

Loders Parish Council

Minutes from the Meeting of Loders Parish Council held at Loders Village Hall on Tuesday 15th February 2022 at 7.15pm

Present:

Councillors: Michele Warrington (*Chair*) David Last
Geoff May (*Vice Chair*) Derrick Newberry
Julie Bryce Ros Newberry
David Cannon David Pullan (*arrived 8.30pm*)

Officer: Joanne Hughes (*Clerk*) **Public:** 1

Apologies: Anthony Alford (*Dorset Council*)

8204. To receive apologies for absence

Recorded.

8205. Declarations of interest or grants of dispensation

None.

8206. To accept the minutes of the meeting held on 18th January 2022 and sign the same

Proposed Cllr D Cannon

Seconded Cllr D Newberry

Resolved

8207. Matters arising for information only

None.

8208. Democratic Forum

None.

8209. Councillor Vacancies

Cllr Warrington welcomed Nick Harms to the meeting. Mr Harms had previously submitted his reasons for wanting to become a member of Loders Parish Council along with his relevant skills and experience. It was agreed for Mr Harms to sit through the meeting as a member of the public to gain an understanding of how the Council works. At the end of the meeting Cllr Warrington returned to the subject of councillor vacancies and Mr Harms was unanimously co-opted onto the Council.

Co-option of new councillor for Loders Parish Council

Candidate - Nicholas Harms

Proposed Cllr R Newberry

Seconded Cllr D Cannon

Resolved

8210. Dorset Council - Report Cllr Tony Alford

Cllr Alford had previously sent his apologies as the Parish Council meeting coincided with the Dorset Council Full Council meeting that would consider the budget and Community Governance Review Recommendations.

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8211. Finance

i. To authorise receipts and payments due

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

Receipts		Detail	Amount
Paull		Allotment Rent	20.00
Payments			
	Voucher No	Detail	Amount
J Hughes	1209	Salary & Expenses	1,088.62
HMRC	1210	PAYE/NI	11.60
Ken Hussey	1211	Play area inspection and repairs	127.00
Wessex Ground Services	1212	Grounds Maintenance (Feb)	77.58
Huck Tek	1213	Nest Carousel	4,080.00
Loders Village Hall	1214	PC Meeting 15 th February	16.00

Payments authorised were £5,400.80, being the total of the individual payments shown above.

Bank balance as at 15th February 2022 **£27,121.72**

Proposed Cllr R Newberry

Seconded Cllr D Last

Resolved

ii. Monthly finance reports

The Clerk provided Councillors with a summary report of the year-to-date position (February 2022) against the budget and a report of the movement on fund balances to 15th February 2022. The major expenditure items of the nest carousel for the children's play area £4,080 (including VAT) and the additional bench for the cemetery (included as an expense of £395.00 (including VAT) within the Clerk's salary and expenses) have now been expended.

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

Cllr May confirmed that he has been in contact with the bank and documentation is being progressed to enable him to act as a second signatory on the Parish Council bank account.

iv. To approve upgrading the Clerk to 'Full Access' on the Parish Council bank account

As the Council's bank account Administrator, it was agreed to upgrade the Clerk to 'Full Access' status on the bank account to enable easier administration of the account. Cllr Warrington to liaise with the Clerk to implement this.

Proposed Cllr G May

Seconded Cllr D Cannon

Resolved

8212. Unitary Authority

i. Update from DAPTC

- Cllr Bryce to attend DAPTC Western Area meeting on 24th February.
- Cllr Warrington advised interested Councillors to take a look online at the DAPTC's recently circulated Community Safety consultation.
- Cllr May confirmed that the 2021/22 annual cost of living increases for local government employees have not yet been agreed nationally but will need to be backdated to April 2021 for the Clerk once agreed. The expected cost of living increase has been budgeted for.

ii. Update from BLAP

- Cllr May to attend the BLAP Parish Liaison meeting in March.

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- New bench - the new bench has been ordered and delivery is expected to Cllr R Newberry on 16th February. It was agreed that the bench be sited to the right of the existing bench to make the most of the far-reaching views. Clerk to obtain quotes to install a concrete base for the bench.

ii. Allotments

- Cllr Newberry confirmed that the plots are in good order and the broken pane of greenhouse glass has been sorted.

- Trees growing on plot - Cllr R Newberry confirmed that it is unlikely that the roots of the trees that have been cut down can be removed due to their position. Cllr R Newberry proposed that the trees be cut as low as possible and stump killer be used to prevent regrowth from the trees. Clerk to inform allotment plot tenant.

