

# LAPFORD PARISH COUNCIL

N. McAreevey

## Minutes of Lapford Parish Council Meeting

Held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2015 - 7.30pm  
At the Orchard Centre

### Minutes

**Present:** Cllr Doe, Cllr McAreevey, Cllr Clinch, Cllr P Heal, Cllr Burrows, Cllr Hemsworth, Cllr Philips, Cllr Eginton (Ward Councillor) Cllr Squires (County Councillor) Christopher Voaden (Clerk). 5 MOP

Cllr Peter Lacey had tendered his resignation from the Parish Council in January, to take effect from February onwards. It had been agreed that Cllr Lacey would attend and Chair the meeting until the end of agenda point 4.

**01/02/15** Apologies Cllr Wensely

**02/02/15** Declarations of Interest - None

**03/02/15** Minutes of the last meeting Ref 01/15 were agreed. Due to Cllr Briant-Evans' absence, the minutes could not be signed, these would be signed at the March meeting

**04/02/15** Open Forum for members of the public –

- a. MOP raised the gutter leaking on the Orchard Centre. In the cold weather, the Post Office display a warning sign as the water leaking from the gutter freezes and causes a slipping hazard. The issue had been looked into with ad hoc repairs undertaken. Quotes for a replacement will be required.

Signage for the public toilets have not materialised. Clerk to chase Mid Devon DC

- b. PCSO Dave Waring – reports on crime incidents around the village given. Low crime rates still prevail within the Parish.

It was agreed that agenda point 7 could be moved forward to the start of the meeting.

The Local Police are keen for residents to take up the scheme. The Police will run the groups and provide training.

A Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator would need to come forward from the Parish to start the group and they would be the main contact point with the Police through Community Messaging when the scheme is operational.  
It would take more than one person to run.

Signed

Chair

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Two to three coordinators will be required for the village. Neighbourhood watch information packs are available from the police if requested.

The scheme does not cost anything to the coordinator. The only expense is the costs of the sign. There are limited number of signs but £1 is given to residents for printing. The Police will contribute to the costs of posters.

Free public liability insurance for signage is given.

The scheme would be advertised within the Lapford Lookout – Cllr Doe to action.

PC Dave Waring has investigated the vehicles permanently parked in the car park. All checks made on the vehicle showed that they were legal. It was noted that the cars are now permanently parked on the road near the car park.

05/02/15

To elect new Chair and Vice Chair following resignation of Cllr Lacey  
Cllr Lacey had resigned from the Chair of the Parish Council as well as a Parish Councillor. All were appreciative for his 14 years as a Parish Councillor. Cllr Eginton spoke about the Council under his Chairmanship and thanked him for his efficient running of the Parish Council.

The Clerk chaired the meeting during the procedure for electing a new Chair and Vice Chair.

Cllrs Lacey resignation letter and an email from the Clerk inviting nominations for Chair and Vice chair had been previously been circulated. Cllr McAreavey nominated himself for the role of Chairman. There were no other nominations.

Cllr McAreavey stood unopposed.

P- JD

S- JB

All in agreement.

The Vice Chair had also become vacant as Cllr Briant- Evans had informed the Clerk that she did not wish to stand for Chair. Due to personal circumstances, Cllr Briant – Evans no longer wished to be Vice Chair.

Cllr Hemsworth nominated himself for Vice Chair. There were no other nominations. Cllr Hemsworth stood unopposed.

P – JB

S-PH

All in agreement

Cllr Heal discusses the possibility of regularly changing the position of Chair of the council every two years. This would allow the Vice Chair to get to know the ropes and progress to Chair.

Cllr Squires notes that this occurs in other Parishes.

Signed

Chair

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In principal, there would be no objection to this proposal. The Clerk would have to amend the Standing Orders regarding length of the position of Chair.

Standing order would be amended for discussion and vote at the March meeting.

### **06/02/15 Matters Arising and Outstanding Actions**

- a. Ride on mower – Crediton Tool Hire will be asked to progress. Cllr Heal to action.
- b. Non Slip Paint – not undertaken, weather has to be warmer for this to be applied. Cllr Heal will progress.
- c. Keys to Orchard Centre – one further set of keys will be cut by Cllr Heal.

### **07/02/15 To consider arrangements for PC elections in May 2015 –**

All PC's to send email to clerk confirming their intentions to stay or resign from the Parish Council. The Clerk gave details of the Election Timetable that is due to start in early March 2015.

### **08/02/15 To receive a report on the recent Creedy LAG meeting.** This could not be reported on due to Cllr Briant – Evans' absence.

### **09/02/15 To consider emergency planning issues**

This could not be reported on due to Cllr Briant – Evans' absence. Cllr Heal did state that Julia Rider is the MDDC officer for Emergency Planning.

### **10/02/15 To receive an update from the Regeneration Committee**

This could not be reported on due to Cllr Briant – Evans' absence. For a decision to be made on sanctioning the regeneration committee's work, the Chair of the committee would have to be present to report before any vote could be undertaken. This will be put onto the March agenda.

