



LOCKING PARISH COUNCIL



The Parish Hall, Grenville Avenue, Locking BS24 8AR
Telephone: 01934 820786 Email: clerk@lockingparishcouncil.co.uk

Minutes of a Meeting of Locking Parish Council held on Thursday 4 March 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom

Meeting opened: 7.30pm

Meeting closed: 9.53pm

Present: Councillors: P Jones (Chairman) J Keate (Vice Chairman), L Mason (from 7.50pm), P Lacey, Mrs W Ashdown, W Bearsby, Ms J Roberts, C Prosser, M Tremlett, A Hetherington

Also, in attendance: The Clerk, Unitary Cllr T Porter (from 7.50pm – 8.30pm), and four members of the public

MATTERS FOR DECISION

C396 To receive Apologies for absence and to approve reasons where appropriate

Cllr ap Rees – Approved. Mr Dumbell

C397 To receive Declarations of Interest by PCllrs and to consider any written applications dispensations:

Cllr M Tremlett Declared and Interest in Min Ref: C403g-i and C403ji

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

C398 To receive and hear any person who wishes to address the Council, upon prior notice being received. None received. The Chairman welcomed:

- a) **Unitary Cllr/Liaison Officer Report:** See Min Ref C404
- c) **Police Report** – Previously Circulated – Noted

MATTERS FOR DECISION

C399 To receive and confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting for the following:

- a) **To received and confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 4th February 2021**
RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 04/02/2021 (previously circulated), be taken as read, agreed as being a true and correct record with the following amendment to Min Ref C376 Cllr Tremlett declared an Interest in Min Ref C377 and C391 and as a consequence, to be signed by the Chairman of the meeting
- b) **To received and confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 18 February 2021**
RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 18/02/2021 (previously circulated), be taken as read, agreed as being a true and correct record and as a consequence, to be signed by the Chairman of the meeting

C400 Finances:

- a) To receive and approve monthly expenditure from 1 February 2021 to 28 February 2021- **AGREED** (to be signed by Cllr Keate)
- b) To receive and note the Bank Reconciliation for January 2021. Noted (to be signed by Cllr Keate)
- c) To receive and agree any Grant applications – None received
- d) 123 Reg - Domain name & Domain protection due for renewal **AGREED** to renew Domain name and protection for 5 years for the sum of £143.88 inc VAT

C401 Chairman's Report:

- Councillors will be aware from recent circulated correspondence that Councillor Janet Searle has resigned from Locking Parish Council. I have responded to Janet on Council's behalf and have thanked her for her time, effort and contributions. It is always a sad time when a Councillor leaves for whatever reasons as it means we have lost another volunteer. Our clerk will advise North Somerset Council of our new vacancy.
- I must tonight though raise an important question, is there finally light at the end of the tunnel?
- We have seen how the country has responded to this terrible pandemic with lockdowns, quarantine, test and trace and now with mass vaccinations of the public. There is to be a relaxation of rules that will hopefully allow children to return to schools in the next few days. Unfortunately, with the relaxation of

rules the true impact of Covid, economically and socially, may well result in an increase in those requiring help.

- Perhaps, at this particular time, we as a Council should look to identify further funding in order for us to be able respond effectively to any new challenges that may be come our way.
- As part of our continued initiative to provide support and help in the community I was able to secure a further generous donation from the supermarket 'Waitrose' of essential items valued at over £300. This donation clearly demonstrated Waitrose's commitment to support the community. I have written to the General Manager on Council's behalf to express our gratitude for his company's kind support to our community. Council also installed a collection box for essential items at the Parish Hall. All donated items with additional fresh eggs, fruit and vegetables from Stonebridge Farm are being delivered to Locking Primary School on a weekly basis. It is clear that donations are making a difference and I wish to thank all those who have contributed to this initiative, your kind support is appreciated.
- The OBR Playing Fields continue to attract anti-social behaviour, I am led to understand that our Parish Orderly was recently subjected to abuse whilst he was carrying out his role at the OBR Playing Fields. Such behaviour is not acceptable, any individual identified and or found to be responsible will be reported to police with a view to prosecution. Permission is given to the general public to use the OBR Playing Fields '**on foot**' for recreational purposes only.
- Councillors may have also noticed that planting of the whips at the OBR Playing Fields occurred during the unusual warm weather last weekend. Some 150 whips were installed in rows according to types, there are approximately 70 whips left to be planted, they are available for volunteers who may wish to assist in planting (Covid regulations still apply).
- My thanks go to all those who took part at such short notice in planting the beginning of a woodland at the OBR Playing Field.
- Finally, I have recently attended a 'Chairing Virtual Meetings' training session and as a consequence, notes from that training have been cascaded to all those who chair virtual meetings. I am available to assist in any training should Councillor's require assistance. It is essential that a 'professional etiquette' is maintained during online meetings.

