MINUTES - LAPFORD PARISH COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY 7th AUGUST 2013 at THE ORCHARD CENTRE, LAPFORD
REFERENCE 08/13

Present: Cllr Lacey, Cllr Briant-Evans, Cllr P Heal, Cllr C Heal, Cllr Burrows, Cllr Eginton (District Cllr), Cllr Clinch, Cllr Wensley, Cllr Squires (County Cllr) Christopher Voaden (Clerk), 2 Members of the Public.
Apologies: Cllr Doe

OPEN FORUM FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
08/13/02 One MOP was present
A copy of the August Lapford Lookout was referred to regarding dog fouling. MOP resides in Prospect Way and felt that information regarding dog fouling was wrong and that MDDC had been placing warning leaflets regarding dog fouling in a discriminatory manner. The MOP was unaware of a dog fouling problem; rather, it was cats that were causing the mess.

The Chairman made the MOP aware of the historical nature of the dog fouling problem throughout the village and that Prospect way was a hotspot for problems. Cllr Eggington also reinforced the sanctions for anyone caught not clearing up after their dog were in place and reminded the PC’s that fixed penalty notices had been issued as well as prosecutions that had been successful.

LOCAL PLAN REVIEW
08/13/03 Liz Pickering from MDDC attended to discuss the ‘Local Plan Review, Scoping Report July 2013’.

Mid Devon require local consultation to form one single plan regarding development, employment and housing. They would require areas such as Lapford to provide views on how they see the area developing. Consideration of the housing need within Mid Devon including Lapford was to be included in a Neighbourhood plan.
Liz Pickering gave details for deadlines – 19th August to reply to local plan.
2015 – Local plan to be submitted by MDDC.

Lapford requires a formal Neighbourhood plan. The Clerk and Cllr Briant-Evans will produce a Neighbourhood Plan in the coming months.

PC’s were also informed of a meeting at Mr Steven Keeble’s house regarding a Neighbourhood Plan on the 21st August 2013. Cllr’s were keen to attend as well as others within the village. Cllr Eggington, raised to possibility of 25% of all Community Infrastructure Levy’s being available on any new development with a Neighbourhood Plan.

A document entitled ‘How to Shape where you live: a guide to Neighbourhood planning’ was provided to the meeting. Clerk to send electronic copies to all PC’s and relevant parties prior to meeting. Further discussions to take place post 21st August 2013.
Cllr Heal noted that the Clerk would have significant input in the drafting of the Neighbourhood plan and proposed that £200 be set aside for clerk’s time in drafting Neighbourhood plan. Proposed by Cllr Briant – Evans, Seconded by Cllr Wensley.

**MATTERS ARISING**

**08/13/04 Use of orchard Centre for Home Schooling**
Cllr Briant – Evans was in receipt of an email from one of the Parents that wanted to undertake home Schooling.
It was noted that 5 children were going to be taken out of Lapford School in year 6 rather than be bussed to Chulmleigh for their education.
Cllr Heal raised significant concerns regarding the proposals. He stated that there was a school in the village that the PC should support. The orchard centre was not suitable for children and he was concerned about the child protection issues that may arise in the building as well as the potential costs of any modifications that the PC were unwilling to fund. If the parents were willing to pay a commercial rent for the Orchard Centre, views may change.
Lapford has a free school, why should the PC subsidise the parents who want to home educate when Lapford was a school needing support.
The orchard centre seemed too small for such educational needs and all present stated that the Village hall would be relevant.
Cllr Eggington raised his concern about the PC supporting the minority when many children were still going through the state system available to them. Home schooling is in the minority and the PC should not side with this view.

The PC should not grant the use of the Orchard Centre for Home Schooling.
Two abstentions and 7 against the use of Orchard Centre for home schooling.
**Clerk to write to those concerned**

**08/13/05 Lapford Railway Station.**
A full discussion took place regarding the current threats to the Railway Station. All present considered that the prospect of a further reduction in services at Lapford would have a severe and detrimental effect on Lapford. Access to the station was an issue as was the decreasing numbers of train users.

