

NOTES FROM INFORMAL LYMPSHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 17/01/2022

This meeting was by Zoom in the light of Covid Plan B restrictions to protect the safety of the Staff and Councillors. A scheme of delegation is in place to allow normal Council business to continue.

Councillors Present: (Acting Chairman) Mr R. Leveridge, Mrs A. Bennett, Mr B. Gooding
Mr G. Tuttiett, Mrs H. White, County Cllr. B. Filmer and District Cllr A. Gilling.

Also Attending: Mrs S. Ferguson (Clerk).

Minutes were taken by the Clerk. The meeting opened at 8.03 pm

Apologies and Declarations of Interest and Dispensations: Cllr B. Gooding declared an interest in Planning 31/21/00014. Cllr G. Tuttiett declared an interest in Planning 31/21/00037

Ms. H. Allsopp sent apologies.

(County Councillor Mr B. Filmer left the Zoom meeting prior to next item).

1. Planning Applications for consideration:

- 31/21/00037/STP. Woburn Cottage, North Road, Lympsham, Somerset. BS24 0HS. Erection of wrap around boundary fence, front (North) access gate and side (East) wall. This application was supported as in keeping with existing fencing and necessary for safety reasons. There was one abstention.
- 31/21/00038 Mendip View, Rectory Way, Lympsham. BS24 0ES. This application was not live on the SDC Portal so no comments were able to be made.
- 31/21 /00014 Lympsham Manor Farm, Rectory Way, Lympsham. BS24 0EN. Erection of three detached dwellings, formation of new access and landscaping on site of existing agricultural building (to be demolished). This was discussed and a decision was made to support the application as it is within the village boundary, infill and an improvement to the appearance of the existing plot and existing agricultural building as well as increasing housing stock. It would be expected that the development complies with the highest standards of sustainability. There was one abstention and one objection. (County Cllr B. Filmer re-joined the meeting.)

2. Public Participation Time– (A change to the running order of the informal Meeting was made due to timings of previous Manor Hall meetings.) There was a discussion between Councillors and the Landowners of a paddock in the conservation area of the village,

debating possible future ideas for the use of the paddock. The discussion touched on possible retirement housing units built by sustainable ecological methods, with a community area for all to enjoy. It was decided to arrange a site visit at a mutually agreeable time to look at the field in more detail.

3. The Clerk provided a short update on the recent Jubilee Committee meeting. There will be another meeting on Wednesday 9th February.
4. The Lympsham in Bloom Annual Grant Application was considered and the Clerk was asked to award £600.00 to be ratified at next face to face meeting.
5. FINANCIAL REPORT AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE.
 - a. Clerk Salary =£599.56
 - b. Whitehouse Kennels (dog bins) =£96.00

(The figures shown below include payments above):

- C/A £4854.65
- D/A £28, 420.21 (Made up of £1625.00 Village Event Funds, £16,789.06 Climate Change Grant, £203.03 Lympsham in Bloom funds, £967.64 Gardening Club funds, £5234.94 CIL and £3600.54 Capital Reserves)
- VAT (To reclaim) = £1002.12
- Player –Mason =£2406.63

*Please note that the Unity Deposit account is now paying some interest (0.15%) after the recent rise in interest rates

6. CLERK REPORT

The Omicron variant is still giving cause for concern and the Covid figures are very high in the area. The Council will have informal Zoom meetings in January and February and use delegated Powers until the figures begin to fall and Members feel safe to meet in person once more.

The Clerk has sent the Precept request of £20,000 in line with the Budget set by the Council. A financial report to explain the increase in Precept is on the village website.

The Clerk and Chairman have signed up for Election refresher training in March.

The Clerk has received a Grant application from Lympsham in Bloom for the Council to consider.

Advertisement payments for Lympsham News are still coming in and to date £2445.00 has been received. A final reminder has now been sent to those who have not yet paid.

Unfortunately, the costs of printing have now gone up, so a Nuttall Trust application has been made to see if any shortfall can be met.

The Clerk has also submitted Nuttall Trust applications for the Jubilee Committee and the Manor Hall.

GENERAL REPORTS

Neighbourhood Watch: Burglaries in local areas reported.

Lympsham Academy and Pre-school: Nothing to report.

Sports Club: Cllr White attended the recent meeting and will update the Members.

Manor Hall: Bills for hall hire have been paid. The Clerk has been informed that the HSBC account will no longer be free to operate and a standing charge of £ 5.00 and 40p per cheque will be charged, (£5.40 for December to be charged this month) This may mean it is worth considering moving to Unity Bank who operate an online banking system for a set fee of £6.00 per month.

Highways: Pot holes marked out for repair.

Play Area: Play area and Defibrillator checks carried out and report sent to Ambulance service.

Grounds Maintenance and General Maintenance Issues: Clerk is having no response from Contractor booked to crown reduce the silver birch in the play area.

Drainage Issues: Tankers have been working in the Boundaries and opposite Manor Farm after the recent rainfall.

County and District Report: Councillors- County Cllr B.Filmer spoke about falling Covid cases, but there was still a need to be vigilant . He mentioned the online reporting service for pot holes etc. and how it was an improvement to the previous methods used. The elections on 5th May would mean two Unitary Councillors would be in place and the two district Councillors would end their term of office in 2023 when the Unitary Council of Somerset comes into force.

District Cllr A. Gilling spoke about affordable housing provision and the coming improvements in Recycling which would roll out in February.

Next Meeting: Monday 14th February 2022

The meeting ended at 9.03 pm