

Loders Parish Council

Minutes from the Meeting of Loders Parish Council held at Loders Village Hall on Tuesday 18th January 2022 at 7.15pm

Present:

Councillors: Michele Warrington (*Chair*)
Geoff May (*Vice Chair*)
Julie Bryce
David Cannon
David Last
Ros Newberry
David Pullan
Anthony Alford (*Dorset Council*)

Public: 1

Apologies: Joanne Hughes (*Clerk*)
In the absence of the Clerk, the minutes were taken by the Vice Chair.

8184. To receive apologies for absence
Recorded.

8185. Declarations of interest or grants of dispensation
None.

8186. To accept the minutes of the meeting held on 16th November 2021 and sign the same
An amendment under Footpaths and Rights of Way item 8174 - Cllr Cannon advised that Whetlands Lane is referred to as FP5 - this should read BR5; Cllr Cannon noted the omission of his report that he had received no response from Russel Goff to his request that FP37 (Yellow Lane to Hole House Farm) be considered for improvement to facilitate walking to Bridport via Bradpole - to be included. Councillors then approved the amended minutes of the meeting as an accurate record.

Proposed Cllr D Last

Seconded Cllr R Newberry

Resolved

8187. Matters arising for information only
None.

8188. Democratic Forum
Cllr Warrington welcomed a resident to the meeting in relation to agenda item 6. 'Councillor Vacancies'.

8189. Councillor Vacancies
Cllr Warrington reported that Cllr Tilton had resigned from the Council and that Cllr Nardone had now decided not to re-join following his having had to previously stand down on a technicality under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972, s.85(1) - non-attendance of Council meetings for a period of six months without approval. There were now three vacancies. Two applicants have put themselves forward and it was reported that there may be a further two who have expressed an interest.
Both residents who have put themselves forward have submitted their reasons for wanting to become a member of Loders Parish Council and the relevant skills and experience which they possess. One of the candidates had intended to come to the meeting but was unable to attend and will be therefore be considered at the next meeting on 15th February 2022. The other, Derrick Newberry, was in attendance.

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Councillors were given the opportunity to ask questions before Mr Newberry was unanimously co-opted onto the Council

Co-option of new councillor for Loders Parish Council

Candidate - Derrick Newberry

Proposed David Cannon

Seconded Cllr David Last

Resolved

8190. Dorset Council - Report Cllr Tony Alford

Cllr Alford provided a brief overview of updates from Dorset Council:

- COVID 19 incidence still high and hospitals under pressure.
- Dorset Waste recycling performance has now achieved the 60% mark, approaching the 65% benchmark for top performance.
- Dorset Council has commissioned a consultancy to evaluate the appropriateness to Dorset of the Government methodology to calculate the housing need. Its conclusion is that the methodology is appropriate for the County of Dorset, but not for the new authority of Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch. Nevertheless, Dorset Council are investigating whether there is scope for different types of housing within the target better suited to community needs.
- Open letter has been received to Spencer Flower, Leader of Dorset Council, from Dorset Deserves Better Campaign seeking re-consideration of the Dorset Local Plan. The Campaign Group believe that the development strategy at the heart of the Plan will harm the natural environment, landscape and historical character of Dorset; it falls short of meeting the housing need with the right houses in the right places at the right price; and it fails to address the challenges of climate change and loss of wildlife. Cllr Warrington wondered what methods Dorset Council planned to employ in order to consider responses received to the consultation on the Plan in a transparent manner. Cllr Alford referred to there being a process of evaluation and the existence of an Overview Committee and a Scrutiny Committee. She encouraged Councillors to read the Open Letter and accompanying email dated 16 January 2022 from Giles Watts (Dorset Climate Action Network) and engage with it according to their own sentiments.
- Finance: A deficit of £2million is anticipated for 2021/22; the Government settlement for 2022/23 is less than anticipated; Council Tax will rise by 2.99%; budget will balance with increases of 10% for Social Care and 4% for Children's Services; £10 million has been allocated to tackling the Climate Emergency over the next 5 years.
- Local matters: there is a new Dorset Council appointee actively addressing the highway issues on Shipton Road at Gribb Farm and Waddon Way.

