

# LAPFORD PARISH COUNCIL

## Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2015 - 7.30pm

At the Orchard Centre

**Present:** Cllr McAreavey (Chair), Cllr Hemsworth (Vice Chair) Cllr Doe, Cllr Briant-Evans, Cllr Clinch, Cllr Phillips, Cllr Eginton (Ward Councillor) Cllr Squires (County Councillor) Christopher Voaden (Clerk), 5 Members of the Public

### **Apologies - Cllr Heal**

- 01/09/15      **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Phillips at ref 06/09/15 & Cllr Hemsworth at ref 08/09/15
- 02/09/15      **Minutes of the last meeting Ref 07/15 + Part 2 Minutes June 2015** – The minutes ref 07/15 amended to reflect the date for the Emergency Plan Committee.  
All minutes presented were agreed by all present and were signed by the Chair.
- 03/09/15      **Open Forum for members of the public**
- MOP – Willow Trees along Orchard Way require cutting / removal. They cause an obstruction and take up places for parking. These were pollarded two years ago. MOP has not reported to any authorities and Devon CC own the trees. Discussion took place over the ownership of the land. Cllr Squires suggests that the matter needs reporting to Highways. Steve Densham of DCC Highways needs to have this reported to him. Clerk to action.
- Concerns were raised on the condition of the Roads and weeds within the village in Lapford Parish. Cllr Eginton discussed MDDC weed spraying routine that was being undertaken on MDDC land and this will include Lapford. Spraying started in Chawleigh but MDDC have not reached Lapford yet. Moorland View, Barris and Prospect Way will be included. Discussion takes place regarding the online pot hole reporting scheme that was available - <https://www.gov.uk/report-pothole>
- Storm Drains within the area above had not been cleaned. This will be put to Highways + CC'd to Cllr Squires.
- The general roads are a matter for Highways but Devon County are not spraying. Chapter 8 training for volunteers or individuals employed by the Parish Council maybe relevant in the future. Cllr Burrows agrees that the state of the roads within the village are poor. Going to another village (North Tawton) is much better.
- With the budget cuts presented to Parish Councils, Self-help schemes are more relevant and individual members of the public can undertake this work. Individual residents can spray outside their own property and if the issue continues, Spraying may have to be organised by the Parish Council.

Parking outside Village Hall and Barris.

This is an issue with the parking and people should park in the Car Park. It is felt that this is a busy area with high pedestrian footfall crossing the road causing a risk of injury.

There are no restrictions on parking in this area. The parking arrangements have existed in these area for many years and to date no incidents have occurred.

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Parking in the Village is not under the remit of the Parish Council and there will be no remedial action taken until an accident takes place.

**MOP** - Can the website be updated with current minutes? This will be remedied for October.

**MOP** - First Aid courses – to be arranged by NM. MOP wants to be on the list and is asked to email the Parish Council or the Chair.

Minutes – Can these be placed in the Orchard Centre? Placing of the minutes will be undertaken at the Orchard Centre.

04/09/15

## **Matters Arising and Outstanding Actions**

- a. Broadband in the Orchard Centre. The Clerk was asked to place an order now.
- b. Bus Shelter near the Orchard Centre – A seat has been purchased by Cllr Heal and will be fitted over the coming weeks.
- c. Community Composting – Cllr Doe reported that there were sites to visit at Morchard Bishop and Uffculme and she would arrange these as soon as possible.  
There was still an issue with siting the project within the Village. There was a consideration that the land behind the Vet could be a possible site. The tenant would ask the owner but thought that this was unlikely. Cllr Doe will report at the October meeting.

05/09/15

## **Co-Option.**

The Clerk reported on various enquiries he had had for co-option, there were two enquiries from residents of Lapford. Only one was interested but could not attend. She will be asked to attend at the next meeting. Stephen Wensley, a previous Parish Councillor attended to put his name forward for co-option. As he had had previous experience of being a Parish Councillor, it was agreed for Stephen Wensley to be co-opted. The Clerk would send all relevant forms to Stephen for signing. Once completed, the declaration of Interests Form will be published on the MDDC web site.

It was agreed that Stephen Wensley be co-opted as a Parish Councillor for Lapford Parish Council.

P – Cllr McAreavey

S – Cllr Hemsworth

06/09/15

## **To receive an update from the Regeneration Committee**

**Cllr Phillips** declares a Conflict of Interest (Personal).

Pre Application Advice from MDDC on Old Youth Club Building had been received and circulated to all members. The advice is that MDDC Planning would not see any objection to the Old Youth Club building being converted into a single dwelling and the land to the rear of the site be used for the creation of a new dwelling for the purposes of a planning application. General discussion takes place on the planning advice received and how to progress.