C402 Regular Reports: To receive and note the following regular reports:

- a) **CPRE – Mr Dumbell reported:**
Nothing to report during February which directly affects Locking. No CPRE meeting held. I attended the Neighbourhood Plan meeting both as a resident and with my CPRE hat on.
- b) Locking Parklands: No meeting

C403 Planning: Planning Working Group give the following recommendations:

Planning (applications can be viewed via North Somerset Council Planning Applications website):

- a. **21/P/0187/FUH, 8 Hectar Close Locking – Proposed erection of a first floor side extension.**
AGREED Neutral
- b. **21/P/0267/AOC Land to the south of Locking Head Drove Locking – Discharge of condition No.22 Ecology on application 16/P/2758/RG4 and 20/P/0692/NMA – AGREED** Neutral
- c. **21/P/0264/ADV Locking Service Station – Advertising consent for 1no. illuminated fascia sign, 1 no. non illuminated fascia sign and 1 no. illuminated totem sign – AGREED** Neutral
- d. **21/P/0304/AOC Locking Service Station – Discharge of condition No. 5 (site remediation) on application 20/P/1308/FUL – AGREED** Neutral
- e. **21/P/0208/AOC Locking Service Station – Discharge of conditions 4 and 11 on application - AGREED** to object to discharge of condition 4 (Landscaping) on the basis of due to the loss of the mature hedgerows that have been removed along Elm Tree Road and the lack of soft landscaping for the site this is Contrary to Policy DM10 of the sites and policies plan.
AGREED to discharge of condition 11 (Cycle Park) strongly in support of this facility.
- f. **21/P/0209/AOC Locking Service Station – Discharge of condition No. 13 no. application 20/P/1308/ AGREED** Neutral
- g. **APPEALS - APP/D0121/C/21/3268229 – Devils Elbow Farm Hillend Locking.** Alleged Breach Without planning permission, the material change of use of part of a building to a single dwelling house (edged red on the attached plan). Application 20/00063/COU - **Noted**
- h. **APPEALS – APP/D0121/C/21/3268230 Devils Elbow Farm Hillend Locking – Without planning permission, the material change of use of the land from a mixed agricultural, equestrian use to a mixed agricultural, equestrian and the siting of a caravan for residential use (edge red on the attached plan and excluding the area coloured blue) Application 20/0063/COU - Noted**
- i. **APPEALS – APP/D0121/C/21/3268232 Devils Elbow Farm Hillend Locking – Without planning permission, the material change of use of the land from a mixed agriculture and equestrian use to residential (edged in red on the attached plan) Application 20/00063/COU - Noted**
- j. **Update from Planning Working Group:**

- i. **Land at the Bury** – Cllrs discussed the potential for a small development at the specified site, some expressed that more information was required. At this stage Cllrs were divided/undecided in their view.
- ii. **41 Old Banwell Road** – Clerk updated that she had received a response from the property owner's relative who was agreeable to the conditions highlighted by Council and had requested a meeting with one/two Cllrs to discuss further. The Clerk had responded that if an agreement was drawn up would the property owner be willing to pay any legal fees for this agreement – she had not received a response as yet. **AGREED** Clerk to contact to find out if they wished to go ahead once this had been established Cllr Prosser and Cllr Roberts to set up a meeting.
- k. **Update from Planning Working Group:** Cllr Roberts reiterated the need for LPC to have a Planning Policy in place.

C404 Unitary Cllr/Liaison Officer Report:

- Given the discussion above Cllr Porter remind Cllrs that NSC were preparing the Local Plan and were looking for areas for housing.
- Airdays Event for this coming year had been cancelled.
- Cllr Prosser asked if Cllr Porter had made any progress in setting up a meeting with Susan Munns IDB – Cllr Porter advised he had gone back to her and was waiting on a response but he would chase up. Cllr Prosser confirmed that Susan Munns had been given the flow rates that she had requested.

C405 Old Banwell Road Playing Field: To consider/agree next steps

- a) Pre application enquiry – Informal Planning Advice from NSC - Report previously circulated (copy available from the Clerk) and discussed at length. Cllr Bearsby called for a master plan to be produced to show where each of the projects within the long-term plan would be sited, although it was to be noted that projects/ideas may change, a priority list be drawn up and a pre application enquiry be submitted and a set order of work be agreed. Council discussed completing this task as a working group when restrictions allowed.

