



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 3 March 2022 at 7.00pm at the Parish Hall, Grenville Avenue, Locking.

Meeting opened: 7.00pm

Meeting closed: 8.47pm

Present: Councillors: P Jones (Chairman), J Keate, W Bearsby, P Lacey, W Ashdown, M Tremlett, L Mason, E ap Rees, P Fowler

Also, in attendance: The Clerk and 13 members of the public

CO-OPTION MEETING TO COMMENCE 7.00PM

Having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the Co-option meeting is now not open to the Press and Public pursuant to Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed Cllrs and Mr Fowler to this Co-option meeting

C172 Co-option of new councillor - it was **AGREED** that Mr Fowler should be elected to the office of member of Locking Parish Council. Cllr Fowler signed his Declaration of Office and Register of Interests in the presence of the Clerk. Chairman closed this Co-option meeting at 7.10pm

FULL COUNCIL MEETING TO COMMENCED at 7.30PM

The meeting was open to members of the public and press

MATTERS FOR DECISION

C173 To receive Apologies for absence and to approve reasons where appropriate

Cllr C Prosser – Absence Approved
District Cllr Porter
Mr C Dumbell

**C174 To receive Declarations of Interest by PCllrs and to consider any written applications
dispensations: None**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

C175 To receive and hear any person who wishes to address the Council, upon prior notice being

Received:

- a) Skatepark Project - Mr Ben Stevens had written to LPC on behalf of the Locking Skatepark Project and members of the local community, requesting to speak at this meeting and supplied a promotional video to be played to Council. Mr Stevens proposed an idea of a skatepark in Locking village and give details on the following:
- Locking Skatepark Project is a non-profit organisation designed to bring benefit to the young people of our area, with the idea of giving them somewhere local to go and enjoy the outside space in the village.
 - We think a skatepark would be a great asset to our area, considering the skating community don't have anywhere local to practise their sports.
 - Please find our promotional video on our Facebook page to learn more about why Locking needs a skatepark. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1027387968176945/permalink/1032943314288077/>
 - We have successfully started up a page on change.org, where we have gained more than one hundred supporters into our project. Nearly all of these people are parents who would enjoy a space to take their children out and try something new, or parents of teenagers that would like to see their young ones get outside more.
 - The above link also contains a spreadsheet of our supporters
 - If we are granted the go-ahead for this project, we will contact Maverick Skateparks, a skater-run business based in the UK, who specialise in building and designing skateparks of all shapes and sizes.
Website: <https://www.maverickskateparks.co.uk/#>

- We would then begin the fundraising process, including events and sales, but that alone may not be enough to afford a brand new skatepark. As they have done many times in the past, we could contact the National Lottery to apply for funding.
- Past skateparks funded by the National Lottery: site:www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk Skateparks
- By all of the information we have included, we hope you understand the purpose of our idea, and how it would impact our area. Please take the time to consider our request, and share your ideas about the project when you can.

The Chairman and Members thanked Mr Stevens and congratulated him on producing a very professional proposal.

b) Unitary Cllr/Liaison Officer Report: Cllr Porter had supplied the following update:

- The petition I was given from the Oak tree park residents was presented to North Somerset at the Council meeting on 15th February. I have received confirmation today that it is now with the integrated Transport team, and we will receive a reply shortly.
- Cllr Mike Solomon is setting up a meeting with a tree officer re The Spinney, I am just waiting for the date.
- We are also still looking at options for funding for improvements to the Spinney.

c) Police Report – Noted.

MATTERS FOR DECISION

C176 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 3 March 2022**

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 03/03/2022 (previously circulated), be taken as read, with amendments to C154a to read regular basis, C163 to read Cllr Terry Porter, this was then agreed as being a true and correct record and as a consequence, to be signed by the Chairman of the meeting.

C177 Finances:

- To receive and approve monthly expenditure from 1 February 2022 to 28 February 2022- **AGREED**
(signed by Cllr Lacey)
- To receive and note the Bank Reconciliation for January 2022. Noted (signed by Cllr Lacey)
- To receive and agree any Grant applications: None received.

C178 Chairman's Report:

Welcome to Winter's last Full Council Meeting - Spring officially starts on Sunday 20th March 2022 and like you, I am also looking forward to the new season.

