

Parish Council Meeting

Held on Wednesday 3rd December 2014 - 7.30pm
At the Orchard Centre

MINUTES

Present: Cllr Doe, Cllr McAreavey, Cllr Briant-Evans, Cllr Clinch, Cllr P Heal, Cllr Burrows, Cllr Hemsworth, Cllr Philips Cllr Eginton (Ward Councillor) Cllr Squires (County Councillor) Christopher Voaden (Clerk), 5 Members of the Public.

Invited – PC Waring & Terry Pullen (Chumleigh Academy)

01/12/14 Apologies - Cllr Lacey. Cllr Briant-Evans chaired the meeting.

02/12/14 Declarations of Interest none

03/12/14 Minutes of the last meeting Ref 11/14 agreed subject to the agreed alterations being recorded and signed by the Chair.

04/12/14 Open Forum for members of the public

PC Dave Waring advised on reported crime statistics. Details given about crime in the village. It appears that crime levels are reducing.

Graffiti within the village, this has been reported to Highways but has not been reported to the Police by any Councillor.

Parish Council do not need to report the graffiti as the road signs damaged are property of Highways.

Neighbourhood Watch – Jill Doe is interested in the scheme. Further information will be given at the next meeting.

Cllr Heal stated that persons driving radio controlled model cars have stopped in the Industrial Estate car park. The Police did investigate but nothing found.

PC Waring advised that Crediton Town Police are now on Facebook and Twitter. This is not for reporting crime, all are advised to call 101 for reporting non-urgent matters.

Terry Pullen – Chulmleigh Academy.

Discussed planning application for the school. The school buildings need improvement. A bid is going in for a further tranche of ACMF funding to support the project.

ACMF Funding has been drawn down in recent years to pay for new buildings at the College and Chulmleigh Primary School. The temporary classroom at Lapford is not fit for purpose any longer. The proposed build is adjacent to the School hall. The bidding for funding ends on the 19th December 2014. The Parish Council is willing to provide support to the funding

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process by writing to Chulmleigh College.

The heating and the energy efficiency of the school is to be improved under the same project. There will not be any solar panels installed yet due to lack of government funding for such schemes. It is foreseen that this will come at a later date.

Cllr Briant – Evans asked about the entrance – the original entrance to the school building will be opened up at the front of the building. Vehicular entrance to the site will not change.

Solar Panels will not be installed.

A letter of support from the Parish Council would be good to go with the funding application.

The Parish Council should support this. **Clerk to write to Terry Pullen about funding.**

A resolution was passed to discuss agenda point 15b during the time Terry Pullen was present in order for him to answer any questions that they may have.

Ref: 14/01866/FULL – Erection of Classroom Block. Lapford Country Primary School, Lapford.

After discussion of the planning application the Parish Council wished to support the planning application.

P – PH

S - IH

A MOP asked about Highways. They asked what a category 12 standard is. Cllr Squires will be emailed to get more information as she was not present at the start of the meeting.

The MOP queried the investigations relating to a hedge / bank that existed in Popes Lane. Previous minutes refer. The Clerk had spoken to a duty planner at MDDC regarding the situation. As there had been no planning application submitted requesting it to be removed and the bank was on private property, no planning advice could be provided. The Clerk also advised that at present, the matter was a private one and accordingly the Parish Council had no authority to intervene.

05/12/14 Matters Arising and Outstanding Actions

a Railway Station – advert re survey has gone into the LL. A discussion took place on the recent advert. There had been volunteers to undertake the survey to take place at a future date.

A MOP raised the point that routes out of Paddington Station in London are to be electrified meaning diesel stock will come to Devon, hopefully including the Tarka Line.

b Popes Lane – Discussion took place over the no through road signage at Popes Lane. Photographs had been taken showing the condition of the sign. It was in a poor state of repair. It had been suggested that the Parish council fund a replacement. It was also noted that Popes Lane was un-adopted and therefore the responsibility of residents in that area.

c Church Clock – Email sent to all councillors. The PCC will be asked about funding the repairs as the Parish Council are under no duty to provide a clock. It was noted in the past that we have agreed to maintain the workings of the clock by way of a yearly service but we have never undertaken any other

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work. It was also noted that the PCC have received a significant donation through a private individual. This could cover the repairs.