Cllr’s realise that there is no prospect of the station being moved to the industrial estate, but feel that at bare minimum, could Lapford not be a request stop. Many Cllr’s noted that the train stopped every hour at Morchard Road and Eggesford. Lapford is one of the largest settlements on the Tarka Line and has such a limited service.

The Clerk has been asked to write to First Great Western putting our case forward asking that he stop be made a request stop.
Clerk to Action

08/13/06  **CIL Payments**
Cllr Eggington gave a short talk on the benefits of CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) and how we would go about in applying for such money. The PC’s were reminded of the importance of getting the Neighbourhood Plan prepared and sent to MDDC. Cllr Eggington also made the PC’s aware that CIL money was easier to spend than s.106 money and more freedom would be given to the Pc on how the money was to be spent.

08/13/07  **Orchard centre Linked with Victory Hall**
Cllr Burrows has not yet spoken to Edwin burrows about the Victory hall in detail yet. Their discussion was to be about the Victory Hall using the Orchard Centre for events and meetings when it was over booked or different events took place. The example of such a situation was given that on a Wednesday the dog club meet. The small meeting room may become a difficult place to use if such noise was present in the main hall so why not use the Orchard Centre for such a meeting. Cllr Briant – Evans had a concern about supporting this organisation when we would not support home schooling but generally all involved wanted more discussion to take place on how it would work out. This will be moved to the September Agenda, **Cllr Burrows to action.**

08/13/08  **Parish Property inspection**
Cllr Briant – Evans and Clerk will undertake an inspection of all parish property at the next available date convenient to both and report back to next PC meeting.

08/13/09  **Tap Fund application**
The clerk informs the PC’s that he has been approached by other parishes for joint applications as well as Chulmleigh. Lapford have applied with Chawleigh in the past and are willing to do this again. Various suggestions were put forward by Cllr’s but ultimately Cllr C Heal made a request for a contribution for a youth shelter in the playing fields to be considered. This fitted in with the request from Chawleigh
The Clerk will discuss the requirements with Cllr C Heal and return back to Chawleigh to confirm that we are willing to progress with a joint application. Cllr Eggington states that Paul tucker at MDDC will assist and that application forms can be found on the internet. **Clerk to Action.**

**PLANNING**

08/13/10  **Pixie corner. Planning ref 13/00892/FULL & 13/00892/FULL**
Cllrs Doe, Heal, Burrows, Lacey, Briant-Evans had undertaken a site visit in the past and after viewing the site as well as speaking to the applicants agent, a decision was made to support the application.
Proposal for acceptance - Cllr Heal
Seconded - Cllr Burrows
**Clerk to Write to MDDC report our acceptance of the planning applications.**

08/13/11  **1 Higher Town Court. Planning ref 13/00817/FULL**
The PC have no objections to the application.
Proposal for acceptance - Cllr Burrows
Seconded - Cllr Briant-Evans

**Clerk to Write to MDDC report our acceptance of the planning applications.**

08/13/12  **Longlands, Kelland hill. Planning ref 12/00674/FULL**
The PC have no objections to the application.
Proposal for acceptance - Cllr Briant-Evans
Seconded - Cllr Heal

**Clerk to Write to MDDC report our acceptance of the planning applications.**

08/13/13  Planning ref 13/00445/out and Planning ref 13/00674/out were brought to the attention of the PC’s and as they were out of the area no comment was needed.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

08/13/14  The clerk had received numerous letters from official bodies regarding change to clerk for village and general updating of address. Clerk will contact individual PC’s in due course. PC’s were in agreement of such action.

08/13/15  Letter from Juliet Robertson re lighting. Discussion regarding what action can be taken. Clerk to write to neighbours asking if floodlight can be turned off at 10pm.

**AOB**

08/13/16  Cllr Squires has undertaken her regular drive through villages in her ward and has driven through Lapford with Bob King from highways, her recent trip included Lapford. The Road surface through the village has been inspected. The quality of the surface is inadequate. Various areas are failing and there have not been any white lines painted as requested in the past. The Highways Department are trying to provide a long term remedy.

