

**MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 5th MAY 2010
IN THE ORCHARD CENTRE
REFERENCE 05/10**

Present: Cllr Lacey, Cllr Briant-Evans, Cllr Drew, Cllr Peto, Cllr Bulley, Cllr Glass, Cllr Lee (County Councillor), Cllr Kenney, Cllr Eginton (District Councillor) Laura Cockram (Clerk), PC Paul Roberts, 2 MOP's

Apologies: Cllr Down, Cllr Heal, Cllr Burrows

OPEN FORUM

MOP

05/10/01 The dehumidifier has now arrived for the archive cupboard. The MOP asked if this could be fitted as soon as possible. Cllr Lacey to meet with the Archive committee to arrange positioning etc. **Action: Cllr Lacey**

05/10/02 The MOP asked if Parish Councillors responsibilities, as agreed at the AGM could be published in the Lapford Lookout. Clerk to forward this list to Jeanne Whittaker.
Action: Clerk

PC Paul Roberts

05/10/03 Gareth Twigg has been promoted and will be leaving Crediton Station. PC Paul Roberts will be covering for three months until Gareth Twigg's replacement starts.

05/10/04 There have been a few incidents over the last few weeks with youths with alcohol being seized. The station are trying to be hard on youths early in the summer before activity increases over the summer. There are concerns about youths using Mr Manning's barn behind the Victory Hall, with sleeping bags being found. There are concerns that fires may be lit where there are considerable fire hazards.

05/10/05 Tickets have been issued to vehicles parking on pavements and blocking dropped kerbs. The problem appears to have improved.

05/10/06 A site at the top of the village has also been approved for the use of a speed gun

05/10/07 A Community Speed Watch scheme has been introduced at Crediton Police Station where members of the public can be trained to use a speed gun. The speed guns can then be used locally by those trained. More information is available by contacting Crediton Station.

Cllr Bulley

05/10/08 A parishioner has complained that the local Police Station never responded to a complaint made about a speeding vehicle. Cllr Bulley to pass specific details to PC Paul Roberts.

05/10/09 The moss on pavements is still an issue. Clerk to chase. **Action: Clerk**

05/10/10 Members of the public are not happy with how DCC are managing their roadworks. Delays are way too long and roadworks sometimes begin without any road signs notifying the public. Priorities don't seem in order when roads appearing to need little work are being re-surfaced while large potholes are being left for weeks. Cllr Lee explained that some of this work may be taking place through the Country Mile Project which has a separate budget. Clerk to write to highways for an explanation and ask for a plan of roadworks over the coming 12 months. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Glass

05/10/11 Cllr Glass and Cllr Eginton attended a recent East and Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership Conference which they both found to be extremely interesting. Cllr Glass

highlighted that there is financial assistance available for the elderly to improve the security of their homes (e.g. spy holes in doors).

- 05/10/12 Cllr Glass highlighted the previous letter received from Meg Booth regarding the road painting that should be completed shortly. There appears to be no work started as yet and Cllr Glass suggested that this should be chased after the next meeting, should no work have started.

Cllr Lacey

- 05/10/13 Cllr Lacey has received a phone call from Hannah Witcombe from Involve who have offered Lapford free Skate Park equipment. The Parish Council would need to find a site for this and cover any costs to fit the equipment. Lapford are being solely offered this equipment although a decision would need to be made shortly in order to secure it. It was thought that it could be introduced on a trial basis but it was decided that this should be discussed fully at another meeting. **Action: All Councillors**
- 05/10/14 Cllr Lacey attended a meeting at Chulmleigh Community College where the relationship between Parish Councils and the school were discussed. Students currently attend Chulmleigh Parish Council Meetings and Cllr Lacey asked if students of the Community College could be invited to our meetings.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

- 05/10/15 Minutes of the April 2010 meeting were agreed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING

- 05/10/16 The cans of spray paint have now been delivered and Cllr Lacey and Cllr Bulley are to start spraying the dog mess around the village shortly. **Action: Cllr Lacey and Cllr Bulley**
- 05/10/17 The allotment agreement has been signed and returned to Lapford Allotment Society. Cllr Eginton reminded that if there are allotments that have not been taken up, there may be some Chawleigh residents that could be interested. Clerk to notify the Allotment Society. The society have now set up their bank account so the agreed donation can now be forwarded to the society. **Action: Clerk**
- 05/10/18 The payment Cllr Briant-Evans made to Jeanne Whittaker has now been repaid following double payment
- 05/10/19 Cllr Lacey and Cllr Briant-Evans have completed a risk assessment around the village, a copy of which is attached.
- 05/10/20 The insurance renewal has been quoted at £542.44. The new laptop will need to be added (£500). There only appears to be two bus shelters listed when there are three. Clerk to contact the insurance company to ask for a new quote and to change correspondence to the clerks address. It was questioned whether there is a nominal value for the contents of the Orchard Centre. Clerk to check with the insurance provider. **Action: Clerk**
- 05/10/21 A response has been received regarding the new Lapford signage missing the twinning town. This has been changed through the Country Mile Project and its approach to making signage consistent along the A377 to reduce road casualties. Clerk to look back on previous plans sent regarding the signage. **Action: Clerk**
- 05/10/22 Morchard Bishop Parish Council have advised that the land at Bury Bends belongs to Mr Howard of Morchard Road, although it was thought that there was little that could be done to make Mr Howard clear the trees. Cllr Kenney believes that the trees were trimmed back on request by Network Rail.
- 05/10/23 Geoffrey Pratt has set through a draft lease for the proposed allotment at Moorland View. There were no costs outlined in this draft. Clerk to contact Geoffrey Pratt at