It was generally agreed that that site would be spoiled if the Youth Club building was split into two dwellings. This would cause greater access issues with the site and surrounding houses.

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The Parish Council also had to consider if a Full or Outline planning application be put to MDDC. It was generally felt that outline would lead to a greater time frame for the sale of the land. After discussion, it was felt that selling the land with full planning permission for the above application would add the greatest value to the land when it was to be offered for sale.

After discussion, all were in favour for taking the preferred option given by MDDC within their pre action advice through a full planning application to MDDC.

Cllr Phillips takes no part in the decision.

P – Cllr Burrows

S – Cllr Briant-Evans

07/09/15

## **Response from PCC on Church Clock Maintenance**

The Clerk received a reply from the PCC for a contribution to the work required on the clock face. Half the fee is requested of approximately £260 from the Parish Council.

All felt that it was a village asset and it is a good thing to support this suggestion. The work required will be undertaken through the PCC who will report to the Parish Council if anything extra is required

All agreed to contribute half the fee for the Church Clock repair.

P – Cllr Burrows

S – Cllr Briant-Evans

08/09/15

## **Cleaning of Orchard Centre**

**Cllr Hemsworth** declares a Conflict of Interest (Personal) and takes no part in the discussion. Jeanne Whittaker has resigned and Sue Hemsworth has offered to take over these responsibilities. Sue Hemsworth will also clean the shelter.

Cllr Phillips will prepare a schedule of cleaning. There was discussion over contracts. It was initially suggested that an informal arrangement could be on offer similar to the contractor for grass cutting. Sue Hemsworth would consider the position.

Post meeting, Sue Hemsworth made contact with the Clerk to inform him that a contract was required. The Clerk was to prepare. All keys will be returned by Jeanne Whittaker to the Clerk. And a new Radar key will be ordered from MDDC.

09/09/15

## **Village Asset Survey**

A copy of the survey undertaken by the Clerk and Cllr's Briant-Evans and Clinch was passed to all members prior to the meeting. It was noted that some action points on the survey had remained active for some time. Welding on the bus shelter was raised. Some raised concerns that Cllr Heal had in the past offered to undertake work that has not been done.

The Bus Shelter on the Industrial Estate was a concern.

The Clerk will write to the PCC notifying them of the repointing that is required to the Church Wall.

A copy of the survey is attached to these minutes.

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10/09/15

## **TAP funding Update**

Devon FA First Aid is to start on the 15th September 2015 starting at 6.30pm at the Congregational Church meeting room. Seven people are to attend costing £28 per head. No invoice will be forthcoming

Donation of £20 will be made to the Congregational Hall.

MOP's from outside of the Parish are also attending who will pay privately as TAP funding does not cover their costs.

11/09/15

## **Emergency Plan Practise**

Date for session - 3rd October 2015 – 10am

Margaret Squires – praises this exercise. Cllr Squires also informs members that DCC are arranging training on Emergency Plan on 10th November at Padbrook Park.

Clive Eginton, litter pick vests are available. Cllr Squires also states that the locality fund can fund some purchases for Emergency Planning. An Emergency Scenario will be set by Cllr Doe for the event.

12/09/15

## **Playing Field / LYPFT update**

Cllr Phillips has nothing to update on practical aspects of the new playground. The Clerk reports on the discussions between MDCC and the Parish Council over 106 money and negotiations with Kompan on snagging. The Clerk expressed frustration that as the LYPFT is a separate entity from the Parish Council run by Trustees in their own name, the Parish Council still has to step in to manage the installation. The Parish Council are paying for the Clerks time in part management of the negotiations with Kompan.

Clerk reports on his discussion with Kompan re the outstanding Invoice. IT is said that all work outlined by the report by MDCC will have to be undertaken before MDCC release 106 money to Lapford. The Clerk and David Garton from the LYPT are working together to remedy this. Further reporting will be made at the October meeting.

13/09/15

## **Finance**

Account Balances

- a. Current account - £4,998.30 (as of 23/06/15)
- b. Savings account - £4,814.28
- c. Loan stock - £983.98

## **Payments to be agreed**

- a. Clerk – 28 hrs @ £9.55 (New hourly rate) – £267.40
- b. Log On Garden Services - £30.00
- c. South West Water - £39.20
- d. Edwin Passmore (Provision of Paint for Mellissa Lake Shelter) - £35.00
- e. Nick Reed – Hedge Trimming – £72.00

**Cllr Burrows** - Ross Davies needs to be informed about the poor quality work that has taken place on the footpaths. The Parish Council understand that the work undertaken on the PROWS is contracted out from DCC. Margaret Squires has not had any contact about the issue but suggests that Sam Goeffcote at MDCC has been made aware of this.

