

LOPEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held in The School Room, Church Street, Lopen 21 January 2019, 7 pm

Present : S Crane (Chairman), N Jones, E Moore, J Feeney

In attendance : L Wilson - Parish Clerk, County & District Cllr Adam Dance & County Cllr Crispin Raikes (part of the meeting) Members of the Public : 4

The meeting commenced at 7.04 pm.

District Councillor's Report :

The planning application for Probiotics has been referred to SSDC for an Area Committee meeting on 27 Feb at 2 pm.

County Councillor's Report :

South Petherton Library will remain in it's current location for at least 12 months, but would need extra funding to purchase the building; alternatives premises were being researched. It will be run as a community operation, to incorporate the community centre and hub, and hopes to extend opening hours dependant upon volunteer availability.

SIS : Cllr Dance confirmed that Lopen's SIS will still proceed, but with date unknown.

01/19 Apologies : From Valerie Canton, due to holiday absence.

02/19 Declaration of Interests : None

03/19 Dispensations : None

04/19 Minutes of Meeting of 17 December 2018 : agreed as a correct record and signed accordingly.

Public Forum : Les Morton, on behalf of Neighbourhood Watch, in the absence of Cllr Canton, informed the meeting that some petrol had been siphoned from a car in the village.

05/19 Hewin's Timber : Alastair Rubie of Hewins spoke to confirm that steps were already in place to plant screening on the western boundary between Godfrey's fields and the Lopen side. Building had not actually been commenced with regard to the current site addition/alteration. The high bank of soil created previously will be moved to form a bank, planted with vegetation, in February/March 2019. Application for a variance to the footpath access to a safer route than the existing one was intended. Action : It was resolved that

Cllr Moore would discuss with the Paths Department at SSDC regarding the procedure and reasons for varying the access route and liaise with Mr Rubie to further this.

Comments were raised with regard to hours of use of the site, where residents are woken by timber drop at 5.30 am and lighting brighter than previously. Mr Rubie accepted that one forklift had been upgraded from an 8.5 kw to 11 kw, which had affected a Watgore resident. Lighting had been upgraded also. 6 am is the start time for Mr Rubie and some staff; he believed most lorries were loaded in the evening. The Council observed that there were a number of houses within 300 metres of site, but that sound carried to further properties also.

Public Forum: SID - SLOW raised concern regarding lack of value of SID data to date. The Parish Council confirmed they had drafted a response to the Superintendent regarding concerns about the efficacy of Speedwatch under GDPR, also incorporating SLOW's views. The Parish Council confirmed the Anti-Race device was now activated and the error on the device had one final adjustment of 45 mins to the real-time on data recording so the next data drop should be accurate with regard to the time recorded. Action : Resolved and agreed that Cllr Moore would continue data collection, plus preparation of a rota to include SLOW/Speedwatch representatives. A log is to be kept of the date of battery changes. LPC would continue to disseminate data as before and as per other local Parish Councils; as the data contains no identifying information there appears no issue as far as Lopen Parish Council are concerned. SLOW could use the data as they considered fit.

06/19 : Matters Arising:

Salt - Bags of salt had been purchased by the Parish Council, to be placed at strategic places in the village to enable residents to help themselves for use on the paths. So far, one is located at Ballarat House in Frog Street. Further locations to be confirmed in due course.

07/19 Planning :

19/00007/EIASS Screen and Scoping request Frogmary Green AD Plant Farm - this is a precursor to a planning application; LPC are not invited to respond but the Parish Council discussed whether they should. Frogmary wish to increase use of the anaerobic digester from 19,302 tons p.a. to 69,000 p.a. Concern raised over the spurious traffic movement calculations in the application. The Council discussed that where a high proportion of input is dairy waste, this is moving towards waste disposal. It appears the original structure was built considerably larger than required at the time; it may be they now wish to utilise it at capacity. Action : Resolved and agreed that Cllr Jones would prepare a letter to SSDC.

19/00049/FUL: Osborne - Mill House, Merriott Road, Lopen, TA13 5JT

No written papers had yet been supplied to the Parish Council, nor were there any plans or documents posted on SSDC's website, therefore no action can be taken at this time.

08/19 SSDC & Taunton Deane's Wood Memorial : Resolved that no donation would be made by Lopen Parish Council.

09/19 Wellington Neighbourhood Planning Event : Resolved that no Councillors would attend.

10/19 **Next Meeting Date:** Agreed to be Monday 11 March 2019.

11/19 **Finance :**

Payments :

070119	SSDC Ranger	301.92
100119	S Crane: refund for Highways Salt/Grit	47.00
040119	L Wilson : refund for Stamps, GPO	7.50

12/19 **Budget :**

Likely to be increases in Ranger's fees and Printing this year. Real costs for salary, sundries and defibrillator pads now show; in previous years these had been low or undercharged. Future investment in the village was considered desirable and potential ideas could be raised & explored in due course including at the Annual Village Meeting. Potential election costs of £200 in this year, an election year. However, there has only been one election in Lopen in 40 years. Previously circulated figures and projections were discussed. Resolved and agreed that the Precept should be £6183.

Any Other Matters : Four boxes of Council records remained after the combined efforts of Councillors and the Clerk to sort the documents; once the final check/sort had been made, the remaining archive could be taken to County's storage facility.

The meeting concluded at 9.47 pm

For the purposes of minute taking the meeting was recorded.