

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF LYMPSHAM PARISH COUNCIL 19/05/2025

Councillors Present: Chairman Mr R. Leveridge, Ms. H. Allsopp, Mr T. Collings, Mr. B. Gooding, Mr J. Hinton, Mr. G. Tuttiett and Mrs. H. White

Also Attending: Mrs S. Ferguson (Clerk), Unitary Cllrs. B. Filmer and T. Grimes (from 7.58 pm).

Minutes were taken by the Clerk.

The meeting was opened at 7.00 pm

LPC19/25 Cllr. R. Leveridge was elected Chairman and duly signed Acceptance of Office.

LPC20/25 Cllr. H. White was elected Vice Chairman and duly signed Acceptance of Office.

LPC21/25 There were no apologies or declarations of Interest.

LPC22/25 The Minutes of 14th April 2025 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

LPC23/25 There were no Members of the Public present for Public speaking.

LPC24/25 Planning Applications for consideration:

- 31/25/00009. Little Grange, Rectory Way, Lympsham, Somerset. BS24 0EN. Erection of a single storey extension to the side with construction of stone boundary wall. It was resolved to support this application. The extension is well designed and sympathetic to the original property construction.
- 31/25/00011. Sycamore House, Church Road, Lympsham, Somerset. BS24 0DT. Crown reduce 1no. Field Maple(T1), 2no.Damson (T3 and T5) back to previous pruning points (removing approx. 1.5 m growth). It was resolved to support this tree work and leave the final decision to the Tree Officer
(The following application was received after publication of the Agenda):
- 31/25/00012 Little Briars, Church Road, Lympsham. BS24 0DT. Crown reduce 1no. Damson (T2) and 1 no. Cherry plum (T2) to previous pruning points (removing approx. 1.5 m growth). It was resolved to support this tree work and leave the final decision to the Tree Officer.

LPC25/25 It was resolved to purchase a Gov.uk domain for emails and accept a quote from Parish Council websites.

IPC26/25 It was resolved to replace the worn football nets and repair the damaged post.

LPC27/25

It was resolved to purchase a Union Jack flag for community use provided the Church would give permission for it to be flown. The Clerk was asked to check this.

LPC28/25

It was resolved to approve the Insurance and Cyber Insurance Quotations for 2025.

LPC29/25

It was resolved to purchase a spare set of defibrillator pads. There was a discussion on the defibrillator at the school and it was decided to ask for more information on the availability outside school hours to establish if paediatric pads should be provided for the Parish Council defibrillators.

LPC30/25

It was resolved to adopt Standing Orders and Financial Regulations for Lympsham Parish Council for 2025.

LPC31/25

It was resolved to adopt the Code of Conduct for Somerset with no changes from 2024.

LPC32/25

It was resolved to adopt the Scheme of Delegation-Planning Applications with no changes from 2024.

LPC33/25

The continuation of the General Power of Competence was noted as the Council and Clerk meet all requirements.

LPC34/25

Financial Report and to formally approve payments for May 2025. The following payments were approved. - Unanimous.

(Please note, all items marked * are from CIL funds).

- Clerk Salary May =£1098.68 (Tax rebate included)
- Clerk Quarterly Expenses =£100.00
- Whitehouse Kennels (dog bins) = £134.40
- Postage = £9.85
- Annual Insurance (Gallagher)= £616.84
- Cyber Insurance (Gallagher) = £193.76
- Defib Shop (Bleed cabinet and kit) = £546.00*
- PGC Contracting (Grounds Maintenance) = £532.80
- Speed Indicator Management (Nicholls Facilities Ltd) =£114.00 *
- HMRC (Tax/N.I.) =£3.58
- Fuel expenses 50% (To archives) = £11.70
- SLCC Annual fee (65%) =£149.45

The balances of accounts after the above payments are:

Current Account = £1,360.54

Deposit Account= £61,210.56 **Breakdown:** Lympsham in Bloom Funds £444.45, Gardening Club Funds £467.20, CIL £7,839.96, Chatty Hour £1598.58, Old photos Group £550.00 General Reserves £20,000.00 and remaining precept 2025 £30,310.40.

