

## **LOPEN PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Meeting held in The School Room, Church Street, Lopen 29 October 2018, 7 pm**

Present : S Crane, S Frackiewicz (part of meeting), N Jones, E Moore, J Feeney, V Canton

In attendance : L Wilson, Parish Clerk; District Cllr Raikes , County & District Cllr Adam Dance (part of the meeting); Members of the Public : 3

The meeting commenced at 7.08 pm.

District Councillor's Report : A new website is being built. Cllr Raikes responded to questions about the crane at Frogmary Green, with his view that it's function was installation of a new storage tank for the digestate.

Public Forum : A resident informed the meeting that Harry Stringer had previously designed a bus shelter for the village and that those drawings might help with the suggestion raised at the last meeting.

363/18 Apologies for absence : Notice that Cllr Frackiewicz will attend the meeting partway.

364/18 Declaration of interests : Cllr Feeney had previously provided written notification of her interest (as a neighbouring property) in the planning matter to be dealt with at the meeting.

365/18 Dispensations : None.

366/18 Minutes of the meeting of 18 September 2018 were agreed as an accurate copy and signed accordingly.

367/18 Matters arising from the minutes :

- Dog waste in the village - JF still to investigate options. Action - to report at a future meeting.
- Planning updates - Permission granted on Sunnyside Farm and Probiotics (illuminated sign) applications.

368/18 Future Meeting Date : Agreed for Monday 10 December.

369/18 Planning :

- Application No 18/03030/HOU Mr & Mrs Gibson; erection of two storey and single storey rear extension to September House, Holloway Road, TA13 5JU.

7.35 pm - Cllr Frackiewicz & County Councillor Adam Dance arrived.

Cllr Frackiewicz declared an interest regarding the planning matter being discussed.

Action : response to Planning Dept - no objection to the application, albeit with the comment that the height of the ridge line seemed high; normally it was required that an extension be subordinate to the existing building.

370/18 Winter Road Gritting : The previously circulated letter from Highways regarding the removal of Lopen from the precautionary gritting measures was discussed. Cllr Dance advised that if the A303 were shut then Seavington or Lopen would be gritted. He informed the meeting that the vote on the changes to gritting measures at the County Council was taken at cabinet level, and therefore will remain in place irrelevant of any external input or complaints.

Councillors in agreement that cost-cutting had been put ahead of public safety, so a letter should still be sent to put this on record. The first section of the route from Lopen Head roundabout to the village was shaded, damp (with some running water from unresolved public drain issues), steep, full of bends and blind junctions, without walkways, used by school children, buses, HGV's and up to 2000 vehicles per day.

Action : NJ to draft letter for approval, for subsequent circulation to Merriot CC, Marcus Fysh, District and County Council, D Fothergill and John Woodman.

County Council will no longer supply free bags of salt/grit. Advantages and disadvantages of a gritting bin discussed; costs high, difficult to find suitable site. Action : agreed to purchase 5-10 bags salt at a maximum cost of £50 (to be sourced by Clerk); to store in bags at locations spread around village (Potentially at Bier house, and houses of JF, SF, & Ben Norton, with his agreement)

371/18 SID Data: Cllr Crane had previously circulated a draft plan proposing the location rotation for the SID. Action : Plan agreed.

Update on use of Lopen's existing Parish Ranger as a qualified installer, to be on future dates when he visits Shepton Beauchamp, and where dates do not coincide, as part of his regular round for Lopen, all at no additional cost (albeit we were originally told he was not qualified, necessitating use of Brympton's Ranger at a charge). Action : Delay on Chapter 8 training of a resident, although possibly one person necessary as a back up in future.

Preliminary Data circulated: Timescale for extraction of data discussed; likely to be Sundays. Maybe future need for software to obtain further detail on data. Action : SF to send out info and Clerk will circulate data to mailing list obtained from Brympton PC.

372/18 Village Plan : SF provided update on his research on :

- Possibilities of deliveries to village from Hinton Village Shop to aid residents without transport.
- Update on "Lived in/Loved Village" scheme, which can have positive impact on speeding. Hewins had agreed to supply oak for planters for use at village gateways, and a resident has offered to make them (both f.o.c.). A member of the public raised objections to the suitability of these and possible inappropriate planting for a rural setting.
- Update on Cllr Canton's visit to SPARK ref volunteer drivers. Action: Note to go in Lopen Eye about SPARK and invitation for volunteer drivers. Cllr Raikes & Dance to give details of the Community Partnership coordinator for our area as another avenue to explore.
- Bus Shelter : 7 children now travel to Maiden Beech school daily, in addition to other residents' use of public buses. Discussed possibilities of a rustic, wooden, bus shelter.; Yarcombe & Hewins

as possible companies to quote. Cllr Dance indicated funding or part-funding might be available.  
Action : Cllr Dance to make preliminary enquiry about funding.

One Councillor felt that before any of these options could be pursued, a Community Plan, with active input from residents, should be obtained, including those who may not have responded to the survey having another opportunity to respond. This could take place at a village meeting, or other opportunities for residents to discuss potential ideas and the formation of a sub-committee. Action: SF withdraws his involvement in plans. Matters deferred to the Village Meeting 2019.

County Councillor Report interposed : South Petherton Library has some potential support to be community run as a Hub, and a petition is currently live. Fund-raising would need to take place, but if successful, would enable the library to keep its existing stock and IT equipment and continue operating.

8.50 pm Cllrs Dance & Raikes left the meeting.

373/18 Remembrance Day : No village plans known and too late to start.

374/18 Archives : Action : Clerk to check legal requirements for disposal and storage. 7 pm, Thursday 22 November fixed as a date to meet at NJ's house to jointly sort through archives.

375/18 Payment Invoices & Expenses :

19.10.18	SSDC Ranger	301.92
29.10.18	Clerk, L Wilson - refund; toner and postage	24.94

376/18 Any Other Matters :

- CDS Survey - circulated by email - can be completed by all residents
- SALC AGM, Tuesday 18 December, 6 pm - Clerk requests response from any Councillor who wishes to attend, in due course
- Zurich Insurance ; confirmed that cover was extended to SID at no charge for the remainder of this insurance period, but there would be an estimated additional charge of £21.69 from renewal (June 2019)

The meeting concluded at 9.40 pm

For the purposes of minute taking the meeting was recorded.