- d. **Toilet Signs / Congregational Church Signs** – The Clerk has ordered the Church and Primary School sign. He was not to order the toilet sign as he had become aware that due to toilet closures elsewhere, there will be spare toilet signs available from MDDC.
- e. **Keys to Orchard Centre** – These had been cut and will be given to Cllr Hemsworth
- f. **Ride-On Mower** – Cllr Heal would investigate this as no action had been taken since the November meeting.
- g. **Willow Trees in Orchard Way**. Cllr Heal received an email from a MOP who lives in Orchard Way disputing that the trees are on Private Property. Since the last meeting, information had been received to show that the Willow Trees are in fact the responsibility of Highways. The Clerk to inform Margaret Squires about this and to request that Highways undertaking pruning.
- h. **Trees on Playing Field / end of Garden at house on Orchard Way**. – MOP has contacted owner who is still the original developer of Orchard Way. The Developer will cut the tree down in the near future.

06/12/14 P3 PROW funding application to DCC – John Burrows to deal with this. The same as last year. Make contact with JB. The footpath from Edgerley Lane needs work. It is hoped that a similar level of funding will be available this year. The Clerk asked Cllr Burrows to seek a cheaper price for the cuts to date as the price always seemed to be increasing.

07/12/14 To set a date for an Emergency Plan Committee meeting – Cllr's Briant-Evans, Burrows and Clinch are on the committee. A date of 12th January 7.30pm has been agreed on for the next meeting.

08/12/14 To receive a report on school matters – Cllr Briant - Evans gave dates for events up to the end of term. Mrs Bock is still away ill. Next Saturday (13th) The School hold their Christmas fair. 11th December – choirs around the Christmas tree.

09/12/14 To receive a report from the Regeneration Committee. Last meeting held on 27th November. Lapford Station was further discussed. Statistics will be provided to South West Regional Development Officer who would like to have figures when the survey is undertaken showing further and updated figures of accurate usage. A personal survey at Morchard Road and Eggesford stations on a Monday and a Saturday will be taking place. A winter and summer survey is to be undertaken. It was also suggested if the survey could also be undertaken during term time to capture a more diverse range of participants.

It was noted that within the Mid Devon Local Plan – land at Copplestone for a new station has been designated.

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General Discussion was then undertaken with no decisions being made relating to the Station and the Tarka line generally.

10/12/14 Youth Club – Steve Eastland, an architect had been instructed and is now drawing up plans for the desired planning application prior to the sale of the property. The approximate cost of the planning application will be £10,000, half of the money is required now, and the other half is to be discussed. It is hoped that funding will be generated through the sale proceeds of the site.

11/12/14 The Malt Scoop was discussed, there is a suspicion that the pub is sold. Cllr Heal discussed the public house at Yeoford and how this was designated as a Community Asset. It was hoped that the purchaser was intending to continue running the Malt Scoop as a public house. It was felt that if a viable purchaser had been found, registering the Malt Scoop as a community asset was not in the best public interest at present. The situation would always be considered again if it was required.

12/12/14 To consider the problem of vehicles being left overnight/semi-permanently in the car park.

Two large vehicles are parked all the time and move irregularly. Cllr McAreavey will take the numbers and report back to the PCSO. Stuart Noyce from MDDC will also take action on the matter if desired. Cllr McAreavey to report back at the next parish council meeting.

13/12/14 Concerns re; Use and Access of/to Popes Lane, Lapford discussed above.

14/12/14 Finance Account Balances

- a. Current account - £462.62
- b. Savings account - £7,814.28
- c. Loan stock - £983.98

Payments to be agreed

- a. Clerk – 26 hrs @ £9.09 - £236.34 (Expenses - Key for OC - £3.59 & Stamps - 12 x 2nd 6.36) – Total Payment £246.29
- b. Log On Garden Services - £30
- c. Country Matters (hedge trimming) - £84.00
- d. Viking (Public Convenience purchase Toilet Roll) - £18.59

Payments agreed by all.

