

# Loders Parish Council

## Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting of Loders Parish Council held at Uploders Chapel on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7.00pm

**Present:**

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

**Officer:** 0 **Public:** 0

**Apologies:** Joanne Hughes (*Clerk*), Tony Alford (*Dorset Council*)  
(*Minutes recorded by Cllr G May in the Clerks absence*)

**8607. To receive apologies for absence**

None.

### 8608. Declarations of interest or grants of dispensation

None.

**8609. To accept the minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023 and sign the same**

Proposed Cllr D Cannon	Seconded Cllr D Last	Resolved
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### 8610. Matters arising for information only

Minute ref. 8600, Village Hall Report: Two framed shelter photographs have been hung, one in the entrance vestibule, the other in the committee room.

Two previous regular agenda items: River Asker Improvement Project and Training & Development have been omitted this month to reduce the duration of the Parish Council meeting.

### 8611. Democratic Forum

None.

## 8612. Dorset Council - Report Cllr Tony Alford

Cllr Alford had previously circulated an update report to all which included the following information:

- Following significant rainfall from 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> January, Dorset Council Highways crews were called out 82 times to deal with the impact of significant rainfall across our area.
- The Dorset History Centre will close from 15<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> January to enable staff to reorganise the service to make access to collections easier.
- Dorset Council is working on setting the budget for 2024/25 with a proposal to increase council tax by just under 3% which would be equivalent to £1.82 per week for a Band D property. The proposed budget amounts to £376 million.

# Loders Parish Council

## 8613. Finance

### i. To authorise receipts and payments due

The following payments for January 2024 were approved in line with internal controls:

Receipts		Detail	Amount
Marshall		Allotment Rent	20.00
National Grid		Wayleave Payment	10.05
Payments	Voucher No	Detail	Amount
J Hughes	1442	Salary & Expenses	790.75
HMRC	1443	PAYE	8.40
Wessex Ground Services	1444	Grounds Maintenance	110.90
DAPTC	1445	Email Mailbox 5GM Storage	45.00
Dorset Council	1446	Dog Signage	7.00
SLCC	1447	FILCA (Clerk's Training)	144.00
SLCC	1448	Cemetery Legal Compliance (Clerk's Training)	174.00
J Hughes	1449	Salary & Expenses	804.65
HMRC	1450	PAYE	8.60
Wessex Ground Services	1451	Grounds Maintenance	110.90
Loders Village Hall	1452	Meeting 10.01.2024	16.00
Uploders Chapel	1453	PC Meeting 16.01.2024	20.00

Payments authorised were £2,240.20 being the total of the individual payments shown above.

Bank balance as at 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024 **£27,837.08.**

**Proposed Cllr R Newberry**

**Seconded Cllr D Last**

**Resolved**

### ii. Monthly finance reports

In the absence of the Clerk, Cllr May provided Councillors with a summary report of the year-to-date position (January 2024) against the budget and a report of the movement on fund balances to 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

### iii. To agree recommendations from FWG meeting 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023 - including proposed 2024/25 budget/precept

The Clerk had previously circulated the report of the Finance Working Group (FWG) meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023. Cllr May summarised the outcomes of the FWG meeting:

The following matters were noted:

- *Council Records Electronic* - from May 2024 Clerk to provide Parish Council access to Parish Council emails, files, and backups in the case of unforeseen circumstances as current arrangements may not be adequate.
- *Freedom of Information* - Council to consider moving to .gov.uk email addresses for the Council and Councillors from May 2024 to ensure security of personal emails and information.
- *Review of Assets* - Asset register has been reconciled with schedule of insurance cover. Clerk has contacted insurers regarding difference in values shown in asset register compared with insurance cover valuation. Difference appears to be that insurance cover is on a replacement basis.
- *Financial Regulations* - remove point 3.2 in relation to three year forecast as not applicable due to council size.

## Loders Parish Council

- *Standing Orders*, Section 3 point x - A meeting shall not exceed a period of 2½ hours. Ways to reduce length of meetings is currently being looked at by Cllr Pullan and Cllr R Newberry. This working group will be expanded to include Cllr Warrington and Cllr Bryce.

The following actions were approved:

*Street Furniture* - from May 2024 Clerk to allocate street furniture AOR to Councillors to ensure responsibility for inspection and maintenance of grit bins, noticeboards and benches.

**Proposed Cllr M Warrington**

**Seconded Cllr R Newberry**

**Resolved**

*Clerk's Salary*: during the Clerk's appraisal, the FWG recommended that the Clerk proceed by a further performance related spinal column point from 1st April 2024.

**Proposed Cllr M Warrington**

**Seconded Cllr D Cannon**

**Resolved**

*Allotments Rents*: all agreed that there will be no increase in the allotment rents for 2024/25.

**Proposed Cllr M Warrington**

**Seconded Cllr R Newberry**

**Resolved**

*Cemetery Fees*: all agreed that there will be no increase in the cemetery charges for 2024/25.