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8191. Finance

i. To authorise receipts and payments due

The following payments for January 2022 were approved in line with internal controls:

Receipts		Detail	Amount
Watkins		Allotment Rent	30.00
Wallbridge		Allotment Rent	20.00
Hobby		Allotment Rent	30.00
Riggs		Allotment Rent	30.00
Marshall		Allotment Rent	20.00
Wreford		Allotment Rent	30.00
Kelly		Allotment Rent	30.00
Bellord		Allotment Rent	20.00
Griggs		Allotment Rent	20.00
Webster		Allotment Rent	20.00
Scott		Allotment Rent	32.50
Payments	Voucher No	Detail	Amount
P Warren	1198	Cemetery Hedge laying	75.00
J Hughes	1199	Salary & Expenses (Dec + 10 hrs CiLCA)	814.10
HMRC	1200	PAYE/NI	48.69
Cllr J Bryce	1201	Turf Cutter	42.90
Wessex Ground Services	1202	Grounds Maintenance (Dec)	77.58
Citizens Advice Bridport	1203	Donation	50.00
Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance	1204	Donation	50.00
J Hughes	1205	Salary & Expenses (Jan)	683.30
HMRC	1206	PAYE	11.60
Wessex Ground Services	1207	Grounds Maintenance (Jan)	77.58
Loders Village Hall	1208	PC Meeting 18 th January	16.00

Payments authorised were £1,871.75, being the total of the individual payments shown above of £1,946.75 less £75.00 already paid to P Warren, as approved at the last meeting (minute ref. 8171).

Bank balance as at 18th January 2022 **£32,502.52**

Proposed Cllr R Newberry

Seconded Cllr J Bryce

Resolved

ii. Monthly finance reports

In the Clerk's absence Cllr May provided Councillors with a summary report of the year-to-date position (January 2022) against the budget and a report of the movement on fund balances to 18th January 2022. No unusual items of expenditure are expected during the remainder of the year to 31 March 2022: expenditure for the year looks on course to be near the forecast prepared in the autumn as part of the preparation of the Budget for 2022/23. The major expenditure items which have been anticipated have already been approved: they are the new carousel for the children's play area at Well Plot (£3,400) and the additional bench for the cemetery (£400).

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iii. To progress additional signatories for the Parish Council bank account

Cllr May reported that he had still had no communication from the bank to enable him to act as the “second signatory” for electronic payments. Cllr Warrington asked that this be followed up with the bank by the Clerk as a matter of urgency since following the resignation of Cllr Tilton she is the sole “signatory”.

iv. To approve the budget and precept request for 2022/23

The Budget and Precept for 2022/23 were considered at the November 2021 meeting of the Parish Council when it was proposed to keep the precept at £15,000. This proposal was accepted in principle at that time with a final review and agreement to be made at the January meeting. There have been no significant changes in the Council’s finances in the meantime. Dorset Council have confirmed the tax base rate for 2022/23 which for Loders results in the Band D charge to residents decreasing from £54.90 in 2021/22 to £53.51 in 2022/23 (2.53% decrease) based on the precept request of £15,000.

Cllr Warrington asked for a formal proposal to approve the Budget for 2022/23 and that the Precept remain unchanged at £15,000.

Proposed Cllr D Cannon

Seconded Cllr D Last

Resolved

8192. Planning and Development

To consider any planning applications, appeals or enforcements in circulation:

- i. P/FUL/2022/00148 & P/LBC/2022/00149 37 Main Street, Loders DT6 3SA - erection of boundary wall/fence - comments by 1st February 2022 - No objections
- ii. P/HOU/2021/05635 2 Cherry Cottages, Uploders DT6 4PD - erect a single storey rear extension - comments by 26th January 2022 - Cllr Cannon pointed out an error in the application in that it failed to mention that the proposed extension is visible from FP7 (Cherry Lane) which runs directly alongside the property. Other than this observation there were no objections.
- iii. P/LBC/2021/04943 The Barn House, Loders, DT6 3SA - erection of a carport, garden store & log store - extension for comments by 19th January 2022. There were two current applications lodged in respect of the Barn House. P/LBC/2021/04943, above, is for listed building consent to various internal alterations to the main house, including the conversion of the current two car garage into a games room. A second application, P/HOU/2021/04942 is for the erection of the carport, garden store & log store. There appears to have been a mix up at Dorset Council in the registration of the two applications which has since been rectified. Discussion centred on the second application and included: concern at the scale and height of the new building; the harm that will be caused to the glimpses of Boarsbarrow Hill through the gap between the Barn House and the neighbouring house; the creeping over-development of the site following the recent approval of the redevelopment of the outbuildings within the curtilage of the Barn House and its overall effect on the ecology of the Asker valley; and the fact that the proposed new building appeared to be outside the Defined Development Boundary. All these contravene policies in the Loders Neighbourhood Plan. It was agreed that a detailed objection based on the discussion would be drafted by Cllr May for approval by Cllr Warrington and submission by the Clerk.
- iv. P/HOU/2021/03187 Garden Cottage, Uploders, DT6 4NT - permission granted 03.12.2021.
- v. P/COU/2021/03500 Woodlands Farm Kennels - permission granted 22.12.2021.
- vi. P/HOU/2021/03725 Fairview Cottage - still under consideration.
- vii. P/HOU/2021/01987 16-17 Oak Cottage - still under consideration.
- viii. P/HOU/2021/01858/59 Loders Hall - application withdrawn.
- ix. P/OUT/2021/01788 Land to South West of Home Farm Close - still under consideration.