VAT (to reclaim) = £360.19

LPC35/25

Clerk Report

The drain on Rectory Way, opposite Holm Farm has been investigated as it floods each time there is heavy rain. The team discovered the drain. A resident reported that the workmen said the drain went to a dead-end and would have to be completely replaced at some point.

Traffic continues to be an issue through the village, there was an incident on Rectory Way at approximately 5.00 pm on Sunday 11th May where a silver 4 x4 vehicle towing a large sheep trailer failed to slow down for two horse riders resulting in a panicked horse unseating the rider who received facial injuries. The horse slipped over and had to have veterinary treatment. The Police were informed and conducted door to door enquiries for doorbell webcam footage. A resident has written to Road Safety and Highways with her concerns at the speed and volume of traffic diverted through the village. Chairman Leveridge is continuing to ask for support at the Highways Group meetings, and the Clerk is reporting all incidents to Traffic Management.

Cllr. Tuttiett reported that one set of football posts had been vandalised, and part of it had ended up in the Rhyne. He fished it out and has taken to see if it can be repaired. Both posts require new nets, this is an Agenda item. Residents were concerned that a Union Jack flag was not flown as a mark of respect for VE80. The Clerk has established that the village does not have one, so this is an Agenda item to consider.

The Clerk has completed the Annual CIL return and sent it to Planning Obligations at Somerset Council.

A Peace rose was planted by the W.I. and children from the school in the Manor Hall Garden on Thursday 8th May to commemorate VE80.

There has been no further action on the clean-up of the ditch by Little Grange, Rectory Way after the oil and diesel spill from an overturned lorry. A resident has contacted the Environment Agency for clarification on this and is keeping the Clerk informed. Update: Following the writing of this report, the absorbent pads have been removed.

The Clerk had been helped enormously by a resident who has spent time analysing the SID reports. The volume of traffic has doubled during the period of the diversion through the village due to the railway bridge being rebuilt.

GENERAL REPORTS

- Somerset Council Report: Cllr Filmer spoke about upcoming Consultations from the Boundary Commission, Planning Regulations and Somerset Council (parking charges). One block of the Taunton Offices has been sold to be redeveloped as residential units for key workers.
- LCN: Chair Leveridge spoke about the Highways meeting. The senior Police Officer at the meeting talked about the priorities the Police had to consider. The Traffic Manager had limited resources to allocate across her area, but the sign at the T junction of Rectory Way and Brean Road was on the list for replacement.
- N.W: No report
- Lympsham Academy and Pre-school: A meeting to discuss lease issues has arranged.
- Sports Club/Café: AGM Meeting postponed.
- Manor Hall: Clerk has contacted electricians to arrange exterior solar light.
- Highways: Pothole patching has taken place.
- Play Area and Defibrillator: Visual Checks carried out by Clerk, some litter picked up. Defibrillator status reported to the Circuit and new pads fitted.
- Grounds Maintenance and General Maintenance Issues: The hedges close to The Boundaries had been lightly trimmed to allow access to the paths after a request from a wheelchair user.
- Drainage Issues: See Clerk Report.
- Footpaths: Nothing new this month.
- Village Events: Church Fete at the Manor on 21st June.
- St. Christopher's Church Re-ordering: Cllr Leveridge would be attending a meeting with the PCC. Costs for the project needed to be reduced and the COFC team was looking into this matter with various experts and the architect.

LPC36/25

Items to take forward to next meeting:

- To report on the school leases discussions and progress (as Manor Hall Committee representatives)
- To decide on recommendations for the Boundary Consultation
- Update on information from the British Horse Society regarding Slow Campaign signs
- Update from Clerk on Gov.Uk email domain
- Update from Sports Club (as Manor Hall Committee representatives)

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 16th June at 7.00 pm

The meeting ended at 8.15 pm.

These Minutes were signed as a true record on 16th June 2025