

LAPFORD PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 4th October 2017 at the Orchard Centre

MINUTES

Present **Councillors** – Hemsworth (Chairman), Briant-Evans (Vice Chairman), Cllr Phillips, Cllr Doe, Cllr Graham, Cllr Heal Cllr Clinch, Cllr MacLellan Cllr Wensley, + Clerk. 6 MOP

Apologies Cllr Clinch, Cllr Burrows,

01/10/17 **Minutes of the last meeting Ref 00/17 for signing** – These were signed after being agreed by all present.

Proposed – Cllr Graham

Seconded – Cllr Briant-Evans

02/10/17 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Briant-Evans, Personal - Youth Club, Burial Ground & emergency Plan

Cllr Hemsworth, Personal - Youth Club

03/10/17 **Open Forum**

MOP - The condition of the road from the Football club to Nymet Rowland is poor. There has been damage to the banks and damage to drains. It is thought that this is caused by excessively large agricultural vehicles using the smaller roads. The condition of the road can be reported directly to Highways. (Action Clerk)

MOP – There have been incidents of large amounts of slurry being deposited on the highway from Hollywell Hill to Eastington. This Highway issue should be reported to PCSO Dave Waring. Cllr Wensley can undertake this or the MOP can report the matter using the 101 service.

04/10/17 **Matters Arising**

- a. **Church Clock** – Cllr Graham is still investigating repairs. There maybe someone in Exeter who can look at the circuit board.
- b. **Seat at Eastington** – Cllr Phillips has received a complaint from a MOP that no seat has been placed back at Eastington Lane. IT was asked if a new seat should be purchased and placed there now? Cllr Heal apologies for not providing the temporary bench. Cllr Phillips also asks if a bench can be provided as a memorial bench to a former resident of Lapford who has passed away. This is agreed and for discussion for the November meeting.
- c. **Time Lock on OC Toilet** – This has not been progressed by MDDC. Cllr Heal was asked to look into this again at MDDC.
- d. **S.106 money to Victory Hall** – The Clerk was provided with the third quote enabling MDDC to consider the application.
- e. **Bulls in Fields** – Cllr Wensley has provided information to members on regulations regarding Bulls in fields.
- f. **MDDC Hedges / Tenant responsibilities.** - MDDC require tenants to maintain their hedges within their boundary. MDDC can provide maintenance services at a cost. Any tenant within Lapford can make contact with Mrs Sophie Gale, Tenancy Officer for Lapford at MDDC.
- g. **Defibrillator** – This has been delivered. The Cabinet has also been purchased. The Defibrillator needs installing at the Orchard Centre. Cllr Hemsworth will progress this.

Signed

Chairman

Clerk: Mr Christopher Voaden. Robin Cottage, 2 Chulmleigh Road, Morchard Bishop, Devon. EX176NZ

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05/10/17

Youth Club Committee Update

- a. **Marketing and Sale of Land report.**
An offer for Plot 1 has been accepted. The land is still being openly marketed. No price for Plot 1 was provided.
- b. **Disposal / Investment of Sale Proceeds.**
The YCMC have not yet considered how to dispose of the money but the initial suggestion would be to pass the sale proceeds from Plot 1 & 2 to HOLD for the purchase of Lower Town Place. The Committee will meet again to formally decide on investment of the monies.
- c. **Discussion re Funds of Sale to be placed under Parish Council Control / lawfulness of past decisions made re sale and holding of funds.**
Cllr Doe had provided members with questions relating to the Legal ownership of the Youth Club and responsibility to manage and distribute funds from the sale of Plot 1 & 2.
Mr Steve Keable, Chairman of the YC committee attended to comment on the issues raised. Comments on the YC status prepared by the YC committee was provided to members before the meeting.
Mr Keable raised issues regarding the status of the YC as confirmed by Tozers Solicitors who were instructed by the YC to deal with the sale of Plot 1. It was categorically stated that the YC have the ability to hold all proceeds of sale and to distribute within their discretion as governed by their constitution. It was further stated that the YC committee exists in a way that satisfies the criteria contained within the original conveyance.

The Clerk raised concerns relating to Audit. It would become difficult to justify the disposal of a significant asset owned by the Parish Council if it did not pass through the PC accounts. This was noted to be in dispute with the Chair of the YC committee.

It was noted that the Monitoring Officer had provided comments on the YC documentation that was passed to the Chairman and members at the meeting. Her advice was the original conveyance undertaken in 1971 takes precedence over the YC constitution.

Despite the concerns raised above and noting the potential value of the YC building once sold, the suggestion of an external audit on the legal status and procedure undertaken by the YC committee and Parish Council was raised by Cllr Heal.

Cllr Doe stated that there was a risk of the Police becoming involved. If it is found that there are no grounds for concern, there will also be no grounds for the police to be involved.

With full agreement of the members of the Parish Council, it was agreed to seek a formal legal opinion through the DALC.

Proposed - Cllr Briant-Evans

Seconded – Cllr Heal

The Clerk and Chair will consider the requirements of all parties to the matter to seek a binding opinion from external legal advice.

