

LATTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
23 August 2023
Latton Parish Hall
at 7:37pm

Councillors present:

Cllr J Towner (Chairman) Cllr D Lloyd (Vice Chairman) Cllr R De'witt Cllr K Johnson

Clerk: Tina Jones

Others in Attendance: Wiltshire Councillor Jones and 2 Members of the Public

Public and Councillor Question Time: No questions were asked

MINUTES

23.55 Apologies for Absence

All present, Councillor Lloyd joined at Minute Reference 23.56.

23.56 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of Interest made and no requests for dispensations were received.

23.57 Chairman's Announcements

- Due to two episodes of vandalism, the picnic benches have been moved to the front of the Play Area to make them more visible. Reported issues with attempted break-ins to vehicles. Three youths on motorbikes have been seen around the village, all details have been passed on to the Police, who have stepped up patrols.
- The Police were invited to the meeting but were unable to attend, Police are going to arrange a visit to engage with residents.
- Reports that the defibrillator had been damaged, were unfounded on investigation.

23.58 Minutes of the previous meetings

Members considered the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 27 June 2023. Members ADOPTED the minutes as a true record, and they were signed by the Chairman.

Standing Orders were Suspended

23.59 Hall Project

Mr B Stevens - Chairman of Latton Parish Community Trust (LPCT) reported - main points:

- Mr Oram, Mr Stevens and a Trustee met on Monday, not a lot of activity happening at present.
- Thanks were given to WC Councillor Jones for progressing the planning application with Wiltshire Council, it is now at the stage where the legal side of the s106 is being drafted, the Trust is waiting on the outcome of this, as this is the mechanism for the transfer of land.
- From a charity point of view, there is a need to embrace the wider scope and support the community. The Trust should be supporting the other activities going on in the village. Mr Stevens would like to get together other groups e.g., Latton Garden Club, the Parish Council, the Canal Trust and from other areas of the community. This will ensure the Charity is focussing on the right place.
- In order to make the new Village Hall a viable proposition, the Trust will have to obtain further grants, not yet taken forward as waiting on the granting of planning permission.
- Meanwhile the Trust has been speaking with the PCC regarding the existing Hall, as they want to support them in keeping the current activities going.

Mr B Oram reported - main points:

- In September the project reaches the five-year point
- The S106 agreement has been 18 months since the Committee gave permission to go ahead, but delays continue.
- The donation is secure, but Mr Oram cannot help fund the project any further.

- He is now unable to build the six houses, so they will offer as building plots but to specific specifications.

WC Councillor Jones – Main Points:

- Asked for a 5-year timeline to be drawn up, once received he can take to a Wiltshire Council Full Council meeting and ask publicly (in writing). This action will draw the attention of the press, who will pick up on an issue like this.
- Mr Stevens agreed to help Mr Oram with the timeline, once completed, all parties to meet to discuss the content.
- Mr Oram to pass name of person in WC Legal Department dealing with the application to Wiltshire Cllr Jones, so he can contact him directly.

After consideration, Members AGREED that once the timeline was received and the meeting has taken place. The Clerk is to draft a letter from the Parish Council to the Leader of Wiltshire Council, Councillor Richard Clewer, letter expressing the concerns for the community over the planning delays. Mr Stevens as Chairman of LPCT agreed to also write a letter of support.

Standing Orders were Reinstated, and 1 Member of the Public left the meeting

23.60 **Wiltshire Councillor Report**

Members received an update from WC Councillor Jones, Main points were:

- Water Eaton is with contractors and should be actioned soon.
- Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Group (LHFIG) has a new Highways Engineer (Martin Rose) dealing with issues
- No planning update available on the Castle Eaton Biodigester, although the Highways Agency has objected to the traffic joining the A419.
- No update regarding the planning application for gravel extraction between the traffic lights on the Fairford Road.

23.61 **Clerks Report**

Members NOTED the report.

Actions 27 September meeting

Report of broken stile at Lake Louise – reported to Wiltshire Council with photograph of public repair– AUGUST UPDATE: Response received - WC has no issue with this. the stile is the responsibility of the landowner and if anyone had any issues with it would be against the landowner, it is also possible to walk around the stile -CLOSED.

Entrance to the Down Ampney track has been vandalised, gate timber smashed, and there are wheelchair/buggy access issues. Reported to Bidwells. UPDATE There are instructions in place to repair the gate. The access issues are being looked at.

21.24 Relocation of Waste Bin

Members AGREED to ask Wiltshire Council if the waste bin by the Play Area could be relocated to the start of the public footpath to Down Ampney. Wiltshire Council will move bin FOC. Bidwells are happy for bin to be sited near gateway. Clerk to advise WC.

22.85 Play Area Inspection

Members NOTED the inspection – main points: all low or very low risks identified. Gate (Play Area/Jubilee Garden) – level reinstatement required and removal of weeds vegetation from areas. Members AGREED to CLOSE as no longer an issue. Garden fence required re-tightening – UPDATE quote requested, visited site, quote not received.

22.112 Coronation Bench

Bench has arrived and is with Councillor Johnson. New bench is heavy, old bench is to be removed and disposed of. Councillor Johnson to speak to a resident re assistance re transport and storage. Meeting Update: Councillor Johnson and Councillor Lloyd to action

23.43 Flag

Flags have been purchased and is to be delivered to Councillor Johnson. CLOSED

23.50 Certificate of Exemption 2022 – 2023

The Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) Certificate of Exemption has been sent to External Auditors and acknowledgement received. CLOSED

23.52 Environmental Group and Visit to Hill's Resource Recovery Centre
Information regarding the new Wiltshire Council Planting Support (GAPS) Team. It has been formed in partnership with Swindon Borough Council's Great Western Community Forest. Funding has allowed the appointment of three Woodland Officers to form a Grant Application and Planting Support (GAPS) Team, in order to help communities and landowners deliver coordinated and appropriate tree planting across Wiltshire and Swindon. The Clerk sent the information on to Bidwells and the owners of Lake Louise - CLOSED, and to contact the team regarding the proposed Coronation tree - Email Sent.