### **11/02/15 To consider TAP funding support for Crediton Town Council's bid on behalf of the Turning Tides project** – After reviewing the correspondence received by Cllr Briant-Evans and forwarded on to all Councillors, discussion took place and agreement was reached to support the application by Crediton Town Council. Lapford can support the application

P- JB

S - IH

### **12/02/15 Healthy Living (Cllr Doe)** – Wallingbrooke health centre are arranging a healthy living week in the coming months. Lapford can join and funding is available to groups within

Signed

Chair

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the village who organise Physical activities such as running and walking. Various groups within the village were considered and ultimately the walking group could be included if they promote Healthy Hearts. Cllr Doe will try to get the project started and gather interest in the scheme by speaking with local activity groups to see if they would be involved.

An advert in the Lapford Lookout could be organised.

P-JD

S- BC

- 13/02/15** Tenders for grass cutting in the village during 2015.  
2015 Tenders would be required before April.  
A specific tender specification for 10 cuts of the Church Green and Village areas would be placed in the Lookout and on the Notice Board.

- 14/02/15** Finance

**Account Balances**

- d. Current account - £3,639.68 (including TAP fund payment - £927)
- e. Savings account - £4,814.28
- f. Loan stock - £983.98

**Payments to be agreed**

- a. Clerk – 26 hrs @ £9.20 - £239.20 + Stamps - £7.44  
Total Payment – £246.64
- b. Log On Garden Services - £30.00
- c. John Cockram Christmas Trees - £52

Payment agreed

P-PH

S - NM

- 15/02/15** To agree Financial Standing Order. – The document produced by the Clerk was reviewed by all present. After discussion, it was agreed to adopt the Standing Order

P- PH

S- IH

All agreed.

- 16/02/15** District and County Councillor's report  
CIL levy and the Local Plan have been agreed and therefore a local consultation will start in the coming months. The Parish Council will be consulted again. It was noted that there were no new development areas within the village.  
Comments are to be in writing. If this is undertaken, the writer can speak at the inquiry.  
Comments can be positive and negative.

Signed

Chair

Clerk: Mr Christopher Voaden, Robin Cottage, 2 Chumleigh Road, Morchard Bishop, Devon. EX176NZ  
Tel: 01363 877807 Email: lapfordpc@live.co.uk

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Budget meeting to take place at cabinet – 5<sup>th</sup> Feb. The recommendation is for a nil increase in council tax.

**17/02/15**

### **Planning**

**Ref - 15/00094/CLU - Certificate of lawfulness for the existing use of a holiday let as domestic residential (Use Class C3) in breach of condition (13) of planning permission 06/01118/FULL in excess of 10 years - Lower Barn Higher Eastington Stables Lapford Crediton Devon EX17 6NE**

Cllr Hemsworth discusses the application for Certificate of Lawful use.

It appears that evidence from a Statutory Declaration has been provided. Is there any information that the PC can obtain and provide contrary to the statutory declaration? The matter was discussed. There was no firm evidence that the Parish Council could provide to rebut the evidence provided. IT was noted that the Parish Council would have no comment on the application. This was to be passed to MDDC.

**18/02/15**

### **Members Statements**

**Cllr Burrows** - Opening of the Kitchen in the Village Hall – JB thanks Margaret Squires for the opening. Young Farmers meet in the Village Hall.

JB now wants to start a Christmas Lunch in the Village Hall for older residents within the Village. The exact format for the lunch had not been confirmed. All present supported the idea and offers of assistance were provided.

Many groups from the community have agreed to donate money to get the project started. Various ideas for the day are being thought of.

16<sup>th</sup> December is the provisional date.

Footpath near school has been turned into a den by local youths. The school has been made aware of this issue.

**Cllr Phillips** - a resident who lives next to the pub has contacted her about a car almost hitting the corner of her wall. Can a bollard be installed on the road to try and prevent any further incidents? Bob king to be informed.

**Cllr Heal** - Fencing at the Yeo Vale is now down. Enforcement at MDDC have been notified.

**Cllr Hemsworth** - Playing field equipment removal. This was being progressed by the LYPFT. They would try and raise funds by selling old equipment

Signed

Chair

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**Cllr McAreavey** - The Road from Rensey Lane to Forches Cross. Litter is building up. A litter pick scheme will address this. There is to be one in the spring and Cllr Briant-Evans will progress this.

**Further, Cllr McAreavey** discusses a project that could be undertaken in the village to increase public profile. Gravity Grand Prix is an event that has been undertaken in a village in Essex where public are encouraged to enter a homemade go-kart in a timed event through the village. As Lapford lends itself to the idea geographically, it may be something to promote and bring publicity to Lapford, although others will organise. As the PC was in general support, Cllr McAreavey will progress with the events promoter.

There were no further topics for discussion and the Meeting concluded at 21.10pm

Date of the next meeting – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2015

Signed

Chair

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