Cllr Squires has been contacted by the BBC to make comment on the Primary school issues, she has declined to make any comment. Cllr Lacey has also been contacted. The PC recommends that no media contact should be made regarding the school.

08/13/17  Cllr Wensely has purchased a mobile internet ‘dongle’. This has been purchased for trial and clerk will undertake this trial on PC laptop computer in Orchard centre. Cllr Wensley has purchased this privately and an expenses claim will be submitted.

08/13/18  Cllr Burrows. An attempt to arrange hedge cutting towards the bottom of the village has not taken place yet but it was agreed further contact with local contractor to be made.

08/13/18  Cllr Briant- Evans discusses Neighbourhood plan as well as Creedy local action group meeting on the 17/09/13 in Crediton. Various PC’s (Eggington, heal, Briant-Evans and Doe) have agreed to attend. Anti social Behaviour Toolkit also mentioned and this will be kept in the Orchard centre for future reference.
**08/13/19**  Cllr C Heal. Quotes have been coming in for Playing Field play equipment. Sufficient quotes available to progress with further funding applications. Revel Raffle earned over £200.

**08/13/19**  Cllr P Heal is aware of speeding problems near Ambrosia close. He has significant concerns that residents have to walk along the road near the junction to the A377, often with Children. A request has been made with local Police for their involvement but at present there is a lack of volunteers for such activity. A minimum of 6 people are required but at present, this figure has not bee reached.

### Finances

**08/13/20**  Payments Received
£500 from MDDC for contribution of upkeep of Public Toilet.

**08/13/21**  Invoices received
- Grass cutting - £26.70 for Trevor Hill
- Clerk - £163.15 (Clerk receives updated pay award of £8.43)
- Laura Mackie - £95.85.

All invoices and payments agreed.

Current AC Balance - £1,142.98  
Savings AC Balance - £10,951.93  
Loan Stock - £938.98

### Clerks report

**08/13/22**  **Broadband at Orchard Centre**
Installation of Broadband at Orchard Centre has not taken place and both Cllr Lacey and Clerk are investigating options with BT but also with alternative providers.

**08/13/23**  **Electronic backup of Agendas, minutes and correspondence**
This has taken place and details going back to 2009 have now been placed within a server operated by a company called Dropbox. This is a free service, 2gb of storage is initially available and it is the Clerks hope that once it has been mastered, all PC’s will have access to the system.

**08/13/24**  **Litter Pick 10th August 2013**
Insurance has been arranged through MDDC. All forms are with Peter Lacey.

**08/13/25**  **LPFT**
Clerk reports current situation with the playing field and provides opinion as to moving this forward. The Playing field is unregistered and needs to be registered. There is a significant amount of work that is needed on the legal issues relating to the Playing field and Clerk informs PC’s that assistance is required with historical knowledge of trustees and deeds as well as advising PC’s that
the clerks time spent on the Playing field issues will increase his hours over what is stated in his Contract.

All PC’s are aware that the Playing field is an asset that needs work on and Cllr P Heal suggests £300 be put aside for the clerks time is working on the issues.
The Clerk advises PC on Land registry disbursements and these are agreed on top of the fees.
The allocation of PC money – Proposed, Cllr Burrows
Seconded, Cllr Wensley

**08/13/26**  Cllr Briant - Evans also suggests that Clerks time will also increase for production of neighbourhood plan. Allocation of £200 to be put aside for Clerks fees.
Proposed, Cllr Briant - Evans
Seconded, Cllr Wensley

**08/13/26**  Orchard Centre
Clerk has viewed contents of archive and document storage, he notes that there is a significant amount of historical information kept that could be displayed at the orchard Centre. PC’s have given permission to have some displayed at the Orchard Centre.

**08/13/27**  Gift to Previous clerk
It was suggested that the previous Clerk should be formally thanked for her role over the past years. A gift to a value of £25 has been agreed. Cllr C Heal to arrange.
Proposed, Cllr P Heal
Seconded, Cllr Burrows

*There were no other items to discuss therefore the meeting was closed. The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 4th September 2013, 7.30pm in the Orchard Centre.*