

LOXHORE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

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Minutes

Date: Thursday 2nd January 2020

Venue: Loxhore Village Hall

Present: Chris Bryars {Chair}
Mike Young {Vice Chair and Clerk}
Carole Delve {Councillor}
Jane Vanstone {Councillor}
Ray Comer {Parishioner}
Mike Matthews {Parishioner}

Minutes taken by: Mike Young {Clerk}

The Chair opened the meeting at 18:00 and wished all present a Happy New Year (2020 – MMXX)

1. Apologies: Received from Malcolm Prowse
2. Declarations of interest: None
3. All councillors present agreed that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 7th November 2019 were a true and accurate record of that spoken and the Chair signed accordingly.

4.0	<u>Action points from previous meeting dated 7th November 2019</u>	
4.1	<p>Highway Community Enhancement Fund:</p> <p>Council discussed the flood water over road between Oak and Corner cottages. It has been flowing across the road from where the RAM is. Ownership of the RAM and the land associated needs to be verified. CD will seek information and legal documents. CD reported that documents still being sought. Clerk to do land registry search to see who owns area Council or Hall.</p> <p>Additional potential flooding is possible and potential road closure due to erosion of edge of road near Oak Cottage. Clerk to log the problem on the DCC interactive reporting system which AD informed the PC goes straight to the contractor. Post meeting the clerk did this and DCC reference is W191274282. Response received as Highways officer visited. No immediate danger but he will seek funds to strengthen the bank. Clerk will monitor. Further erosion has since occurred and all are urged to upgrade the matter on the Devon Highways website using the reference number above.</p> <p>CD reported that she has done some verge clearing with a local tractor owner (Carl). He is happy to do more and she will organise a date and working party. He charges £27.50 per hour. CD reported that 8 hours now done and a little more to do. Verges much improved, well done.</p> <p>Clerk had contacted SWW reference hydrant marker that was leaning more and more into</p>	<p>CD MY</p> <p>MY ALL</p>

	road opposite corner cottage. SWW visited in two days and removed it!	Closed
4.2	<p>Parish Paths:</p> <p>(7 Nov 2019) A parishioner had raised a question to Council who asked AD about possible downgrading of two Byways to bridleways to stop motorcycles spoiling the surface (Longpot and Bratton Lanes). Clerk to write to AD with details. Post meeting Clerk did this and the following reply was received from Devon Highways. “We periodically get requests to downgrade Byways Open to All Traffic. The Byways were originally recorded as roads, and were only brought onto the Definitive Map at the time of the review to give them some protection, in line with Devon County Council’s policy at the time. To downgrade them to Bridleways only would require the vehicular rights to be stopped up or extinguished. As such, I think this would have to be done through the Magistrates Court, and any order made by the Council would be subject to public consultation and possible objection too. If this is something you wish to investigate further, please let me know and I can ask my colleagues at County Hall to provide a more detailed picture.” Subsequently information was received as follows “Highway authorities can place various restrictions on traffic within their areas by way of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) made under Parts I, II and IV of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended. Section 1(1) states that permanent orders may be made for the following purposes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The traffic authority for a road outside Greater London may make an order under this section (referred to in this Act as a “traffic regulation order”) in respect of the road] where it appears to the authority making the order that it is expedient to make it— <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) for avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising, or (b) for preventing damage to the road or to any building on or near the road, or (c) for facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians), or (d) for preventing the use of the road by vehicular traffic of a kind which, or its use by vehicular traffic in a manner which, is unsuitable having regard to the existing character of the road or adjoining property, or (e) (without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (d) above) for preserving the character of the road in a case where it is especially suitable for use by persons on horseback or on foot, or (f) for preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the road runs” <p>(2 Jan) Clerk has written stating that It seems from this that Devon County Highways Authority already has the powers it needs to fix our issue without recourse to magistrates and we would welcome Devon Highways view on this. Reply awaited.</p> <p>(2 Jan 2020) The bridge on FP1 by Shirwell farm has been damaged by flooding. The landowner believes it is unsafe for pedestrians. This is to be reported urgently to DCC footpaths. Following the meeting JV did this and the following is logged “Devon Highways - Public Right of Way - W 201289845</p> <p>Thank you for the following report:</p>	Clerk

