

Draft minutes subject to approval

# **Lydford Parish Council**

## **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2013**

**Present:** Cllrs Moriarty, Evenett, Skeaping, Dicker, Cox, Leigh-Tyrer & Fowler.

**Also Present:** 15 members of the public.

The Clerk welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that as this was the Annual General Meeting, Items 1 & 2 on the Agenda would be taken first to establish Chair and Vice. The meeting would then adjourn for Public Time.

**1. Election of Chairman.**

Cllr Leigh-Tyrer nominated Cllr Fowler to stand again as Chair. This was seconded by Cllr Moriarty. There were no other nomination, the vote was carried and the Chair accepted by Cllr Fowler. Cllr Fowler took the Chair at this point.

**2. Election of Vice Chairman.**

Cllr Evernett nominated Cllr Leigh-Tyrer to stand again as Vice Chair. This was seconded by Cllr Moriarty. There were no other nomination, the vote was carried and the Vice Chair accepted the role.

**The meeting was suspended for public time.**

Members of the public expressed their disagreement with the Council's decision not to be the 'umbrella body' for the proposed playground. Concern was raised that by holding the AGM before the Annual Parish meeting, the Council was limiting the time for public debate. Councillor Fowler responded by saying that not only could the public speak during this period, but that she would also invite dialogue under the agenda item dealing with the playground. There would be a further opportunity for the public to express their views during the following Annual Parish Meeting.

A member of the public requested that the draft minutes of the meetings be put on the website. This was briefly discussed and agreed that this would be done.

**3. Apologies**

None.

**4. Declarations of Interest.**

None. Otherwise as declared in the Register.

**5. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2013.**

The minutes were approved as accurate and signed by Cllr Fowler.

**6. Matters arising from the Minutes of the Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2013.**

**a) Proposed playground at Lydford Sports Field (see correspondence)**

Cllr Fowler opened the discussion and invited the members of the public to participate. Cllr Fowler spoke in partial response to the letter received from Mr Williams; covering precept, Clerks time, public money, Sports Field Committee. Discussions took place on other management agreements used by other Parish Council for similar projects and Cllr Fowler advised that sight of such an agreement which is in use, would be beneficial for further investigation. Councillors asked questions of the proposers covering grants, Sports Field Committee, Fields in Trust Status etc.

The Parish Council's role was discussed with some confusion from members of the public feeling that the Parish Council had a responsibility to provide a recreational area. Cllr Fowler clarified the role of Parish Councils with regard to recreational areas i.e. that they have the power, but not the responsibility, of provision.

In summary the members of public urged the Parish Council to reconsider and assist the playground committee by taking on the role of the Umbrella Body, with minimal financial input (costs yet to be agreed). The proposers advised that the agreement could be worded to include the condition of a Playground Committee (with a Parish Council Representative) to run the project and fundraise for expenditure not covered by grants. After further discussions, Councillors felt that additional information and explanations had been provided and that the proposal should be reconsidered. Cllr Fowler therefore proposed that the Parish Council take on the role of the required Umbrella Body with a caveat that the Playground Committee to run the project and fundraise for maintenance and other works not covered by grants and that this caveat be included in the formal agreement. This was seconded by Cllr Skeaping and agreed.

Apart from one who remained, the members of the public thanked the Parish Council and left the meeting.

The Clerk clarified that she had not proceed with the purchase of dog bins due to the price being significantly higher than expected and because of additional information that had arrived from West Devon regarding the dog warden scheme etc. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the WD Environmental Health to discuss this further before any purchases are made.

**7. Reports from outside bodies.**

None.

**8. Borough Councillor's Report.**

Cllr Moyse gave a verbal report as stand in Borough Councillor.

**9. Finances.**

The Clerk advised of the cheques for payment:

£321.96 Mrs Luke for May 2013 salary including expenses

£57.00 Inland Revenue May 2013

£18.00 Grass Contract

£320.44 Parish Council Insurance Premium

The payments were approved.

**10. Planning Applications.**

**0214/13 Proposed replacement dwelling and garage, Homefield, Vale Down, Lydford.** Councillors agreed to support the application.

**0225/13 Proposed certificate of lawfulness for an existing use of a building as a dwelling at The Garage, Lydford, Okehampton.** Councillors agreed to support the application.

**0233/13 Proposed construction of extension to farm shop.** Councillors agreed to support the application.

**11. Correspondence.**

The Correspondence had been previously circulated.

At this point, Mr R Taylor, DNPA requested that he make a verbal report. This was agreed and Mr Taylor reported on works of the DNPA over the last year and plans for the next year, Ten Tors, Outreach Vehicle and works at the Primary School for their vegetable patch. Cllr Moriarty asked who was responsible for the gate on the Granite Way where the latch is broken. This was clarified as DCC and the Clerk was asked to contact Mr T Freeman to report this for repair.

The Clerk advised that she would draft a response to Mr Williams's letter with the aid of the Chair and to advise formally of the Parish Council's decision. Cllr Fowler requested Councillors consider being the Parish Council Representatives on the Playground Committee. Cllrs Leigh-Tyrer and Cox volunteered to be Representatives and this was agreed.

**12. Agenda Items and Date of next Meeting.**

The date of the Meeting will be on 18th June at 7pm. Agenda items to include Dog Bins.

**13. Urgent additional business by leave of the Chair.**

Parking in Silver Street was discussed and noted that residents had approached the persons concerned without success. The Clerk was therefore asked to contact PC Chappell and request that he keep an eye on the parking.

Cllr Skeaping advised of a resident who had complained of noise disturbance at night coming from the Sewerage Works and requested this be noted.

The Meeting was closed at 8.20pm.

Signed

Date