23.53 Flooding and Emergency Planning
The WC FRO will help the Parish with a Plan and has provided maps to be included in the plan. Members NOTED the Parish's last emergency plan was dated 2018, the Clerk was asked to update it as much as possible using the new template, for Councillor input (Church Farm and Upcott to be added). Once updated and a draft plan considered, to forward to WC FRO, once it has been assessed by WC, a virtual meeting with the WC FRO to be arranged. ONGOING

23.54 Councillor Updates
Environmental Group – No representative - Article for a community representative placed in June Chronicle, to add to Facebook. Completed - CLOSED
LHFIG - Clerk to chase The Street metro count- LHFIG has confirmed it is on the list currently with no priority. CLOSED

Website
Website completed, Councillor Lloyd to receive website training along with the Clerk. CLOSED – see Minute Reference 23.63

Members NOTED the opportunity to attend the Wiltshire Neighbourhood Watch Association AGM on Saturday 7th October 2023, 10.00am until midday. Venue: Wiltshire Police HQ, London Road, Devizes.

23.62 **Financial Accounts & Bank Reconciliation**

Members NOTED the Bank Account figures, bank balance as of 28 July 2023 = £56,229.87 including ring fenced funding of £21,401.17. Members APPROVED the expenditure schedule.

23.63 **Website**

During a Suspension of Standing Orders, Mr B Stevens gave advice.
Members RESOLVED to accept the offer from the website provider of a 2-hour support block, to posting minutes/agendas to the website, uploading documents and images, uploading latest news items, changing wording, adding and removing pages and menu items. The support block is outside of the typical website support, already received. Members APPROVED a cost of £100.00 (one hundred pounds) for this service. Members AGREED that the Clerk would not receive website training only Councillor Lloyd. Standing Orders were Re-instated.

23.64 **Traffic Survey Results**

The survey results demonstrated that the combined 85%ile was 38.6mph. Therefore, the road does qualify for a Community Speed Watch. Clerk to email data to Councillor Johnson for him to take further action to reinstate the Latton Speedwatch Team.

23.65 **Community Facebook**

During a Suspension of Standing Orders, Mr B Stevens gave advice. Members AGREED that there was a misconception amongst residents that the current Facebook Group called Latton Village Community News was managed by the Parish Council, which is not the case. Members did not feel there was a need for two separate groups in the village either, the other being Latton Local and thought it would be better if they were amalgamated. Councillor Towner AGREED to discuss with the Administrators of Latton Village Community News.
Following discussions, Members AGREED that the Council should have its own Facebook page, solely for Parish Council information. Mr Stevens offered to provide more information for the next Council meeting. Standing Orders were Re-instated.

23.66 **Planning Applications**

Members RESOLVED to adopt procedures for responses outside of Parish meetings.

PL/2023/05701 – Householder Planning Permission
Address: Dukes Cottage, Driffild, Wiltshire GL7 5QY
Applicant: Mr W Hibbs Proposal: Alterations and extensions to existing dwelling
Members had considered this application and AGREED to make NO OBJECTIONS
PL/2023/06795 – Consent under Tree Preservation Orders
Address: Lavender Cottage, Latton, SN6 6D
Applicant: Wiltshire Council Highways Dept. Proposal: Fell Ash Tree in Verge
Members had considered this application and AGREED to make NO OBJECTIONS

23.67 **Extension of Temporary Closure of Footpath 13 (part)**

Members NOTED that the closure has been extended until 14 February 2024. Notices have been placed on the Noticeboards.

1 Member of the Public left the meeting

23.68 **Correspondence and Information**

Members NOTED:

- the launch of 'Explore Wiltshire' heritage app
- the July Newsletter from Age UK Wiltshire
- the new waste sorting facilities at WC Recycling Centres

During a Suspension of Standing Orders, WC Councillor Jones said that the Purton recycling facilities would not be able to offer this service for a while. Standing Orders were Reinstated.

23.69 **Data Protection Policy**

Members APPROVED the Data Protection Policy.

23.70 **D-Day 80**

Members NOTED the information received. Members AGREED to light the beacon on Thursday 6th June 2024 to commemorate the anniversary of D-Day. Clerk to complete registration. As the day has been declared a national fish and chip day. the Clerk was asked to make enquiries with mobile catering companies.

23.71 **Councillor Updates**

Area Board – Cllr Towner – Next Meeting 27 September in Cricklade Town Hall
Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Group (LHFIG) – Councillor Lloyd -Next meeting 11 October, 6pm in Cricklade Town Council Offices. Wiltshire Councillor Jones asked if there were any requirements for dropped kerbs in the village, Councillors could not identify any.
Safety Forum – Councillor Johnson: Next meeting is virtual on 9 September
Speed Indication Device (SID) – Cllrs De'witt/Johnson – Teams Meeting, Monday, 11 Sept - Data Roll Out Review Meeting. Plans to move SID to a different existing pole.
Speedwatch and Lorry Watch – Councillor Johnson: Covered under Minute Reference: 23.64
Recreation Hall Development – No representative – see Minute Reference 23.59 for update

Meeting Closed at 8.51pm