**Proposed Cllr M Warrington**

**Seconded Cllr D Newberry**

**Resolved**

### **Proposed Budget and Precept request for 2024/25:**

Having considered the income and expenditure for the coming year, the FWG proposed to increase the precept to £17,000 for 2024/25 in order to cover budgeted expenditure. Following discussion, it was agreed that a reduction in budgeted expenditure could be achieved with the result that the proposed precept be increased from the current £15,000 to £16,000.

Cllr May asked for a formal proposal to approve the amended budget for 2024/25 and that the precept be set at £16,000.

**Proposed Cllr D Newberry**

**Seconded Cllr D Canon**

**Resolved**

## **8614. Planning and Development**

### **a) To consider any planning applications, appeals or enforcements in circulation:**

- P/LBC/2023/07399 Yondover Farm House, Yondover Railway Bridge, Well Plot, Loders, DT6 4NW - Install wood burning stoves, chimney pot and walled liners, raise one chimney stack. Replace companionway barn ladder, means of escape from attic bedroom to log store with a Clement Conservation side hung Rooflight. Convert barn kitchen to a bedroom - No objections subject to Conservation Officer's Report.
- P/HOU/2023/07119 Lyndon Matravers, Matravers Farm Access Road, Uploders, DT6 4PH - Replacement of existing annexe cabin and garage with purpose-built annexe - Objection to the application for three reasons: outside the Defined Development Boundary (LNP Policy E5); design does not relate to main residence to which it is ancillary (LNP Policy E4); and design raises concern since site borders curtilage of listed building (LNP E4). Also noted that that the permission being sought is for the building of an ancillary structure linked to Lyndon House and, as such, any planning permission should include a condition that this tie should be permanent.
- P/FUL/2023/06792 Boars Barrow Farm, Access to Boars Barrow Farm, Loders, DT6 3RX - Site 1 no. mobile home on the site as shown to provide accommodation for the farm manager for site security and health and welfare management of livestock - No objections to the granting of planning permission for temporary mobile home accommodation for a farm worker for a period of three years.
- P/FUL/2023/06859 Innsacre Farmhouse, Shipton Road, Shipton Gorge, DT6 4LJ - Erect 28 panel (12kW) ground mounted domestic solar array - deadline for response was 8 January 2024. After consultation Clerk had responded that Dorset AONB had not been consulted and that a planting plan indicating the location and type of trees should be provided. Officer replied confirming that AONB will be consulted and asking if proposed planting planning submitted was acceptable. Agreed that planting plan was acceptable.

## **Loders Parish Council**

- v. P/CLE/2023/05162 Travellers Rest, Dorchester Road, Bridport 4PJ - A residential static caravan used as a permanent home for five years. The address has been registered with Dorset Council since May 2018 with Council Tax being paid throughout the duration - application refused 10.01.24
- vi. P/HOU/2023/06358 West Combe, Smishops Lane, Lodors - application approved 11.12.23
- vii. TPO/2023/0085 New Tree Preservation Order at The Mill, Lodors DT6 3RX - TPO's are confirmed 4/5 months after serving provisional order so likely to be confirmed March/April 2024.

### **b) To consider and agree any actions in relation to other planning matters:**

Resident concerns regarding the build site located at the Barn adjacent to Orchard Bungalow, Uploders Road, Uploders DT6 4PD - Cllr May met with concerned resident at site on 20.12.23. Cllr May undertook to contact owner of the site to establish what the position is. This approach was agreed by Full Council.

### **8615. Unitary Authority**

- i. Community Governance Review update: Shipton Gorge/Lodors boundary changes - update - email received from resident of copy of a letter sent to Chris Loder MP and the response received. A response is awaited from Dorset Council Legal and Democratic Services Monitoring Officer.
- ii. Update from DAPTC - Cllr Warrington noted that DAPTC is considering changes to its constitution and that this process should be kept under review.
- iii. Update from BLAP - request from Parishes for information re. befriending -3 questions asked - Clerk to respond. Next Parish Liaison Meeting 21.02.24 Cllr May to attend.

### **8616. Council Property**

#### **To consider and agree any actions in relation to Parish Council property:**

#### **i. Cemetery**

- Lime tree quotes - the tree works are scheduled for 13.03.24. Cllr D Newberry/Cllr Pullan to check with the Clerk the height to which the canopy will be raised.

#### **ii. Allotments**

Cllr R Newberry confirmed that there was nothing to report.

#### **iii Playing Field**

- Play area redevelopment - Cllr May has heard back from a resident with a background in play area development and is arranging to meet him to prepare an outline of what might be done with an estimate of the cost.
- Dog signage - new signage received, requires installation.
- Ian Rees, Dorset AONB schools event scheduled for 07.02.24.

### **8617. Footpaths and Rights of Way**

Cllr Cannon provided the following updates:

- BW1 Bridleway off Smishops Lane - depression at side of footpath has been reported as a hazard.
- FP7 Cherry Lane - bench has been installed
- FP33 and FP37 - all fingerposts have been repaired.
- FP32 - Kissing Gate has been refurbished by landowners.