Signed

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06/10/17 Regeneration Committee restart

A report was provided by the Chairman. The committee met on the 3rd October. There are 4 members of the Parish Council and 4 MOP on the committee.

The tendering process for the Website was to be considered and a decision on this matter will be made in November.

07/10/17 Emergency Plan Committee

Lapford met with a representative from Nymet Rowland regarding the emergency plan. It was agreed that parts of the plan that can be shared between parishes will be. Better co-operation during an emergency was also to be considered. It was hoped that a leaflet drop regarding the emergency plan could be arranged. The EP Committee will be arranging an awareness campaign in the village in the New Year.

08/10/17 Uses of Adopted Telephone Box - Moorland View

It was noted that the Clerk has the paint for the Box. It was thought that the repairs to the box had taken place and this will be confirmed after the Parish Council Asset inspection.

Further consideration of its potential uses would be considered in November.

09/10/17 Police Report

Conference attendance. Report given on actin that is in place and this will be reported in the LL. Electronic 101 reporting. Police Stats can be given in the LL.

Ringmaster reports already exist.

10/10/17 Parish Council Inspection

Cllr Graham and MacLellan will undertake the inspection on Saturday 7th October for report at the November meeting.

11/10/17 Dangerous Tree at Eastington

It had been noted that the tree had been removed after the agenda was submitted and was no longer a concern.

12/10/17 TAP Application 2017/18

The Clerk had supplied details of the 2nd phase of TAP applications after 310th September 2017.

Further consideration will be given to the after the Asset Inspection. Other causes within the Parish were considered such as the 1st Lapford Scouts.

13/10/17 Removal of standing order ref 3b XIII and confirmation of standing order ref 14.b

This exercise was continuing and a further report on the review will take place at subsequent meetings.

14/10/17 Finance

- a. Current account Balance – £8,230.46 (30/08/17)
- b. Savings account - £4,915.71
- c. Loan stock - £983.98 –

An Update with information regarding the Loan Stock held by the Parish Council will be presented at the November meeting

Signed

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Payments to be agreed

- a. Clerks new Hourly Rate in accordance with NALC 2016 – 2018 Pay Scheme, back dated to April 2017 - £10.09 SCP 20
Pay award back dated from April 2017 - £75.35
- b. Clerk 31 hrs@ £10.09 £312.79
Working from home allowance (4.33 x 4) – £17.32
Total – £330.11
- c. Log On garden Services - £25.00
- d. Parish Insurance – £469.92
- e. LYPFT Insurance - £186.20
- f. Grant Thornton – External Audit Fee - £100

The above payments were agreed by all present.

Proposed – Cllr Graham

Seconded – Cllr Doe

15/10/17 District and County Councillor's Report.

Cllr Squires (County) - DCC are taking on apprentices after being able to recover an apprenticeship levy enabling them to claim back their training monies.

A brief report on work undertaken at the Corporate Parenting Board meetings regarding reports on children in care was given.

Cllr Eginton (District) - There is a delay to the first stage of the local plan inspection. Further consultations relevant to j.27 at Tiverton has been requested. There may be a delay of 6 months.

An inspection of all assets within Lapford that are owned / managed by MDDC will be undertaken with the Tenancy Officer in the next few weeks.

Code of Conduct Training is taking place in November.

Cllr Graham asks if DCC have any plans to convert the street lighting in Lapford to LED's. It was not known if Lapford was to have the street lighting upgraded.

16/10/17 Correspondence

Cllr Doe, Agenda item 6, 27th September 2017

Lucy Barrow – DCC Parish and Town Conference, 20th September 2017

17/10/17 Member Statements

Cllr Heal - A wreath is to be ordered for Remembrance Sunday.

Cllr Phillips - Can restrictions be imposed for parking in the Orchard Way Car park for the Funeral of Bill Phillips on Friday 13th October, between 11am – 2pm? The Parish Council manage the car park and can impose restrictions. The request for parking restrictions was agreed. Cllr Phillips would undertake to manage the restrictions.

Cllr Graham - Where are the new notice boards for the Orchard Centre? These are required and should progress before the next meeting.

Cllr Hemsworth - Can the Orchard Way Carp Park be included on the November Agenda? It will be included. The Blessing of the Night Landing Site will take place at the school on the 5th October for 1.30pm. There will be refreshments in the Ark afterwards.

Signed

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Cllr Wensley - A MOP has asked about the work being undertaken at the Yeo Vale. MDDC are not undertaking any work. Nothing has been processed by MDDC to authorise this work.

Cllr Doe - Dog fouling cannot be considered if people do not cooperate with the MDDC dog warden

Cllr Briant-Evans - A MOP has objected to the bonfire on the 4th November at the Mill on grounds of noise disturbance.

The School has archive material from past pupils. It will be disposed of if no one wishes for it retention. It was thought that historical works exist that could be relevant for the Parish Archive. Cllr Hemsworth will speak with the School on this matter.

There were no further topics to discuss. The ordinary meeting of the Parish Council concluded at 21.40pm.

The Parish Council then moved into Part 2 whereby the MOP were asked to leave.

Date of next meeting – 1st November 2017

Deadline for agenda submission requests – Midday 25th October 2017

Signed

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