Proposed Cllr R Newberry

Seconded Cllr D Newberry

Resolved

iii Playing Field

- Play Area Working Group - agreed for the meeting of the FWG with Cllr R Newberry and Cllr Pullan to take place on Monday 7th March at 1.00pm via Zoom. Clerk to circulate Zoom link. Cllr Pullan confirmed that the latest play area inspection report was all low risk although it does highlight that the toddler swings should be replaced within the next 12 months.

- Oak sapling and other Jubilee trees - Cllr Pullan confirmed that a meeting had taken place at Well Plot Playing Field with the Dorset Council tree specialist who confirmed that two large Ash trees were showing signs of dieback. He advised monitoring for the time being. With regards to Jubilee trees, he suggested that an Oak tree could be planted in an area to the east of the football goal posts, an Oak tree between the football pitch and the river as a long-term replacement for the Ash trees and a smaller tree such as a Field Maple between the playground gate area and the football pitch. Clerk to obtain quotes to supply and plant native Oak trees.

- Plaque for Jubilee tree - the Clerk had received information on plaques for the Jubilee trees but these were expensive. Clerk to investigate alternative, cheaper plaques.

iv. Notice Boards

As the Parish Council notice boards are in a poor state, it was agreed for the Clerk to look into the costs of replacement notice boards.

8216. Footpaths and Rights of Way

Cllr Cannon advised that he has received no response from Cllr Alford regarding the three RoW issues which he has been unable to resolve. Cllr Cannon to raise with Cllr Alford at the March meeting.

BR5 (Whetlands Lane, Unclassified County Road) - Cllr Cannon confirmed that he has received no response from Dorset Council regarding the fallen fingerpost at the junction with Smishops Lane despite reporting the issue twice so he will refer this issue to Cllr Alford.

BR5 (Whetlands Lane to Powerstock border) - RoW gap between BR5 and Whetlands Lane has now been closed and Dorset County have sent an updated map which Cllr Cannon will pass to the Village Hall Management Committee for display within the village hall.

Glover Landscapes Review Online Consultation - Cllr May agreed to look at the consultation in relation to questions 14-17 which cover the issue of 'off-roading' on green lanes. Consultation closes 9th April 2022. Clerk to investigate what a green lane is.

Dog Bins - Cllr D Newberry raised the issue of dog fouling and the possibility of installing a dog bin along the footpath from Loders to Bradpole due to the increasing numbers of dog bags dumped at the end of the footpath. Clerk to look into the role of the dog warden and obtain advice from Dorset Council and the DAPTC.

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8217. Roads, Transport and Drains

- Waddon Way - nothing new to report.
- Gribb Farm, Shipton Road - nothing new to report.
- Yellow Lane recent accident - nothing new to report.
- Smishops Lane - although the road has been re-opened following fallen trees and bank slippage, Cllr Warrington advised of dangerously overhanging trees. Clerk to report to Dorset Council.

8218. River Asker Improvement Project

Cllr May provided the following update:

- Ian Rees of Dorset AONB and the West Country Rivers Trust will be carrying out a survey of the river and weir in March to facilitate fish passage up the weir.
- Details of other activities planned will be provided at a community event due to take place on 23rd March.

8219. Climate and Environment Issues

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

- Natural Assets - As discussed under minute reference 8215 iii, Clerk to obtain quotes to supply and plant two English Oak trees and a small Field Maple. Cllr Warrington advised that the Village Hall Management Committee are meeting on 23rd February and will discuss the potential for some tree planting at the village hall. Cllr Bryce advised that she is waiting to hear back from the Beaminster ECO group regarding trees for private households.
- Transport update - Cllr Canon confirmed that he attended a webinar in January on Dorset Council's Bus Back Better initiative which is currently being considered by central government.
- Renewable's update - nothing to report.
- Making it Happen update - Newsletter Issue 1 - The Clerk had previously circulated a draft of the text for the first issue of the newsletter which was approved by all.

Proposed Cllr M Warrington

Seconded Cllr R Newberry

Resolved

Cllr Warrington requested that any suitable photographs for the newsletter be sent to the Clerk by the end of the week. Cllr Warrington also highlighted the DAPTC's new Carbon Literacy Accreditation, a training course of three 2.5-hour sessions providing councils with the opportunity to become accredited. Further information can be found on the DAPTC website.

8220. Communications

Broadband - Nothing new to report.

8221. Training & Development

The Clerk advised that Cllr D Newberry and newly appointed Cllr Harms attend a few council meetings before signing up for the DAPTC training for new councillors.

8222. To review correspondence received

None.

8223. Website and Eggardon & Colmers View

Newsletter, river survey, new Councillor appointment, one Councillor vacancy, funding for trees.

8224. Agenda items for next meeting on Tuesday 15th March 2022

None.

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Meeting closed at 9.28pm

Chairman _____

Date _____