## **Loders Parish Council**

### **8618. Roads, Transport and Drains**

- i. Waddon Way and Smishops Lane - collapsed bank - road closure notices received in relation to Smishops Lane each for differing periods yet road remains passable. Yellow Lane also suffered collapsed bank which was cleared by Dorset Council with spoil deposited in Waddon Way. Email received from Chris Loder MP dated 16.01.24 seeking information on road issues at Waddon Way and Smishops Lane. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would write to Dorset Council Highways to suggest a site meeting as soon as possible with Dorset Council Highways, Chris Loder and members of Lodors Parish Council to clarify the position and see what can be done.
- ii. Gribb Farm, Shipton Road - Resident met with Dorset Council subcontractors Quantum Geotech in December to look at bank stability. Update now awaited.
- iii. Trailway project - Cllr Cannon reported that the Transport Working Group had prepared five options for a possible non-road route to Bridport. Kevin Humphreys of Dorset Council independently prepared seven potential options. The Working Group is now aligning the two sets of options and mapping them and plans to meet to discuss them further at their next meeting in February. It is hoped Kevin Humphries will be able to attend.
- iv. Smishops Lane collapsed bank update - see minute 8617 i.
- v. Uploders road markings - repainting will be carried out by Dorset Council under 2024/25 budget if 2023/24 budget does not allow.
- vi. EV Charging - Village Hall site meeting took place with Village Hall Committee member and Dorset Council but the site was deemed not suitable with Well Plot suggested as an alternative. It was agreed that Cllr Canon will clarify who is to be responsible for progressing this - Transport Working Group or Village Hall Committee; he should involve Matt Clayton of Charging Ahead at Dorset Council and Magna Housing.
- vii. Knowl Lane Erosion - erosion damage to Knowl Lane reported by resident. Cllr Canon confirmed that this is an Unsurfaced Unclassified County Road (i.e. not a footpath or bridleway) and the Clerk should report the damage to Dorset Council Highways, at the same time notifying the resident that this had been done.

### **8619. Climate and Environment Issues**

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

- Making it happen - agreed that notes of the meetings of each of the three community working groups should be circulated to each member of the Parish Council with a copy to the Clerk.
- Natural Assets - led by Cllr Bryce and Cllr Pullan. Meeting of working group held on 15.01.24. WhatsApp group has been set up. Swift box group workshop to make swift boxes to be arranged in April; in the meantime, £100 sought from the Parish Council to purchase some. This was agreed.
- Transport update - led by Cllr Cannon. See above agenda item 8618 (iii) for Trailway Project and (vi) for EV Charging.
- Renewable's update - led by Cllr May. Next meeting 24.01.24 to receive results of researches into Retrofitting, Energy Local, Bridport and the Salway Ash wind turbine and the Swaffham Prior rural heat network.

Next meeting of the Climate & Ecological Emergency Strategy Working Group - Tuesday 30.01.24 at 7.00 p.m. via Zoom. Clerk to arrange.

### **8620. Village Hall Report**

Cllr Bryce reported on two matters: EV charging point - see above agenda item 8618 (vi); and that the Village Hall Committee is considering work on the hedging at the Village Hall.

## **Loders Parish Council**

### **8621. Loders Arms Defibrillator**

Manual now received from Stryker to determine if the defibrillator is still in working order. No progress on Clerk's defibrillator report

### **8622. Communications**

- i. Broadband - AllPoints Fibre - Fern Trading has reorganised its Fibre To The Premises (FTTP) into two divisions following the consolidation of Jurassic Fibre, Swish Fibre, Giganet and AllPoints Fibre in February. AllPoints Fibre will serve as the group's national wholesale network with Cuckoo serving as the national ISP Brand.
- ii. Analogue switch off - Cllr Pullan reported that the analogue switch off is planned for the summer of 2024. There is concern in the community about the effect on the vulnerable in the event of a power cut: battery back-up will be provided but this will only work for one hour. Agreed that the Clerk would write to the DAPTC seeking guidance on what the Parish Council can do.
- iii. Succession planning for 2024 elections - currently there are two vacancies on the Parish Council. Four councillors stated that they intend to stand again, three have yet to finally decide and one will not be standing.
- iv. Archiving - Clerk is continuing with this, to be completed by 31.03.24.

### **8623. To review correspondence received**

- Knowl Lane Erosion - Clerk to report the damage to Dorset Council Highways, at the same time notifying the resident that this had been done.
- Road issues at Smishops Lane and Waddon Way - Clerk to write to Dorset Council Highways to suggest a site meeting as soon as possible with Dorset Council Highways, Chris Loder MP and members of the Parish Council to clarify the position and see what can be done

### **8624. Website and Eggardon & Colmers View**

Successful establishment of Climate Emergency community working groups: each group leader to provide Cllr R Newberry with briefing before 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024. Budget and precept information to be added to website.

### **8625. Agenda items for next meeting on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024.**

None.

Meeting closed 9.35pm.

**Chairman:** *M Warrington*

**Date:** *20<sup>th</sup> February 2024*