MDDC for advice. Cllr Glass was concerned about the increase in cars using the private road although Cllr Eginton advised that there would only be room for one allotment on this site. Clerk to contact Lapford Allotment Society to ask if they would be interested in taking on this plot, alongside the Kelland Barton allotments. **Action: Clerk**

05/10/24 It will cost £30 a year to register as a data user as recommended at the DAPC health check. It was thought that this may be an unnecessary annual expense seeing as the Parish Council does not hold considerable data. Clerk to forward information provided by DAPC to Cllr Lacey to see if this is compulsory. **Action: Clerk**

SOUTH WEST WATER ACCOUNT

05/10/25 Cllr Lacey reported that the problems with South West Water are ongoing. The Direct Debit that had been set up has now been cancelled although SW Water are still sending through invoices for thousands of pounds. The problem seems to have been caused by a new water meter that had been fitted following a recent leak however SW Water seem slow to understand and resolve the problem. It was suggested that Chris Arnold at SW Water should be invited to our next meeting to resolve this issue and to address the implications this has had on the Parish Council. **Action: Clerk**

FINANCE

05/10/26 The Precept money (£7000.00) and VAT return (£672.46) has now been paid into our account. It was thought that money could now be transferred back into the savings account. Clerk to speak to Cllr Down. **Action: Clerk**

05/10/27 **Invoices/Payments**

Audit Commission - **£141.00**

T&G Hill - **£59.50** (Victory Hall £25, Flower Boxes, Seats and Village Sign £34.50)

Clerk - **£182.37**

Lapford Allotment Society Donation - **£300.00**

Caretaker payment to Jeanne Whittaker - **£20.00**

Transfer of **£500** to Church Green (grant from DCC for fencing)

Cllr Glass proposed these payments were made. This was seconded by Cllr Briant-Evans. Clerk to arrange payment. Action: Clerk

05/10/28 An annual statement of interest for loan stock has been received. This advised of £9.92 interest paid in 2009/10 tax year.

05/10/29 **Accounts**

Current Account - £14085.84

NSI Savings Account - £2873.27

Footpaths - £520.82

Loan Stock - £283.98

05/10/30 Following recent problems with the SW Water account the clerk was unable to cancel the direct debit as she is not a signatory on the current account. The councillors present agreed that the clerk should be made a signatory. This is to enable the Clerk to properly discharge her treasurer duties. Clerk to get the correct forms from Natwest. **Action: Clerk**

PLANNING

05/10/31 REF 10/00489/Full – Erection of Single Storey Extension at Longlands, Lapford. Cllr Drew proposed that approval was recommended. This was seconded by Cllr Briant-Evans. Clerk to write to advise.

- 05/10/32 REF 10/00599/FULL – Conversion of farm buildings to provide 4 dwellings (+1) – Higher Town Place, Lapford. Cllr Briant-Evans proposed that this application was recommended. This was seconded by Cllr Kenney. Clerk to advise.
- 05/10/33 REF 10/00616/CAT – Intention to carry out works to yew trees within a conservation area – St Thomas A Becket's Church, Lapford. There were concerns about the height that these trees are due to be trimmed to. Cllr Peto proposed that we should recommend approval but show slight concern about the height of the pruning. This was seconded by Cllr Glass. Clerk to write to MDDC planning officer.
- 05/10/34 REF 10/00614/FULL – Change of use from a retail shop into part of existing residential accommodation at Lapford Stores. There were mixed opinions on the future of the village shop and it was decided that a vote as to whether or not we should recommend approval of the application should take place. This resulted in 2 votes to agree in changing the shop to residential use. There were 3 votes against and 2 abstentions. Clerk to contact the planning officer to advise that the Parish Council are against changing the use of the village shop.
- 05/10/35 Application for a licence at Lapstock 2010. Cllr Kenney proposed that approval be recommended. This was seconded by Cllr Drew. Clerk to write to MDDC to advise.
- 05/10/36 REF 10/00323/FULL – Permission has been granted on the porch extension at 39 Highfield.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 05/10/37 Membership renewal has been received from the Devon Association of Local Councils (DALC – Formerly DAPC) at a cost of £207.75. Cllr Briant-Evans proposed we should renew our membership. This was seconded by Cllr Drew. Clerk to arrange renewal and payment. **Action: Clerk**
- 05/10/38 All newsletters are to be displayed in the Orchard Centre.
- 05/10/39 An email has been received from MDDC asking for an update on our Parish Plan. Clerk to forward the most up to date information provided by Cllr Briant-Evans. **Action: Clerk**
- 05/10/40 Cllr Briant-Evans and Cllr Glass hope to attend the Emergency Planning Support Session offered by DCC.
- 05/10/41 It was agreed that the Mid Devon Transport Group Stakeholder Forum leaflet should be forwarded to the Car Aid. **Action: Clerk**
- 05/10/42 MDDC's Parish Matters newsletter included an article regarding Mid Devon Connect which delivers information and services to people in the local community. Mid Devon Connect will be attending local events to offer advice to local communities. Clerk to forward information about the Lapstock event and the Lapford Revel. **Action: Clerk**

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Drew

- 05/10/43 There are still a number of chairs in the Orchard Centre. Clerk to speak to the Victory Hall Committee. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Eginton

- 05/10/44 Cllr Eginton wanted to thank the local churches for the recent 'meet the candidates' day which was very well attended and successful.

Cllr Briant-Evans

- 05/10/45 Both water heaters and the hand drier in the Orchard Centre don't seem to be working correctly. Clerk to ask some local electricians for quotes. **Action: Clerk**

The meeting was closed at 10.20pm

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 2nd June 2010