



Locking Parish Council

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The Parish Hall, Grenville Avenue,
Locking, North Somerset BS24 8AR

Minutes of a Meeting of Locking Parish Council held on Thursday 2nd March 2023 at 7.30 pm at Locking Parish Hall

Meeting opened: 7.30pm

Meeting closed: 9.26pm

Present: Councillors: P Jones (Chairman), J Keates (Vice Chairman), P Lacey, W Ashdown, L Clark, J Carter, E ap Rees, C Prosser, W Bearsby, L Mason, M Tremlett, P Schofield, I Hilder

Also, in attendance: The Clerk, District Cllr T Porter and 8 members of the public

MATTERS FOR DECISION

372) To receive Apologies for absence and to approve reasons where appropriate.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Fowler - Approved

Apologies were also received from District Cllr M Solomon and Mr C Dumbell (CPRE)

373) To receive Declarations of Interest by PCllrs and to consider any written applications for dispensations.

Cllr ap Rees declared an interest Min Ref 380b

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

374) To receive and hear any person who wishes to address the Council, upon prior notice being received.

- a) As per the Agenda Mr Barker had emailed to advise he was unable to attend this meeting.
- b) Member of the Public raised parking concerns surrounding the Educate Together Primary School on Locking Parklands. Parent's inconsiderate parking was causing safety issues for pedestrians, often double parking and pavement parking forcing pedestrians into the highway. The Clerk to request that this be an Agenda item for the next Locking Parklands Stakeholders meeting on 28 April.
To also bring this to the attention of the following:
Both Unitary Councillors
The Active Travel Plan Officer at NSC
Locking Parklands Management Company Preim
The Chairman advised that Preim had arranged a 'drop in' session on Saturday 4 March at The Radio Wing for residents to bring up issues.
- c) Police Report – The February Beat report is noted.

MATTERS FOR DECISION

375) Minutes:

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 2 February 2023 was agree and signed by the Chairman.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 02/02/2023 (previously circulated), be taken as read, agreed as being a true and correct record and as a consequence, signed by the Chairman of the meeting. **AGREED** with one abstain

376) Finances:

- a) To receive and approve receipts and payments from 1st February 2023 to 28 February 2023 **AGREED** and signed by Cllr Ashdown.
- b) To receive and note the Bank Reconciliation for January 2023 **AGREED** and signed by Cllr Ashdown
- c) To receive and agree any Grant applications: NIL

378) Chairman's Report:

During February I attended the Coronation Stakeholders and Neighbourhood Plan Meetings, an update for the Coronation Stakeholders Meeting will be provided later at Agenda item 13. I also helped install the new TV which I am sure you will agree that it looks splendid in situ.

It was also very sad to learn of the passing of Noel Waters last month. I am sure many of you will recall how much time and support Noel gave whilst representing his community at a local and national level. Besides his long-standing Parish Council work he also served as the Treasurer for ALCA for almost 12 years. Our thoughts are with his family at this difficult time.

I must remind Councillors that 'Nomination Papers' for Parish Councillors must be submitted to North Somerset Council.

- Start of Nominations is from 10 am on Tuesday 21 March 2023.
- Close of Nominations is at 4 pm 4 April 2023.

Our Clerk has recently circulated the Briefing and Candidate Nomination Pack to all Councillors by email on 24 February 2023. It is essential that if you wish to stand as a Parish Councillor that you complete the Candidate Nomination Pack and return it to NSC between the dates stated.

379) Regular Reports: To receive and note the following regular reports:

- a) CPRE: No report
- b) Locking Parklands Stakeholders
Meeting notes and associated documents from meeting held 23 November 2022 – Note Agenda for 28 April 2023 had been circulated and noted
- c) Locking Primary School: No report
- d) St Modwen: No report

