

Draft minutes subject to approval

Lydford Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 14th October 2014

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

Also Present: Mrs S Holland, Mr I Howe, Mr S Powne, Mr T Williams, members of the public. Ms D Moyse, WD Borough Councillor.

Cllr Fowler welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited members of the public to speak.

Mr Powne reported a large pothole in the car park opposite The Castle Inn and also raised concerns over missing pointing on the bridge by the cycle track. Cllr Leigh-Tyrer advised that he had seen contractors looking at the bridge recently. The Clerk was asked to report both matters to the relevant authorities.

Mrs Holland advised that she was attending to give information on the sundial and flagpole maintenance. Cllr Fowler confirmed that she would invite Mrs Holland to speak under Item 4. Mrs Holland asked if the Parish Council had ordered the Poppy Wreaths for the forthcoming Remembrance Day. The Clerk was asked to check this. Mrs Holland also raised concerns that the Parish Website was not being kept up to date. The Clerk was asked to check this with the Administrator and Parishioners were reminded to refresh the website page to bring up the latest version.

Mr Howe from the Caravan Park advised that the Park would shortly close for the winter. Mr Howe advised that the Caravan Park has been collecting donations for the proposed Playground and has now invited Mr Williams to come and collect the funds. Mr Howe requested any ideas from the Parish Council for a local project to collect donations for in 2015. Cllr Fowler congratulated Mr Howe on a successful first season at the Caravan Park and thanked him for being a good neighbour to the Parish. Mr Howe left the meeting.

Cllr Fowler read aloud a written report of concerns from an anonymous Parishioner who requests that the Parish Council's response be minuted. Cllrs discussed the items raised and agreed comments as follow (in bold):

1. It has been brought to my attention that a rumour is circulating in the village that the playground committee is a subcommittee of the Parish Council. If so, are the Parish Council receiving minutes of the meetings held and a financial and progress update as to the funding for the proposed playground? **No - the playground committee is not a subcommittee of the Parish Council but do nevertheless receive the minutes of their meetings. There is a comprehensive website www.lydfordplayground.co.uk giving updates to the public. Funds, to date, are held in the Parish Council account and itemised separately to public funds.**

2. Should the representatives of the Parish Council be giving a report under Outside Bodies? **No – as we receive a regular comprehensive update from Mr Williams.**
3. Are the members of the playground committee appointed or elected by the Parish Council? **No – the members who brought the proposal forward initially have formed the committee.**
4. It is also rumoured that if the total amount needed to finish the project is not fully funded, the outstanding amount and ongoing maintenance/insurance costs are to be underwritten by the Parish Council. **No – the Parish Council will not meet any shortfall, rather, it will expect the project to be modified in line with the actual funds raised. The playground committee will continue to fundraise for maintenance costs.**

It was noted that Mrs Mills, the Public Rights of Way Officer for Devon County Council is expected to attend the November meeting.

1. Apologies

None.

2. Declarations of Interest.

Cllr Leigh-Tyrer declared his interest in the Appeal lodged against the refusal of planning application 0123/14 at land adjacent to Lydford School, as he has carried out site works for the land owner (applicant). Cllr Skeaping also declared his interest in the same appeal, as the applicant proposes a holiday let. Otherwise as recorded in the Register.

3. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th September 2014.

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

4. Matters arising from the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th September 2014.

Item 8 Cllrs discussed the response from the Planning Officer regarding the sign at the Farm Shop and discussed concerns in the village that the conditions being imposed by DNPA could threaten the viability of the shop. It was agreed to re-send the Parish Council's concerns to Mr Beli of DNPA and request a personal response.

Item 8 It has been confirmed that the gate belongs to English Heritage who have locked the access to prevent damage to the gate in bad weather.

Item 11 The telephone box has, again, been placed on the BT schedule of maintenance for the following year – having slipped through the net this year.

The sundial and flagpole were discussed with members of the public invited to join the discussion. Cllr Skeaping reported that he had cleaned the sundial and had been advised not to repaint until the Spring. Mrs Holland advised that she had some gold leaf paint for the top of the sundial, that would match the gates of Nicholls Hall. It was ascertained that the flagpole comes apart and is easy to take down for cleaning. Mr Powne volunteered to remove the flagpole and Cllr Leigh-Tyrer agreed to wash it.

Other matters arising:

a) Grass Contract

It was agreed that the triangle outside Hawthorn Road was the only area required to be cut. The Clerk was asked to obtain a couple of quotations for cuts three times per year between April and October.

a) Speed Limits.

Cllr Tainsh spoke regarding the seemingly impossible task of finding out the criteria for a 20 mph limit and wondered that if Lydford did not meet the criteria, whether it would meet criteria for traffic calming furniture. Cllr Skeaping objected to any street furniture. It was agreed that Cllr Tainsh would forward details of a contact at Devon County Council to the Clerk for further contact to be made requesting that the Parish Council is provided with the current criteria for a 20 mph limit and if not available, to explain why. Cllrs discussed a possible TAP fund application to obtain vehicle activated signs in the village.

b) Website.

Cllr Tainsh gave a verbal report on possible options to the Parish Council for management of a website. It was agreed that no Cllr on the Parish Council was adequately qualified to create a website and train the Clerk and until such a time that a solution is found, the website would remain as it is.

5. Reports from outside bodies.

Cllr Tainsh continued the subject of speed limits and gave feedback from the Southern Links meeting and a successful TAP fund application that has resulted in vehicle activated signs in Lifton and Milton Abbot.

Mr Williams gave a verbal report on the progress of the playground committee and summarised various grant applications that are in progress. Mr Williams advised of a draft management agreement received, that now needs to be tailored to the requirements of the Parish Council and Sports Field Committee. It was agreed that the Chair, the Clerk, Mr Williams and Mr Brooks would meet to work on an amended draft. Mr Williams confirmed that DNPA have advised that no planning permission is required and also mentioned the possibility of a TAP fund application in conjunction with Brentor Parish. Cllr Skeaping praised Mr Williams for his ongoing work on the playground committee on behalf of the children in the Parish.

Members of the public left the meeting.

6. Borough Councillors Report.

Cllr Moyse gave a verbal report on the Boundary Review and West Devon Housing.

7. Finances.

The Clerk advised of the cheques for payment:

£87.00 SLCC Subscription

£303.55 Mrs Luke for October 2014 including expenses

£57.60 Inland Revenue October 2014

The payments were approved. The Clerk was asked to bring the Insurance Schedule to the next meeting.

8. Planning Applications.

Cllrs noted that an appeal has been lodged for the refusal of application 0123/14 proposed conversion of stone barn to holiday let and re-build shed at land adjacent to Lydford Primary School. The Clerk reminded the Cllrs that the Parish Council supported the application when consulted by DNPA. Cllrs considered whether any additional comments needed to be made and it was agreed to that there was no further comments to make.

0546/14 Proposed first floor extension (loft conversion) for carer's accommodation at Springers, Vale Down, Lydford. Cllrs discussed the application and it was agreed to support it.

14/0044 Proposed tree works at Avalon, Lydford

It was agreed to support the works.

9. Correspondence.

The correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting and dealt with under previous items.

10. Agenda Items and Date of next meeting.

The date of the next meeting will on 11th November 2014 with agenda items for the Code of Conduct and Website.

11. Urgent additional business by leave of the Chair.

None.

The Meeting was closed at 8.30pm.

Signed

Date