

Draft minutes subject to approval

Lydford Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 19th October 2010

Present: Cllrs Holland, Moriarty, Boyd, Cole & Leigh-Tyrer.

Also Present: 12 members of the public.

Absent: Cllrs Gannon & Brookes. Cllr McPhie, Borough Councillor.

The Minutes of the Meeting were taken by the Clerk, Mrs Luke.

At 6.30pm Cllr Holland invited those present to address the Councillors regarding 1) Schedule 14 Application on the agenda and 2) Lydford Public Toilets.. The representative of SW Riders spoke (the group applicant) on 1) the application, explaining why the application had been submitted, the user evidence, proof of use and the recent survey carried out on which 74 persons had signed giving their support of the application. The application and survey had been copied to the Parish Council and the Clerk confirmed that this had been received the day before the meeting. Another member of the public questioned the evidence, stating that for many years he had walked the path to school and later on, to work and had never seen any horses or evidence of horse tracks. This opened a lively discussion amongst the public present. Several horse riders spoke of many years of use whilst other persons present disputed this. A number of questions were raised; one being that if the change of use was granted then this would then allow the route to be open to cyclists, the Hunt, as well as walkers. Health and safety concerns were raised and questions put to the applicant representative on whether the route was passable by multiple users and use of the river crossing. Concerns were also raised that some persons that had signed the survey, had reportedly now written to DCC to retract their signature due to possible misunderstanding or misleading information. 2) The public toilets were discussed further to correspondence received from WDBC and the recent article from the Parish Council in the Parish Magazine. The Clerk advised that only one email had been received with concerns over potential closure, the effect on the tourism and possible misuse of the car park without the facilities being open. After a short discussion, it was suggested by a member of the public that the Parish Council respond to WDBC asking that the toilets remain open for essential tourism use, to state that Lydford especially attracts multiple tourists due to its History and is not used by residents of Lydford. Also to suggest that if funding were an issue then costs should be discussed with DNPA, English Heritage and the Tourist Board.

General public time commenced at 7.10pm. A member of the public reported that a resident has complained to her over dustbins being left outside her property. The dustbins belong to another property that is not currently reached by the refuse trucks. Cllr Holland and the Clerk advised that the Parish Council would not get involved with a neighbour dispute and suggested that the concerned resident should complain to WDBC and the owner of the bins directly.

Cllr Holland opened the meeting at 7.15pm.

1. Apologies

Cllrs Gannon & Brookes.

2. Declarations of Interest

As recorded in the Register.

3. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st September 2010.

The minutes were agreed as accurate and signed by the Chair.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st September 2010.

a) The Clerk advised that, still, no correspondence had been received on the Granite Way Consultation for Multi Use. The Clerk was asked to chase again.

b) Public Toilets. The comments raised at the beginning of the meeting were noted and it was agreed that the Clerk should respond to WDBC raising the issues discussed.

5. Reports from Outside Bodies

DNPA - Cllr Leigh-Tyrer would be attempting to make the next meeting on 26th November 2010 and was asked to raise the matter of the future of Lydford Public Toilets.

Police – No report

Southern Parishes Link Committee – no report

Nicholls Hall – Cllr Boyd reported that the outside works were not yet completed. New chairs were due at the end of the month.

6. Borough Councillors Report

No report from Cllr McPhie had been received. Miss Moyse, member of the public, asked if she could ask for feedback on the new refuse collection contract, in her position as a West Devon Borough Councillor. Cllr Holland advised Miss Moyse that Cllr McPhie had not notified the Parish Council of her authorisation for Miss Moyse to speak at this item and therefore Miss Moyse's request to speak was declined.

7. Finances

The Clerk advised of the cheques for payment:

£17 Mr Liversidge for grass cutting

£276.30 Mrs Luke for salary and expenses

£57.09 Inland Revenue

The payments were approved.

The Clerk advised of a letter just received from the RBL Poppy Appeal. As last year, it was agreed to donate £40 for 2 wreaths.

8. Planning Applications

Schedule 14 Application to Devon County Council: Upgrade of footpath nos 41, 49 & 10 (part), Lydford to Bridleway

The comments raised at the beginning of the meeting were discussed and the Councillors felt that, at this stage, they could neither support or object to the application due to the divide of opinions amongst the residents of Lydford. No Councillor had opportunity to read through the copied application as it had only been received by the Clerk the previous day. It was therefore agreed that,

at this stage, the Parish Council could make no formal comment apart from the obvious health and safety risks of fast flowing water. It was noted however that the Councillors had yet to read through the copied application and that this would be attempted before the deadline for comments of Friday 22nd October and that the Clerk would finalise the response to DCC upon hearing further from the Councillors.

9. Correspondence

The Clerk read through the Correspondence received. No actions were required.

10. Agenda Items and Date of next Parish Council Meeting

Items were discussed and agreed: Draft Budget for 2011/2012. The next meeting would be held on 16th November 2010 at 7pm.

11. Urgent additional business by leave of the Chair.

None.

The Meeting was closed at 7.40 pm.

Signed

Date