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

- a) **23/P/0177/TPO Locking Mosslands Land West of Locking Parklands Locking** – Pine (unspecified) fell. Members noted there was no covering letter or explanation as to why this tree should be felled. **AGREED** that the Clerk contact Planning as request that this is deferred until the next meeting of this Council on 6th April 2023 and the documents are made available for consideration
- b) **23/P/0182/FUL Construction Training Centre** – Variation of condition 2 of permission 17/P/5614/FUL (Construction of a temporary new skills facility containing an outdoor working and construction areas, construction and civil workshop, scaffold workshop, IT teaching & training rooms, classrooms, independent learning areas, café, staff work areas, reception and ancillary accommodation) to allow retention of the building until 14 May 2028. Although not against training facilities for WSM **AGREED with one abstention** to object to this application for the following policy reasons:
The building was only granted a 5 year temporary use.
The building, by virtue of its siting, massing and scale has resulted in erosion of the open countryside. The visually intrusive appearance of the building has a harmful impact upon the rural character of the surrounding area and is therefore contrary to policies CS5 and CS12 of the North Somerset Core Strategy, policies DM10, DM32 and DM38 of the sites and policies plan Part 1 and Policy SA2 of the Sites and Policies Plan, Part 2 (Site Allocations plan) and the Landscape Character Assessment, SPD September 2018.
The Landscape Character Assessment, SPD September 2018 places the building in/on the edge of the Locking and Banwell Moor area where the Landscape Strategy on page 59 states:
'The overall strategy for the Locking and Banwell Moors is to conserve the remote pastoral nature of the area and enhance the areas in decline, reducing the negative impacts from urban fringe activities and strengthen the key characteristic, such as the network of ditches/rhynes.
The application is provided with 1 documented paragraph to justify a further 5 years for the building with no substantial detail or rationale backing this up.
By allowing a further 5 years for this building in flood zone will likely result in an application at the end of

the period to retain the building and that should be considered as being tantamount to development in an area where development should not be permitted.

- c) **23/P/0127/AOC Land off Anson Road** - Request to discharge condition numbers 5 (Travel plan), 13, (Illumination), 14, (Signage) and 16 (Micro re-newable or low carbon technologies) on a-plication 19/P/2950/FUL.

AGREED to strongly object to the discharge of condition 5 (Travel Plan), Members believe that the conditions have not been meet as per Sec 106 Appendix 12 Travel Plan 4.6 Long-Term Measures article 4.6.3 "Under the masterplan, the longer term proposals are to improve the footway to Locking village and to replace the existing footbridge and road level refuge with pedestrian crossing facilities incorporated into a signalized access junction."

The footpath this is referring to is The Spinney which is poorly maintained, unsafe as a pedestrian route, therefore we strongly object to this condition being discharged until the improvement works are completed as per the Sec 106 Agreement

- d) **Re-Consultation 22/P/2472/FUH 14 Old Banwell Road Locking** – Proposed erection of a two-storey side extension with incorporated garage, proposed infill first floor front extension and lower ground floor rear extension. Amended details in relation to this application that have significantly altered the proposal. **AGREED** to support

381) The Triangle – To discuss the response from 1st Locking Scouts Leadership Team to LPC's Letter. Previously circulated to members.

The Chairman welcomed the Scouts Leadership team to the meeting and thanked them for attending and offering to answer any further questions that members may have.

The letter received from Scouts was discussed, it was established that:

The amount of soil received was in excess as to what had been expected but would be used to replenish planters and re-establish the bund.

There was no breach of the Agreement but in future the Scout leadership team would discuss major works with the Parish Council before committing to any projects.

After sending photos of the site and engaging in conversation with Environment Agency it appeared that they did not see the need for a soil sample.

The leadership team requested that they be given the opportunity to put right the mess the soil had made, reshape and flatten the bund.

All AGREED with one against that Scouts be given the opportunity to put right and Members to inspect/reconvene after the works had been completed

Suspended Standing Orders to allow District Cllr T Porter to give his report

382) District Cllrs report: Cllr Terry Porter updated the meeting with respect to the potential upgrades to the Spinney.

He had identified that there may be funding available via Active Travel Plan funding which North Somerset Council received from central government.

He was awaiting responses from the meeting held on 18th January from the NSC trees officer (K Lynch), and public rights of way officer (Elaine Bowman).

The flood management would not be covered under the Active Travel Plan funding.

Returned to Standing Orders

383) Skatepark:

- a) Council to agree to wording prepared by Skatepark working group for grant applications to be submitted in the name of Parish Council (as per TOR point 9 - all funding applied for will be in the name of Locking Parish Councillors). **AGREED**
- b) Council to agree that subject to agreement of the wording, Grant applications can be prepared by the Working group for the Clerk to submit. **AGREED**
- c) To receive draft Pre-Procurement Expression of Interest Document for Contract Finder. **AGREED** with minor amendments to deadline date and return address
- d) Council to reconsider/discuss when a planning application can go in and decide whether an application can be submitted once tenders have been received and a scheme chosen. **AGREED**

384) Local Flood Risk Management Strategy – update from Cllr Tremlett and Cllr Prosser.
(Presentation slides had been previously circulated, copies available from The Clerk)
Carl Prosser and Mike Tremlett were 2 of 3 attendees to the above presentation for which slides have been circulated for all to view.

2 keys items raised as follows:

1. The team are responsible for investigating surface water flooding if houses have been flooded.
2. They are now potentially looking at more natural flood management – details are to follow.