P – PH

S - NM

15/12/14 District and County Councillor's report

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- a. Cllr Eginton – MDDC Local Plan Area meeting was held last Thursday in Crediton. There is no change for Lapford and the original sites that had been mooted within the consultation were not in the plan. All that would be considered for Lapford was infill and affordable housing. Ultimately no change for Lapford.
Full council will have recommendations made on the 17th December and this will then go for further consultation throughout Mid Devon.
7000 – 8000 properties are required within Mid Devon and it was thought that this would mainly be centred on Cullompton and Tiverton.
The Clerk asked about Precept setting, can Cllr Eginton provide figures indicating the Council Tax Levy that that was to be reduced. Cllr Eginton would ask the Finance Department at MDDC to provide this to the Clerk to assist with Precept Calculation.
- a. Margaret Squires – budget savings are as always continuing.
Parishes are being asked to undertake work themselves. Consultations are running at the moment. Highways are consulting on gritting. All agreed that the number of services that were to be delegated had to be considered when budget setting took place.

16/12/14 Planning

- a. Ref: 14/01816/FULL – Variation of condition 3 of planning permission 12/01782/FULL to change white timber windows with light oak stain.
Land and Buildings at Pear Tree House, Lapford.
General Discussion took place. General comments about building supervision. Why had it taken MDDC so long to notice the breach of conditions? The parish council would write to MDDC about the situation as a new owner had moved in and had found out that the building was not compliant with planning conditions. IT was felt that Building Control / Enforcement had failed in their duties to monitor the build. **Clerk to action.**
It was felt that Lapford Parish Council would support the application.
P – IH
S – JB all in favour to support.
- b. Ref: 14/01905/FULL – Erection of a dwelling. Higher Eastington Racing Stables, Lapford. The Clerk informed the meeting that all councillors were to make a site visit on the 13th December, no decision could be made before this meeting.
- c. Ref: 14/01699/FUL – Erection of a dwelling, Land Adjacent to Sandhurst, Lapford.
Site visit took place on 9th November. All present at the site meeting gave a report on the viewing. A separate planning meeting was held after the site visit concluding that the Parish Council support the application.
P – JB
S – SW
All in favour

17/12/14 Correspondence

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The correspondence dated 18th November 2014, MDDC. Parish Precept 2015/16 had been passed to all present. It was noted that a budget meeting would be held on December 5th with Cllr's Lacey and Briant – Evans + The Clerk to prepare figures for discussion and agreement at the January meeting.

18/12/14 Consultations

Local Government Boundary Commission consultation for Devon. Consultation Ends 19th January 2015 - <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/4141>. The Parish Council noted the consultation but felt that they had no comment to make.

19/12/14 Members Statements

- a. **Cllr Hemsworth** – discussed the email that all councillors received on the day before the meeting from a MOP regarding slurry spreading being undertaken illegally. Comments made within the email were noted. All present would feel uncomfortable in having to make a comment via the Lapford Lookout as the document that they had been referred to was 125 pages long. The MOP who wrote in about the subject would be asked to report his concerns anonymously. The Parish Council would not take any action as requested. **Clerk to action.**
 - b. **Cllr Heal** – Informed the meeting that Woods are moving into Lapford after buying Ambrosia yard. It was felt that this was a positive move for Lapford. Everyone welcomed a new investor at the old Ambrosia Yard site. The Parish Council would have to keep an eye out for litter around the area.
 - c. **Cllr Doe** - Post Office in Orchard Centre. Customers are slipping on tiles as they get into the Orchard Centre during wet weather. Cllr Heal has been asked to provide non slip floor paint to rectify the situation. **Councillor Heal to action.**
 - d. **Cllr Burrows** - Large car in Westgate parking on the pavement causing an obstruction to pedestrians. IT was known that off street parking was available at the location and Cllr McAreavey would speak with the owner or inform the Police about the activity.
 - e. **Cllr McAreavey** – New Christmas lights are required for the Christmas tree as the present lights are not working anymore. Authorisation was given for a new set to be purchased.
- The meeting concluded at 9.20pm

Date of the next meeting – Wednesday 7th January 2014

Signed