- Unfortunately, Winter has reminded us it is still with us especially with the recent stormy weather. Locking Parish has had its fair share of damage to trees, fences etc and I am pleased to state that repairs have been conducted expeditiously. My thanks to our Parish Orderly and Dan from Park Side Village Cafe who responded during stormy weather to make safe a fallen tree and branches which had fallen on the park perimeter fence, it was not fun dodging giant hail stones in those windy conditions. On behalf of Council, I am grateful to the Parish Orderly who has made good the damage in repairing the park perimeter fence.
- I have also noted that requests for help for those in need in the Ukraine are being posted on local social media, perhaps to assist in these difficult times we should consider offering the Parish Hall as a collection point for those locally who might wish to donate items to those in need. I am confident if Councillors agree that we could store items on the stage and liaise with local organisers who are providing aid to Ukraine.
- It is also very concerning to see that works and vehicles used by contractors on the upgrade to footpaths on the A371 are causing difficulties to vehicular traffic leaving or entering via the old entrance to Locking Parklands. Hopefully said works will be completed shortly but in this interim period, drivers should be mindful of other vehicles on the A371 at this busy junction. With your permission, I consider NSC Highways need to be advised of the dangers that are affecting Locking Parkland's residents and others. Clerk requested to contact NSC Highways
- Our Clerk will later provide an update to the Anti-Social Behaviour that we experienced recently to Parish property.

C179 Regular Reports: To receive and note the following regular reports:

a) **CPRE – Mr Dumbell** sent the following report:

I have nothing to report from CPRE on a local level, but I thought Councillors might like to see the extract below from the latest national CPRE PLANNING email. In effect it says HM Govt is kicking the time for disclosing their detailed proposals further down the road

Update on the planning changes from Joanna Averley, the Government's Chief Planner
The Chief Planner has issued her latest newsletter at

In it she states: "We will be providing a further update on our approach to changes in the planning system in the Spring. This will provide further detail on how we will take forward measures to create a modernised and effective planning system that empowers communities to support, and local authorities to deliver, the beautiful, environmentally-friendly development this country needs.

Whilst we understand that many colleagues in local government are looking forward to further detail on the precise details of our changes to planning, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage local authorities to continue work to ensure they have an up-to-date local plan in place in a timely manner."

The Chief Planner generally issues update newsletters every month. They can be viewed at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/planning-guidance-letters-to-chief-planning-officers>.

On Agenda Item 13: I can say that CPRE fully supports Item 13 for a standard response letter requesting replacement of any TPO trees - particularly on Parklands.

- b) **Locking Parklands:** No meeting held.

AGREED to move Agenda item 13 for decision before Planning applications C181

C180 Tree Removal – Planning Applications – To adopt a standard response where TPO trees are to be removed to automatically request replacement tree – Cllr Tremlett proposed the following be adopted:

- a) For removal/felling of TPO trees - subject to the North Somerset Tree Officer agreeing that the removal of the tree is appropriate, a minimum of 4 no replacement trees of a size and species to be advised by the North Somerset Tree Officer should be provided as a replacement for the proposed tree to be felled/removed.
- b) For works to trees such as crowing/branch removal etc - subject to the North Somerset Tree Officer agreeing that the works are relevant and appropriate, Council should support such applications.
- c) The above proposed 'standing advice' should be caveated with the ability for Parish Council to comment on each case when it is up for consultation but by having this as an adopted policy should make TPO planning applications easier and quicker to get through at meetings.

AGREED the above be adopted as standard response to TPO trees for planning applications

C181 Planning (applications can be viewed via North Somerset Council Planning Applications website):

- a) **22/P/0114/TPO – 4 Hector Close Locking** - T1 – Crack Willow – Pollard to 5-6m due to progressive lean from base **AGREED** to support subject to LPC standard response to tree work: For works to trees such as crowing/branch removal etc - subject to the North Somerset Tree Officer agreeing that the works are relevant and appropriate,
- b) **22/P/0185/FUH – 19 Meadow Drive Locking** – Demolition of conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension **AGREED** to support this application
- c) **22/P/0206/TPO – Phase 3A Locking Parklands** – T03 – Horse Chestnut – Remove limb with extensive bark wound back to cavity. T43- Goat Willow – Reduce crown by 0.5-1m. T80 – Sycamore – Reduce principal stems above respective points of origin, retain second order limbs unpruned with exception of largest diameter limb to NE which should be pruned as per principal stems. T93 – Purple Plum – crown reduction up to 1m. T106 – Silver Birch – Reduce overhanging branches from neighbouring property back to boundary line. G160 – Goat Willows – Fell to ground level. **AGREED** subject to LPC standard response to tree work: For works to trees such as crowing/branch removal etc - subject to the North Somerset Tree Officer agreeing that the works are relevant and appropriate. For removal/felling of TPO trees - subject to the North Somerset Tree Officer agreeing that the removal of the tree is appropriate, a minimum of 4 no replacement trees of a size and species to be advised by the North Somerset Tree Officer should be provided as a replacement for the proposed tree to be felled/removed
- d) **22/P/0316/FUH – 13 Trenchard Road, Locking** – Demolition of existing garage and replace with two storey extension **AGREED** to support subject to NSC ensuring that there is sufficient off street parking as per their policy.