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Cllr Warrington drew attention to the Dorset Council webinar on planning scheduled for 27 January 2022 and encouraged councillors to sign up for it via the Clerk. Cllrs Bryce, Last, May and Warrington wish to attend. Clerk to arrange.

8193. Council Property

To consider and agree any actions in relation the Parish Council property:

i. Cemetery

- New bench - the new bench has yet to be ordered but the Clerk has it in hand.

ii. Allotments

- Cllr Newberry confirmed that the plots all looked to be in good order although the roots of the trees cut down still have not been removed to prevent regrowth.

- There is one allotment holder yet to pay the rent due.

- There is a broken pane of glass in one of the greenhouses which needs to be removed. Cllr Newberry to follow up and ask the Clerk to contact the allotment holder.

iii Playing Field

- The nest carousel for Well Plot play area has been installed. The Clerk has applied for a grant from the Community and Culture Project Fund to help towards the replacement of other play equipment. The grant applied for is £5,000 as a contribution to a total requirement of £16,000, made up of: 2 x swing sets £6,000, playhouse and slide £6,000 and replacement fencing £4,000.

- Unsafe fencing now fixed.

- The meeting of the FWG with Cllrs Newberry and Pullan to be rescheduled by the Clerk: it will need to take place on a Tuesday afternoon via Zoom.

- Oak sapling offer - discussion about the siting of the oak sapling kindly offered by a resident who wishes it be somewhere at the playing field. Felt it might be appropriate for it to replace an ailing mature ash tree, which would have to be removed before the new oak could be planted. Concluded that Cllr Pullan should arrange a meeting with James Bennett the Dorset Council tree specialist together with the resident who has made the offer to seek advice and discuss the best approach.

Proposed Cllr D Pullan

Seconded Cllr D Cannon

Resolved

Cllr Warrington will email the resident with the Council's thanks for the offer.

- Hedge planting at Well Plot - Cllr Bryce reported on a most successful community event on 4th December 2021 to plant 180 saplings as a new hedgerow on the boundary of the playing field next to the garages and along to the play area. An estimated 20 to 30 volunteers were involved. Cllr Bryce will send her photographs of the event to the Clerk for the website and possible inclusion in the Eggardon & Colmers View.

iv. Notice Boards

Cllr Warrington noted that one or two of the four notice boards in the Parish seemed in a parlous state and need attention. Discussion deferred to the next meeting.

8194. Footpaths and Rights of Way

Cllr Cannon reported four RoW issues at the October meeting and was able to provide the following update:

BR5 (Whetlands Lane, Unclassified County Road) - fallen fingerpost at junction with Smishops Lane (1184925) has been reported twice, no response, will continue to monitor.

BR5 (Whetlands Lane to Powerstock border) - RoW gap between BR5 and Whetlands Lane reported. Dorset County have sent updated map closing gap.

FP7 (Cherry Lane) - Parish Council concern raised about cyclists using RoW. Cllr Cannon advises discreet signage and reporting issue in E&CV.

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FP7 (Cherry Lane) north from BR11 - fallen fingerpost pointing north to Powerstock (54822) reported and now fixed.

BR11 (New St Lane) - poor drainage causing mud (31435) reported. Dorset Council reported path now okay.

FP38 (New St Lane to Smishops Lane at Waddon Way) - two fingerposts fallen reported; north from Highacres (54730) and south from Highacres (54731) - now fixed.

Green Lane (Unclassified County Road below Dalrymple Copse) - fallen fingerpost reported (54732) - now fixed.

Cllr Cannon will email Cllr Alford about three matters below to be raised with Russell Goff (RG):

FP24 (Jordan Valley) - history of farm gate being locked.

