LMPC wants in the terms of the lease, and ask for a site visit with LMPC.**

The next final date for inclusion of correspondence-related agenda items received between meetings is 3rd/31st August 2021.

11. Chairman's Announcements. None.

12. Approval of Recommendations made at meeting 10th June. It was **RESOLVED: To approve all recommendations, including those made under Confidential matters.**

13. Highways Report. Cllr V-A has arranged a DC speed test as already agreed, in preparation for re-submitting a request for a **20mph limit** to DC. Further positions for **Speedwatch checks** have been agreed with PCSO Carl Snooks. WMPC had made adverse comments about **Coombe junction** at a recent meeting; Cllr White had contacted the Cllr in question and advised of the improved safety of the junction since the work was done. DC Highways had contacted LMPC about the **extent of the new 30mph zone** westwards from the Swanage School: Cllrs would prefer that it extends beyond the Three Acre Lane junction owing to increased use of that junction with a proposed 'no left turn' at Coombe, plus regular cow crossings from Coombe Farm. **ACTION: Clerk to advise DC Highways.**

14. Play Area: Recommendations from Working group meeting 1.7.2021. It was **RESOLVED: To agree all recommendations: 1. The current equipment will remain open for the present, subject to minor remedial work on items noted on pp 14/16 of the 2021 RoSPA report.**

2. Create a sign for the entrance to the Play Area, explaining that the equipment is the property of LMPC.

3. Respond to letter from Chair of Governors at St George's School, 20th June, explaining LMPC's current position and that appropriate action has been taken to ensure safety for users of equipment.

4. To transfer £2,000 from the general fund to the Play Area fund, as in previous years.

5. To use Cemetery Extension Fund monies in LMPC Reserves to make up shortfall needed to go ahead with purchase of new equipment (£ 9,000), on the basis that this will be repaid into reserves at the rate of £2,000 p.a. as required (see 6 below)

6. To set up a working group to explore ways to fundraise for shortfall in funding, and pay any resulting income into reserve funds as it becomes available.

15. Review Action Plan. The Action Plan for 2020-21 was reviewed and updated, with new proposals for future action. **ACTION: Clerk to update plan for 2021-22 and bring to next meeting for approval.**

16. Cothill Trust Plans for Pre-School and School Play Areas? As it has not been possible to establish from the SATAO group (current owners) nor either school what promises were made regarding use of OMH site land by the Cothill Trust before sale, and there are concerns about loss of play amenity in any future OMH development, it was **RESOLVED: That enquiries be made through the Land Registry, personal contact with a third party and a request to the Cothill Trust, to establish the position.**

ACTION: Clerk.

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

£ 100.00 Cremation tablet additional inscription fee, the late Peter Sampson, Plot Cr28.

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

£ 928.20 Clerk's salary (June).

£ 26.38 HMRC – PC National Insurance payment (June).

£ 204.00 Ian Bugler, Grounds Maintenance (June).

£ 465.00 Linda McMorrow. – cleaning of Public Conveniences (June)

£ 250.00 Dorset Council – SID movement, April-September 2021.

£ 78.46 SSE – electricity supply to toilet block 1 st April 25th June 2021.

£ 17.73 SSE – unmetered footway light electricity supply Quarter 1.

£ 25.00 St George's Church – hire of church for working group meeting 1.7.2021.

£ 14.50 Office sundries (cheque to Clerk).

(3) Payment by Direct Debit:

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

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

(4) Any other Financial Matters: None.

18. Confirmation of the date of the next monthly Council Meeting, 9th September 2021 at 7 pm. August meeting cancelled – it was agreed to hold an Extraordinary Meeting for eg Planning if necessary.

ACTION: Clerk to put note on website/noticeboards advising.

19. Additional Items for future meetings: Neighbourhood Plan / Changes to Working Group/Cttee meeting structure / Allotment officer roles, fees and insurance, herbicides and pesticides / Listing of Street furniture / Lost paths / Review Action Plan / Removal of Cemetery bins / Environment.

Closed 9.12 pm.

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

DRAFT