385) The Spinney – Update covered in item 382.

386) King Charles III Coronation – to discuss the following:

a) Update from stakeholder meeting:

The Chairman reported that there had been representatives from 1st Locking & Hutton Scouts, Royal British Legion, Rev Anne Wilkin (St Augustine's Church), Jean Harrison (Flowerdown Park) Discussion ensued around the date of the Coronation Big Picnic Lunch and the tight time scale for organising the events and to find someone to manage the running of the day therefore it was decided to combine the Big Picnic with the Locking Fete on 15 July and move it to Old Banwell Road Playing Field.

b) To agree that LPC to lead on the proposed Parish Fete to be held 15 July at OBR Playing Field.

AGREED

c) Subject to the above – To agree to advertise the event in the next edition of L@L. **AGREED**

d) Subject to the above - To agree that the Clerk start booking the required facilities i.e., toilets, first aid etc. **AGREED**

e) Suggestion from member of the public that the Parish Council consider placing a plaque to commemorate the Coronation at the Coronation Garden. The Clerk advised that the cost of a plaque would be approx. £40 **AGREED** that the Clerk order a plaque, wording to be agreed at the next full council meeting.

387) North Somerset Council Planning Dept – To receive a letter from Mr Ian Pratt regarding the decision/functions of the dept (circulated) and to agree any actions. **AGREED** to support the letter and the Clerk to submit examples to Mr Pratt.

388) NALC Civility & Respect:

a) To consider signing the Civility and Respect Pledge.

Locking Parish Council had adopted the Local Government Association new Code of Conduct 2020 which has been designed to protect their democratic role, encourage good conduct, challenge behaviour which falls below expectations and safeguard the public's trust in local government.

b) To consider booking Cllrs onto the Civility & Respect suite of e-learning courses:

Should Cllrs wish to undertake training they should contact The Clerk.

389) Litter issues within WSM: Deferred until next Full Council Meeting

390) Review of Community Living Room at the Parish Hall:

The Clerk advised that the Living Room held on Wednesday afternoon's was not well attend and recommended that this session be withdrawn – **AGREED**

The Tuesday morning sessions of the Community Living Room were well attended (weather depending) also the Book Exchange, Tea & Tech session and the Local Policing team monthly sessions were held during this session: **AGREED** to continue with Tuesday sessions but to amend the closing time to 12.30pm.

391) OBR Tender Process:

Cllr Bearsby proposed and Cllr Lacey seconded that Cllrs Ashdown, Tremlett and Prosser be appointed to the Tender Panel with Cllr Jones as reserve: **AGREED.**

The panel to make their recommendations to the next Full Council Meeting in April.

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

(Please note that the Council is unable to make any formal decisions under this item).

To receive the Clerk’s report, note any correspondence received since the last meeting that is not an item on the Agenda and note items for the next Agenda.

a) Correspondence:

- a) **Avon & Somerset Neighbourhood Watch Association** – The Clerk to get further information
- b) **North Somerset Community Safety**, information regarding public space CCTV: Clerk to get further information
- c) **Town & parish Forum – Demand Responsive Transport & Bus Improvement Plan (BSIP) briefing via Teams 21-22 March 5.30pm -7pm.** The Chairman and Cllr Hilder to attend.
- d) **Tree Planted on Council owned land without permission at The Green:** The Clerk to put a notice onto Facebook to ascertain who planted the tree. The Clerk to arrange to have this replanted to a more suitable location.
- e) **Great British Spring Clean 2023:** Members discussed the possibility of holding a Parish wide litter picking event on 25 April 2023 at 1pm, The Clerk to advertise the event.
It was noted that there was generally a lot more litter along Elm Tree Road/A371 coming from the Co-op. The Clerk was asked to contact the store and request litter bins be installed next to the bus on Elm Tree Road and the A371.

b) Agenda Items:

- a) A371 Safety Audit
- b) A371 Flashing School Crossing signs – when are they to be reinstalled
- c) Neighbourhood Planning Group
- d) Review of Documents: Standing Orders, Code of Conduct, Financial Regulations, Financial Risk Management Assessment.
- e) Re-allocation of Coronation Funding

PART 2

Exclusion of press and public.

(The Council is recommended to resolve that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the agenda item/s below by reason of the confidential nature of the item/s of business to be transacted, in accordance with section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

393) Matters pertaining to staff: This item is minuted in Part 2 of these minutes.

There being no further business the meeting Chairman closed the meeting at 9.26pm.

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

The next meeting of Locking Parish Council will be on 6 April 2023 7.30pm

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability) Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety and Human Rights.