

MINUTES OF LYMPHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 15/03/2021 DRAFT

Councillors Present: Mrs. A. Bennett, (Chairman), Ms H. Allsopp, Mr B. Gooding, Mr J. Hinton, Mr R. Leveridge, Mr G. Tuttiett, Mrs H. White.

Also Attending: County Councillor B. Filmer and Mrs S. Ferguson (Clerk)

Minutes were taken by the Clerk. The meeting opened at 8.12 pm.

LPC25/21 Apologies and Declarations of Interest and Dispensations: None received.

LPC26/21 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 22nd February 2021

It was resolved to approve the minutes of 22nd February 2021- Unanimous.

LPC 27/21 Planning Applications for consideration: None received

LPC28/21 The Clerk reminded the Members of the costs associated with the play area equipment which had been discussed previously.

It was resolved to instruct the Clerk to make arrangements to purchase a play train, pirate boat and grass matting for the play area using an RLT/2 application and the donated money from the Nuttall Trust

LPC29/21 It was resolved to change the date of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council to 4th May 2021.

LPC30/21 It was resolved to approve the Clerk's salary point increment (to point 17) with effect from 1st April 2021. A satisfactory appraisal review had been conducted during last month. The Clerk thanked the Members.

LP31/21 Financial Report and to approve Payment schedule for March 2021:

- Current Account balance £4856.72 (includes Nuttall Trust £1000.00)
- Deposit Account (including reserves and earmarked reserves) £3700.00
- Player- Mason Account £2406.39
- VAT 126 claim (sent but not yet received £591.43)

(These figures include cheques shown below and two bacs payments since the last meeting: 1) Min 16/21 Donation £100.00 and 2) Min 80/20 paint for refurbishment of telephone box £59.98)

- Clerk Salary + Quarterly Expenses = £562.76
- Whitehouse Kennels (Dog bins) £96.00
- Society of Local Council Clerks (Training) = £36.00
- Society of Local Council Clerks (Training) =£54.00
- HMRC (N.I.) = £258.80

It was resolved to approve the payments for March 2021.

LPC32/21 Reports

Clerk Report March 2021

- The Clerk has ordered and delivered the paint for the refurbishment of the telephone box to the President of the W.I. The work to convert it into a plant exchange is expected to be completed in the next few weeks.
- A telephone call from Wessex Water has confirmed that South Road and part of West Road will need to be closed around 7th-14th June for work to reline sewers. The Clerk suggested that the Contractors speak well beforehand to residents in Purving Row to establish if a temporary right of way could be used for residents during this time. It was suggested that Wessex Water could put right any damage to the privately maintained track to the A370 in exchange for resident use during the works in order to prevent unnecessary upset to all parties involved. Wessex Water thanked the Clerk for the suggestion based on her experience during recent closures.
- The Council Asset Register is now updated and the Clerk has restated last year's figures and will inform the Internal Auditor in due course, after taking advice from Somerset Association of Local Councils. The Asset Register has been reviewed with the prices being adjusted to the correct "historic cost".
- The Clerk and Chairman have attended a very informative forum webinar on communication between Councils and the community and moving forward after the Pandemic. They also attended a virtual forum on Insurance matters hosted by Came and Company which highlighted the need for caution when organising Village events and was also very enlightening on risk assessments amongst other matters.
- The Clerk attended a webinar on Planning reform, and also has been in communication District regarding the meaningful proportion of Cil money that the Parish Council can expect to receive. The Cil Monitoring Officer is fairly new to the position and has not given specific

figures, as yet, but has offered to organise some training sessions on how Cil is calculated and how it can be spent by the Parish within a five-year timescale. The Clerk will share this information with the Members.

- A resident approached the Clerk about the footway from the school end of Church Road to the Church. She had concerns that the hedge and vegetation needed cutting back as the parents and children were being forced to walk in the road. This resident was encouraged to report to County Roads and services and the Clerk has also emailed them. On investigation, it does appear the hedge has been lightly cut back before the cut-off point of 28th February.

GENERAL REPORTS

- Neighbourhood Watch: Covid vaccine scams reported, and a sighting of a young male on a motorised bicycle looking into all properties in Eastertown has been reported to the Police.
- Lymsham C. of E. Academy & Pre-School: The school has opened to all pupils from 8th March in line with the gradual release of Lockdown restrictions.
- Manor Hall: Nothing to report.
- Sports Club: Still closed due to restrictions. The new café proposition will no longer be going ahead.
- Highways: Play Area: Clerk carried out inspections. The apparatus could all do with a power wash in the better weather as noted last month.
- Grounds Maintenance & General Maintenance Issues: Grounds Maintenance has commenced for the season.
- Drainage Issues: The blocked drain by Manor Farm is scheduled to be investigated in April.
- Footpaths: Our two volunteers from Eastertown have completed walking all paths there, and are communicating with the Clerk regarding checking some in Lymsham.
- Village Events: All currently suspended.
- Lymsham in Bloom 2021: Plans are prepared and plants on order for the Summer displays; we still need volunteers to help weed & water the displays.
- Village Signpost Sub-Committee: Nothing further to report as yet.
- St. Christopher's Church Re-ordering: Feedback from the Diocese in February regarding the updated proposals plan was generally positive, but there were requests for further details regarding certain aspects.
- County and District report: County Councillor B. Filmer gave a report to the Members. Council Tax has risen 1.99 per cent and Social Care element 3 per cent. The Climate Emergency

Community Fund Applications were oversubscribed by £3.5 million. Birth registration backlog due to Lockdowns has now been eliminated. Registrations of Deaths can now be done by telephone rather than in person. There is a lot of pressure to catch up with the backlog of Weddings and recruitment of registrars and support to wedding venues were being considered. Somerset Unitary proposals were now with the Secretary of State for consultation which ends in late April.

LPC33/21 Items to be carried forward to next Meeting:

- 1) Village Events.
- 2) Management and Delivery of Climate Community Fund Projects (Clerk to report back to Council).
- 3) Clerk request to attend Canva Virtual Training on 22nd April 2021.

Planning Application Decisions by Sedgemoor District Council this month:

- 31/21/00002 2 The Old Chapel, West Road, Lympsham, BS24 0EG. Construction of natural stone wall, with entrance leading from the driveway to the garden
Decision Level: Delegated Decision: Granted permission. Decision Date: 10/03 /2021.
- 31/20/00021 Land near Millfield Cottages, Brean Road, Lympsham, BS24. Erection of a dwelling.
Decision Level: Delegated Decision: Refuse Permission Decision Date: 15/02/2021

Next Meeting: Monday 19th April 2021 at 7.30pm. (To follow Manor Hall Management Committee Meeting).

The meeting ended at 9.15 pm