As the woodland project was already underway it was **AGREED** that the Woodland and Community Orchard continue as planned

It was acknowledged that the infrastructure i.e., car park and drainage needed to be considered in the first instance. **AGREED** that a drainage survey of the car park needed to be completed – Denis Gedge and/or Richard Flew be contacted to give advice regarding drainage of the car park. It was also acknowledged that the car park surface was deteriorating and pot holes were evidenced, it was also noted that as Locking Primary School we're the largest group of users should be they be asked to make a contribution towards any works. **AGREED** that the Clerk contact N Bartlett for quotation to supply materials, compact and fill pot holes.

- b) Pre application enquiry – Report as above - response from Avon and Somerset Police - crime prevention and potential for ASB the advice from Katy Waterman was positive regarding the potential projects on the list.
- c) Security of Playing Field – Advice received from Avon and Somerset Police – Advised that CCTV, possible knee-high fencing, kissing gates etc., could be utilised to help stop quad bikes etc., entering the actual field

C406 The Spinney – to receive correspondence from NSC and decide next steps – Jenny Ford Head of Development NSC advised the following:

The Spinney had been surveyed and a quote had been secured for £1600 for rectifying the defects on this path. She went to ask if the Parish Council would fund this work. **AGREED** that the Clerk advise that LPC were willing to make a contribution of £800 to the cost of the repairs. This cost to be met out of CIL fund balance.

At 21.30hrs the Chairman advised that the meeting was overtime – **AGREED** to carry on.

C407 Staff Safety: Due to recent altercations encountered by the Parish Orderly to consider body worn video Camera and receive costs for this equipment.

The Chairman updated Council on recent altercations encountered by the Parish Orderly and as a lone worker his safety was this council's priority. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Orderly was agreeable to wearing a body worn camera. There were various considerations to be given towards type of camera, storage, GDPR implications etc. **AGREED** ICT Working Group to investigate further, Cllr Hetherington to look at specifications of camera on the market between £200-£500 and recommend to ICT WG.

C408 Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Tremlett advised that a meeting had been held via Zoom with various stakeholders and interested members of Council. Cllr Tremlett to circulate notes from the meeting in due course.

Cllr Tremlett apologised as he had not submitted a formal request to NSC as yet but would be doing so shortly.

C409 Flooding update from Cllr Prosser

Still awaiting meeting with Cllr Porter, Sue Munns and IDB. In the meantime, would continue to monitor the level.

C410 Locking Community Volunteer Support Group – Update from Cllr Roberts

NSC Together had produced a template poster – Help & Support poster which Cllr Roberts had completed and circulated to all Councillors, Clerk to place on website and notice boards

Cllr Roberts advised NSC were running a new grant initiative – COVID-19 Community Grant to help communities affected by the pandemic; it aims to provide funding for new, innovative projects centred around mental health and wellbeing.

C411 Clerks Report, Correspondence & items for next agenda:

Clerk reported that she had attend SLCC Virtual Practitioners' Conference via Zoom over 3 days, covering Mental Health, Responsible Investment, Managing Projects, Parish & Town Council tool kit, Unleashing Community Power, Community Engagement, Finance.

Parish Hall and Parish Office – redecorating had been completed.

- a) NALC request for response to PC2-21 Model Design Code – NALC’s current policy positions and date for responses by 12 March 2021. Noted
- b) NSC Principal Access Officer NSC – Would LPC consider contributing to projects that NSC will be identifying in our area. Noted
- c) NSC Consultation – North Somerset updated Creating Sustainable Building and Places Supplementary Planning document – consultation is open from 12 February – 26 March 2021 Noted
- d) NSC Green Infrastructure Strategy – public consultation from 15 Feb – 9th April 2021 Noted
- e) NSC – Workshop/Seminar on Community Led Homes West – To be held 24 March at 09.30am for two members of the Parish Council to attend. Noted
- f) ALCA – Uncertainty over holding remote meeting after 6 May 2021 - ALCA working hard to encourage the government to retain the law to allow remote meetings and requested that Council’s continue to lobby MPs on this subject. Noted
- g) St Augustine’s Church – Request to install a wooden cross planter and decorative stones within the Coronation Garden – **AGREED**.

There being no further business the meeting Chairman closed the meeting at 9.53pm.

Signed (Chairman).....Date.....

The next meeting of Locking Parish Council will be at 19:00pm held via Zoom on Thursday 4th March 2021