

wa **LOXHORE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

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Minutes

Date: Thursday 4th November 2021

Venue: Loxhore Village Hall

Present: Chris Bryars {Chair}
Mike Young {Vice Chair and Clerk}
Suzanne Smith {Councillor}

Minutes taken by: Mike Young {Clerk}

The Chair opened the meeting at 18:30.

1. Apologies: Councillors Malcolm Prowse, Carole Delve and Jane Vanstone.
2. Declarations of interest: None
3. All councillors who had been present agreed that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 2nd September 2021 were a true and accurate record of that spoken and written. The Chair signed accordingly.

4.0	<u>Action points from previous meeting dated 2nd September 2021</u>	
4.1	<p>(Nov 2020 Para 7.3) P3 report reminder has come. Report due by February 2021. JV will be walking all paths over next few weeks and documenting any problems including an inventory of signs that cannot be read. P3 have offered stick on replacements and JV has indicated she can affix these to the signs. They have also given contact for contractor who can replace the damaged posts by the Methodist chapel, the pathway sign opposite Mr Baiment's house pointing up to Mr M Batson's house and the one on Loxhore Cott road that leads up to Longpot Lane behind the old quarry. (6 May 2021) JV has submitted the report (attached at Annex A). Financial details have not been completed as the subcontractor has not provided his estimate for the repairs. Signposts have now been fixed successfully after one was mounted the wrong way round. JV meeting soon with P3, Highways and possibly a contractor to discuss gullying on many paths and possible concrete at end of Red Lane. CB will ask Mike Matthews if he would consider planting a hedgerow along his/Tom Matthews boundary to help with preventing erosion and spoil coming down Bratton Lane.</p> <p>JV mentioned that she has been made aware of a possible old footpath near the church that might be resurrected. She is waiting for the old maps to be presented and will report back to council. She has also been informed of discourteous bike behaviour on one bridleway where it crosses a farm yard. This will be monitored. (July 2021) DCC have not yet held</p>	

	<p>the meeting above, JV will chase them again re meeting and extra signpost facias as not enough were sent. CB has yet to contact Mike Matthews but will do so. JV has had nothing further on old footpath nor the bikers. (2 Sept 2021) JV keeps trying to contact P3 at DCC but never gets a response. She will keep trying. CB contacted Mike Matthews who will look to installing a hedge as suggested. (Oct 2021) JV met with Ros Davis (P3 coordinator) and Simon Houghton last Thursday and walked several rights of way (byways 32, 31, bottom end of 33, footpath 8 from 31 to Hill Lane & 9) and discussed their ongoing maintenance / management.</p> <p>1 Byway (31) between Lower Loxhore and four cross way, this is suffering with gullying in the middle section due to runoff from fields during high rainfall events. It appears these are more common during winter than has previously been the case, the plan is to reduce the speed of the water so that it can carry less load. It is proposed that concrete sleepers will be set into the surface of the lane every 30m or so, the material should build up behind the sleepers and not progress down the lane making big piles of material at the bottom. We can also get some grading work done by a special agitating and compacting machine known colloquially as the Angry Minion. Simon will get quotes from a contractor and we can apply for the funding from P3 for a grant, work to be done next summer 2022.</p> <p>2 Footpath 9, this path has been unpassable for some years (at least 6), it needs a new signpost at the top end, and at the bottom, a replacement gate, and a sleeper bridge to ford the stream. The idea of moving the bottom end of the path to the area near the dam was immediately dismissed as it would require a legal diversion of the footpath which is more expensive and time consuming than the bridge building. Simon will get quotes from a contractor and we can apply for the funding from P3 for a grant, work to be done next summer 2022.</p> <p>3 footpath 8 I have been asked by several parishioners about dog gates on this route, these would benefit pedestrians as well as dogs as the styles are quite challenging through the fields. This reduces the paths usability and reduces access to the route. P3 will cover the cost of the gates but we would need funding for a contractor and possibly a couple of simple steps. This is on the wish list for the following year 2023.</p>	JV												
4.3	<p>(March 2020 para 7.2) Clerk asked if efforts could be made to find a Parish Clerk again as he is due to take the chair in May and cannot do Chair and Clerk July. (Nov 2020) Efforts continue to find a Parish Clerk. MY will not now be taking chair until May 2021 at the earliest. The potential candidate that the clerk had approached has declined. All to see if they can identify a candidate. (6 May 2021) As CB has kindly offered to remain as chair, MY can continue as clerk but we do need to find someone for this duty. All please continue to canvas a likely candidate, (NB: Does not have to be a parishioner) (Sept 2021) Ongoing. (nov 2021) Chair suggested an appeal via the Loxhore enews system with expected duties, hours and expense payment. All agreed and clerk will write accordingly.</p>	Clerk/ ALL												
5.0	<u>Matters arising from meeting dated 2 September 2021</u>													
5.1	County Council News. NIL	Closed												
5.2	District Council News. Nil	Closed												
6.0	<u>Finance</u>													
6.1	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>RFO's report 01.04.21 – 04.11.21</td> <td>Year to</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>date</td> <td></td> <td>Year to 31 March 2021</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bank balance 01.04.21</td> <td>7,139.09</td> <td>6,833.52</td> </tr> <tr> <td>INCOME</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	RFO's report 01.04.21 – 04.11.21	Year to		date		Year to 31 March 2021	Bank balance 01.04.21	7,139.09	6,833.52	INCOME			
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date		Year to 31 March 2021												
Bank balance 01.04.21	7,139.09	6,833.52												
INCOME														