C182 Locking Skatepark Project – to receive a letter and petition from Mr B Stevens regarding installing a skate park in Locking. Cllrs discussed the proposed sites being the Park on Grenville Avenue Locking and the Playing Field Old Banwell Road Locking and suggested other sites should also be considered within the Parish i.e. land at Locking Parklands etc., this item could be put to the Locking Stakeholders next meeting. It was suggested that NSC Planning Dept be contacted for advice as planning permission will be required and also the Locking Skatepark Project Group look at options for funding. It was **AGREED** that Locking Parish Council support the project in principle.

C183 Old 'Allotment Site' at Locking Primary School – To discuss taking over the lease and possible uses – Cllr Bearsby reported that he had spoken to the CEO of the school Academy to ascertain if Locking Primary School were still using that piece of land and if they weren't would it be possible for LPC to take it over for the enlargement of the existing attenuation pond. The CEO had suggested that LPC write formally and put this proposal to him for consideration. It was noted that the land was leased from NSC. **AGREED** to start exploring officially.

C184 Elm Tree Road – Parking on pavements – Cllr Keate reported that a neighbour had spoken to him regarding parking on the pavement on Elm Tree Road particularly on the pavement entering onto the ‘safety footpath’ that leads from Elm Tree Road to Grenville Avenue. The Clerk advised that the neighbour had popped into the Parish Office and had spoken to her about the situation, the Clerk had advised that the pavement parking needed to be reported to Police on 101 when the vehicle was in situ, with date/time vehicle registration and if possible, a photograph and that if the neighbour was not ‘comfortable’ calling the Police then she would forward the photos and details to the Parish Office and she would report the incident. In the meantime, she would ask if the Policing team could pay passing attention along with NSC Community Wardens

C185 Radio Wing – AGREED that the Working Group request a meeting with David Moore and Chris Hart from St Modwen to ascertain what are St Modwen’s requirements for the Radio Wing.

C186 Flooding/Drainage: No update as such, waiting on meeting with Trees Officer as per Cllr Porters report. C175b

C187 Clerk’s Report, Correspondence & Items for next Agenda:

a) Correspondence received and previously circulated:

- **ALCA Introduction to Local Councils** free 50-minute online module for new and old Councillors – the Clerk suggested that Cllr Fowler as a new councillor enrol along with any other Councillor who felt they needed a refresher course.
- **Bridging the Digital Divide – West of England Rural Network – Tea & Tech sessions: Cllrs had previously expressed an interest in this initiative. WERN were offering a Zoom meeting to discuss delivery and how we can move forward with this initiative. Clerk asked if anyone was available to take part in the proposed Zoom meeting.**

b) Clerk’s Report:

- The Clerk was unable to attend the SLCC virtual training on 15, 16, 17 Feb due to work demands – payment for the course had not been paid and only submitted an interest.
- Storm damage repairs have taken place in the park etc., allotment boundary fence is down and the land owner has been contacted
- Draft Local Plan – The Clerk suggested holding a workshop to discuss the documents that were circulated today – LPC submission would then be put to full council for agreement at next full council meeting in April or hold a separate meeting for this 1 item as members of the public may want to come along and speak – the APA would have been ideal but it’s too short notice for residents to get their comments in after that meeting
- ASB to shed at rear of the Parish Hall – this was due to be repainted as soon as the weather allowed.
- Community Support Initiative the Clerk reported that the former Councillor who had been co-ordinating this initiative and volunteers had destroyed all records on leaving the Parish Council without authorisation. The Clerk reported that it was impossible to know who had been receiving support and the volunteers who had been delivering that support and suggested that as we were now out of COVID restrictions that the Initiative be ‘stood down’.

c) Agenda Item for next meeting: None

There being no further business the meeting Chairman closed the meeting at 8.47pm.

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

The next meeting of Locking Parish Council will be at 19:30pm held on 7 April 2022 at Locking Parish Hall