FP30 (Yondover to Bar Lane Unclassified Road) - reported barriers delayed due to landowner's family bereavement; advice requested from RG; request to RG repeated.

FP37 (Yellow Lane to Hole House Farm) - as long ago as 2017 upgrade suggested following Dorset Council request for improvements via Health & Footpaths funding. More recently, requested RG to prioritise upgrade to facilitate active travel in light of C&EE on two occasions without response. At the meeting it transpired that FP37 (Yellow Lane to Hole House Farm) runs through fields owned by newly co-opted Cllr D Newberry. He has already upgraded part of FP37. The remaining stretch is through a field which he previously rented out but which has now returned to his control. He was encouraged to upgrade this section too.

In addition, the meeting agreed that Cllr Cannon will check Dorset Council's publicly available maps to see if they have been updated in line with the information received about BR5.

8195. Roads, Transport and Drains

- Waddon Way - under investigation by new Dorset Council appointee (Mr Bradley).
- Gribb Farm, Shipton Road - under investigation by new Dorset Council appointee (Mr Bradley).
- Yellow Lane recent accident - no action on signage.
- Road signage at western end of Uploders - Cllr Last has reported dilapidated signage to Dorset Council.
- Smishops Lane - currently closed following fallen trees and bank slippage. Cllrs Warrington and Last to investigate leaning tree near cemetery.

8196. Unitary Authority

- i. Update from DAPTC
 - Dorset Council's Town & Parish Council Weekly E-Newsletter Survey - closes 28th January 2022. This is to assess the effectiveness of the "Working Together" initiative shared by Dorset Council and DAPTC. Questionnaire completed at meeting by Cllr Warrington to reflect consensus of meeting.
 - Cllr Bryce to attend next DAPTC Parish Liaison meeting.
- ii. Update from BLAP
 - 13th December meeting report - unfortunately, no one was able to attend.
 - Representation at next meeting 4th March 2022 - Cllr May to attend.

8197. River Asker Improvement Project

Nothing further to report since last meeting. Ian Rees of Dorset AONB has prepared a useful summary of the project for the Climate & Ecological Emergency Newsletter (see agenda item 8198. iv). Cllr May to send to the Clerk for onward circulation to Cllr's Last, R Newberry and D Newberry.

8198. Climate and Environment Issues

To consider and agree any actions in relation to the Loders Parish Council Climate & Ecological Emergency

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- i. Natural Assets - Cllr Bryce reported back on the results of the mailshot to landowner's requesting support for tree planting. Around 12 letters were sent out and there have been three replies so far: One landowner has already set in train their own project to plant a large area with the support of an outside tree agency; another resident has provided a sketch map showing where the co-owners of the strip of land alongside the Asker at Yonderover would like support in planting trees; and a third landowner has indicated that they are amenable to some limited further tree planting. Cllr Warrington expressed the desire to expand the tree planting initiative to private gardens in the parish. Cllr Bryce will inquire whether the Woodland Trust would provide saplings for private gardens.
- ii. Transport update - Cllr Canon will try to attend one of the briefing sessions to be held by Dorset Council's Bus Back Better initiative on the Enhanced Partnership Process - a Plan and Scheme which will form the legally binding agreement between the Council and local bus operators.
- iii. Renewable's update - nothing to report.
- iv. Making it Happen update - Communications Strategy - Newsletter Issue. The Clerk's indisposition has resulted in a delay in presenting the first draft to councillors. Content has been submitted and it is planned to circulate the draft to Councillors for approval as soon as possible rather than wait until the next Parish Council meeting.

8199. Communications

Broadband - Matthew Galley from Jurassic Fibre provided an update on 23 December 2021. They are still on track to build through Bridport and Loders in the next 12 months and hope to have the first homes and businesses in Bridport live by Spring.

8200. Training & Development

Cllr Warrington encouraged Cllr D Newberry to sign up for DAPTC training for new councillors.

8201. To review correspondence received

Cllr Warrington referred to a letter to the Council from a resident about the plan to hold an event to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It was agreed that this sounded an excellent idea and that the Clerk would respond in this vein.

8202. Website and Eggardon & Colmers View

Precept for 2022/23 to remain unchanged at £15,000, nest carousel installed in playground, new hedge laid by volunteers at Wellplot, cycling on footpaths is unlawful, Spring 2022 Climate & Ecological Newsletter and Derrick Newberry co-opted as new councillor

8203. Agenda items for next meeting on Tuesday 15th February 2022

None.

Meeting closed at 10.05pm

Chairman _____

Date _____