

04/2020

Minutes of the Meeting of Lydford Parish Council held online on Tuesday 14th April 2020, 7.00pm

Present: Cllr. Squires (Chair); Cllr Cook; Cllr. MacIntyre; Cllr. Skeaping; Cllr Blackmore; Cllr Tainsh; John Bright (Clerk); Cllrs Mott & Southcott (Borough Councillors).

Public Discussion:

The Council began by discussing requests received from parishioners. It was agreed that the Parish News can be hosted online on the Council website for the duration of the Covid-19 crisis. **(AP1)**

Councillors agreed to begin exploring how the end of the Covid crisis might be celebrated in the village.

Following a number of complaints raised with a variety of different authorities The Council wished to remind parishioners that the Police and Councillors are satisfied that the Lydford Camp Site has been closed to visitors for a number of weeks and that only full time, lawful residents remain on site.

Meeting commenced 7:10pm

1) Apologies for absence:

Cllr Grigg. Accepted.

2) Declarations of interest:

None declared.

3) Minutes of previous meeting:

The published draft minutes of the meeting of 10th March 2020 were approved by all as a true record. Proposed – Cllr Squires, Seconded – Cllr Blackmore. All in favour. The minutes to be duly amended and agreement noted.

4) Matters arising from previous meeting:

None

5) Reports from outside bodies:

None

6) Report from Borough Councillor:

There have been over 840 applications for business support grants received by WDBC. Over 50% of these have already been paid.

SpeedWatch is currently not operating because of the need for social distancing.

Cllr Mott asked that any businesses that have not already done so to register with WDBC:

<https://westdevon.gov.uk/covid19business>

7) Emergency Planning

Cllrs approved the Emergency Plan developed by Cllrs Tainsh and MacIntyre.

Cllr Tainsh updated the Council on the village's response to the Covid-19 crisis: the members of the Volunteer Group have been managing well with demand to date. Pharmacy collections are being carried out. No-one has been asked for help as yet; people seem determined to cope wherever possible. However it is to be expected that there will be more requests for assistance as the lock-down continues.

Councillors resolved to establish an emergency fund specifically to deal with Covid – related requests for assistance. Proposed Cllr Cook, Seconded Cllr Squires. All in favour. (AP2)

8) Future meetings

Cllrs agreed to suspend physical meetings of the Council for the duration of the present Social Distancing guidelines, in favour of virtual meetings. It was resolved that in line with the 2020 Coronavirus Regulations the Annual Parish Meeting will be postponed until May 2021. Current postholders (Chair & Vice-Chair) to continue in post for the coming year. Proposed Cllr Tainsh, Seconded Cllr MacIntyre. All in favour.

Cllr Squires agreed to write the Annual Report for website publication.

9) Climate Emergency (Standing Item)

Cllrs agreed to put this matter back until the end of Covid-19 restrictions.

10) Public toilets (Standing Item)

Cllrs agreed to put this matter back until the end of Covid-19 restrictions.

11) Finance:

a) Payments:

Cllrs resolved to make the following payments –

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| J Bright (Pay March) | £ 249.28 |
| HMRC (PAYE March) | £ 57.80 |
| J Bright (Expenses) | £ 59.98 (Covid emergency 'phones) |
| DM Payroll Services | £ 81.00 (Staff payroll & tax service) |
| Nicholls Hall Hire (2019-20) | £ 66.00 |
| ROSPA (Play area inspection) | £ 82.20 |
| DALC (Affiliation fees) | £ 90.47 |
| CPRE (Membership renewal) | £ 36.00 |

All payments to be made online

Proposed – Cllr Squires, seconded – Cllr Skeeping, all in favour.

12) Planning Applications

Cllrs agreed to support the Change of Use application 0163/20 Downtown Farm

In light of DNP's failure to register the Council's recommendations in regard to a previous application, it was felt necessary to look at producing a Neighbourhood Plan for Lydford.

13) Policies

Cllrs resolved to accept the following Council policies:

- i) Privacy Policy
- ii) Publication Scheme & Schedule of Fees
- iii) Grant Policy
- iv) Financial Control Policy – Cllr Blackmore to monitor & sign quarterly bank reconciliations.

Proposed – Cllr Cook, seconded Cllr MacIntyre. All in favour.

14) Correspondence

Discussed.

15) Other Business by permission of the Chair

It was noted that Highways are still working on the roads. Now might be a good time to report potholes and other issues.

Meeting closed 20:00

Next meeting Tuesday 12th May 2020. This meeting to be held online.

Signed.....Position.....Date.....

| Point | Action | Completed |
|-------|---|---------------------|
| AP1 | Clerk to post Parish News to the Council website when published | Completed 25.4.2020 |
| AP2 | Clerk to create separate Covid-19 emergency fund and transfer into funds already received from WDBC | Completed 15.4.2020 |