	850.0		850.0
N.D.D.C. - Precept	0		0
			124.6
HMRC - VAT refund	50.66		1
			240.0
Devon C.C. - P3 Partnership	0.00		0
			177.0
Devon C.C. - Grant for insurance	0.00		0
			495.0
N.D.D.C. - Community Support Group	0.00		0
		900.66	1,886.61
		8,039.75	8,720.13
EXPENDITURE			
DALC subscription	52.00	49.00	52.00
	300.5	211.8	300.5
Clerk's expenses	3	4	6
	172.4		172.4
Insurance	1	0.00	1
	104.0		104.0
Village Hall - Maintenance grant	0	0.00	0
	200.0		200.0
P.C.C. - Burial ground grant	0	0.00	0
Devon CPRE		60.00	0.00
	250.0		250.0
Loxhore Village Broadband CIC	0	0.00	0
Barnstaple Records Office	50.00	0.00	50.00
Citizens Advice	50.00	0.00	50.00
Highway Maintenance Fund	0.00	25.83	0.00
	200.0	250.0	200.0
P3 Footpath maintenance	0	0	0
	132.4		132.4
Community Support Group	0	0.00	0
Sundry Expenses	21.98	15.98	21.98
Vat Paid	47.69	62.16	47.69
		674.81	1,581.04
		7,364.94	7,139.09
Allocated:			
P3 money		825.71	1,075.71
Transparency Code Funding		438.36	438.36
Parish maintenance fund		509.00	509.00
Highway maintenance fund		2,786.55	2,812.38
Loxhore Cmmunity Support Group		362.60	0.00
Loxhore Broadband CIC		0.00	0.00
		4,922.22	4,835.45
Non Ring-fenced Funds		2,442.72	1,748.13
Parish Council Funds		7,364.94	6,583.58
Balance per Bank Account		7,364.94	6,583.58

	VAT recoverable - year to 31 March 2022	<u>£ 62.16</u>	Closed
7.0	<u>Chair's Business</u>		
7.1	<p>RFO presented the estimated budget for next year to assess our required precept. NDDC will ask for this soon. Our running costs are insurance (£180), subscription to DALC (£50) and clerks expenses (£300), a total of £530. Costs of road maintenance and path maintenance are covered for the time being by funds being held specifically for these purposes. The only other expenses we have incurred in the past 2 years are donations to the Barnstaple Records office, CAB and a subscription to CPRE. We have a balance of about £2,400 currently available for general spending.</p> <p>RFO certainly doesn't think we should increase the precept and proposed that we leave the precept at its current level of 850. Councillors discussed and agreed the figure of £850. Clerk will submit this when requested in December.</p>		Clerk
7.2	A planning application 73936 had been received from Tony Webber for a covered manure store behind the barn at the top of Longpot Lane, Councillors all agree that it did not warrant a special meeting as there were no contentious issues. Application was approved by Parish Council.		Closed
7.3	The South West Heritage Trust is currently seeking funding so that they can continue to offer an archive service for northern Devon at the North Devon Record Office in Barnstaple. Last year we gave £50. Councillors discussed and agreed again to send £50 support as this service will remain available to parishioners locally and not be moved to Exeter. RFO will send a cheque.		Closed
8.0	<u>Next meeting</u> The Chair closed the meeting at 18:45, thanking everyone for attending. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 6th January 2022.		Closed

Minutes approved by Chair.....MY..... Date 6 Jan 2022