- f. Zurich Insurance – Parish Property Insurance  
£460.41 (1 yr. renewal) or  
£432.97 (3 yrs. renewal) –

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The Parish Council had the Insurance Renewal Schedule and associated documentation passed to them prior to the meeting. The Insurance premium had reduced for 2015/16. After discussion, the members agreed to continue with Zurich for another three years. This had been undertaken in the past and assists for budget setting for future years.

P – Cllr McAreavey

S – Briant-Evans

14/09/15

## **ROC Conversation / Locality Funding.**

Email circulated to all PC's between Dr John King from the Congregational Church and Cllr Squires. It was felt that the Regeneration Committee exists and their work is publicised within the Parish. The costs for the ROC conversation of £1000 seemed expensive when this work was already being undertaken. The notion of community action was fully appreciated. The £1000 suggested as a cost for the ROC conversation could be better used elsewhere within the Parish. It was therefore recommended that the request for a contribution from the Locality Fund be rejected.

15/09/15

## **District and County Councillor's report**

**Clive Eginton** – update on recycling scheme undertaken by MDDC. The amount of dry recycling such as plastic and cardboard has increased. A comparison was given.

June / July 014 - 881 tons

June / Jul 2014 - 1380 tons

Waste to land fill

June / July 14 - 2399 tons

June / July 15 - 2306 tons

The dry recycling gets sold and this has covered overall costs of the service.

Garden Waste starts in October 2015, costs have been agreed as per past minutes.

Those who have opted in will get a sticker to go on their bins showing that they have paid.

This will have identification markers on. Continual monitoring will take place. To also include failure to recycle.

Devolution – two regional meetings have taken place with local authorities attending. IT was felt that areas such as Health maybe passed to Local Authorities. MDDC will put their response to the government before the 4<sup>th</sup> September 2015 deadline.

**Cllr Squires** – quiet August for District Council.

Members were informed that Bob King from DCC Highways had left his post. Stephen Tucker has taken over. Bob King has left hand over information to his replacement. It was thought that the hand over period between the two would be short causing minimal delay.

16/09/15

## **Consultations**

a. MDDC – Grass Cutting Consultation – Letter Only

All members had details of the consultation provided to them prior to the meeting.

A map and schedule of the cutting regime was given, it was felt that the map was seen to be inaccurate, specifically around the Garage and the Yeo Vale. Devon County passed over

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responsibility to MDDC for 2015/16 who have aid £30,000. It was felt that Parishes would have to cover the costs of grass cutting and would have to provide assistance. Proposition 1 from MDDC being

*'Town and Parish Councils to provide funding to continue maintaining grass verges on land owned by DCC to current standards'*

Proposition number one is to be accepted on the basis of the red area on the map gets cut.

P - Cllr McAreavey

S - Cllr Doe

b. MDDC Gambling Act Consultation

<https://new.middevon.gov.uk/business/licensing/gambling-act-consultation>

The Members felt that no comment was needed on the above consultation

c. Devon Minerals Plan Consultation

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/haveyoursay/consultations/devon-minerals-plan-pre-submission-consultation-draft>

The Members felt that no comment was needed on the above consultation

17/09/15

Funding Request –

Community Group, Lapford Christmas Dinner. £200

The PC agree to support the request for funding of £200. IT is now known that £2 per person will be charged on the day.

P - Cllr Doe

S – Cllr Briant-Evans

18/09/15

## **Members Statements**

- a. Cllr Hemsworth – Two MOP had commented on the Chair at Eastington Lane. The area had not been strimmed for some time and grass had been left deposited on the road. The Clerk will speak with Stephen Faulkner about this work. The post outside Prospect Cottage is damaged and Steve Tucker will be informed of this. Pot Holes – Highways are marking out for work to be undertaken at the bottom of the hill, serious work is required on Orchard Way and this should be reported on the government pothole website. Eastington Lanes sign is now destroyed, Highways will be informed.
- b. Cllr Doe - Plants growing out of river bridge on the A377 still. Highways will be informed about this again.
- c. Cllr Briant-Evans – Creedy LAG information given to all members and there was a request for topics to be passed to all ASAP. For the next meeting. Revel AGM 22nd September. Committee members are requested. Green shelf for public information now at Orchard Centre. This was made by Edwin Passmore. The clerk to write thanking him for this.

There were no more items for discussion and the meeting ended at 9.40pm

Next Meeting – Wednesday 7th October 2015