	<p>Problem: Public Right of Way, Public Information Portal, Public Right of Way Location: Loxhore Footpath 1, Loxhore Date Reported: 03 / 01 / 2020 10: 14:00</p> <p>The details have been sent to our team so that an assessment can be carried out. We anticipate that this assessment will be completed by 24 / 01 / 2020.”</p> <p>The signpost at Blackpool bridge has been damaged and needs to be reported to DCC Highways. Additionally, the road sign indicating bend at the top of Longpot lane on the paved road has been damaged badly by the hedge trimmer. CB to try and find out from land owners who did the work and get sign replaced under their insurance. Failing that it is to be reported to DCC.</p>	JV CB CB
4.3	<p>(7th March §9.2) JM raised the observation about possible unplanned development in the field up the Bridleway at the side of Barton Court. They are still trying to locate the tenants of the other site. Reply received from NDDC: Thank you for your email. I have now managed to access the site and already have evidenced the removal of all but one non-agricultural vehicles and the removal of the UPVC windows from the lean too adjacent to the barn. The owner has therefore partly complied with our request. The site visit showed no signs of residential occupation and the shipping containers had been on site for over 10 years. I have passed on the report to the planning officer to consider and as soon as I have received an instruction, I can update you. We don't, as a rule, update after each site visit; only when a decision and instruction have been received. MM, parishioner, stated that the containers have only been located in the last few years and not more than 10 as stated. Clerk to write to NDDC enforcement appropriately.</p>	Clerk
5.0	<u>Matters arising from meeting dated 7th November 2019</u>	
5.1	County Council News. Nil due to CC not present.	Closed
5.2	District Council News. Nil due to NDDC not present – apologies received.	Closed
5.3	<p>(2 Jan 2020) Two suggestion have been received regarding the red telephone box. One for potential use namely that if some shelving be provided it could be a gardener's swop facility in the spring and summer with seedlings fruit and veg etc. People depositing the items should be required to ensure that any remaining after a set time be removed to prevent decay!</p> <p>The other request was that Council consider installing a solar powered light in the box which would illuminate at night. Both suggestions were voted down by majority. MM stated that there was a light and he will kindly investigate whether a bulb failure or that power has been removed by Western Power. Clerk to liaise with MM</p>	Closed Clerk
5.4	<p>(7th November §8.1) CD reported that the shed where the Parish Tools are kept has been found open. It is suggested we buy a sturdy metal box that can be anchored and secured with a good lock. This will cost about £300. CB stated funds were available in the Highway Maintenance fund. CD to further investigate and order provided cost is as stated. CD will also check if items are insured by village hall policy. (2 Jan 2020) Council authorised CD to purchase the box (£258 + VAT). CD reported that the Village Hall secretary has been unable so far to cast light on the insurance. CD to pursue.</p>	CD CD
5.5	<p>(7th November §8.5) Devon Climate Emergency: Devon Carbon Plan. Council has been asked to consider endorsement for the County initiatives which the Councillors all agreed to. Further discussion ensued as to what Loxhore could do to help reduce the carbon footprint. MP said one of the things NDC is considering is to cease Green Bin (garden waste) pick up in rural areas as it is illogical to send diesel lorries out to move garden</p>	

		1,092.05	
		8,247.34	
	EXPENDITURE		
	DALC subscription	60.79	
	Clerk's expenses	165.96	
	Repairs to Village Phonebox	109.80	
	Village Hall - Maintenance grant	104.00	
	P.C.C. - Burial ground grant	200.00	
	Loxhore Village Broadband CIC	250.00	
	Barnstaple Records Office	50.00	
	Highway Maintenance Fund – Tarmac	0.00	
	Transparency code (website etc.)	0.00	
	Lineal Software – re broadband	0.00	
		<u>940.55</u>	
		<u><u>7,306.79</u></u>	
	Allocated:		
	P3 money	1,075.71	
	Transparency Code Funding	438.36	
	Parish maintenance fund	509.00	
	Highway maintenance fund	<u>3,389.93</u>	
		5,413.00	
	Non Ring-fenced Funds	<u>1,893.79</u>	
	Per Bank Account	<u><u>7,306.79</u></u>	
	NB The cheque to Loxhore Village Broadband CIC has not yet been issued. The company are hoping that the broadband installation may be completed in March 2020 and the company may not need any additional funds.		
			Closed
6.3	(7 Nov) NDDC are withdrawing Parish Council grants and advise to increase precept by similar amount. RFO advised that £850 would suffice. Advance application for precept of £850 submitted. (2 Jan) Final application due this month. Councillors agreed that clerk and chair should apply for £850 precept.		Closed
7.0	<u>Defibrillator Training</u> CD asked whether more training involving more people is needed or whether continuation training is a requirement. Nobody knew so CD agreed to check with the defibrillator company and report back.		CD
8.0	<u>Chair's Business</u>		
8.1	MY had received an invite from DALC for Council to propose past or present Chair for selection to Buckingham Palace Garden Party. Council voted for CB's name to be submitted.		Clerk
9.0	<u>Next meeting</u> The Chair closed the meeting at 19:05, thanking everyone for attending. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 5 th March 2020 at 18:00 in the Village Hall.		Closed

Minutes approved by Chair..... Date