

LATTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
17 March 2020
7:30pm at the Village Hall, Latton

Councillors present:

Cllr P Rawsthorne (Chairman) Cllr B Hurst Cllr C Lennon Cllr D Lloyd (Vice-Chairman)

Others in Attendance: Wiltshire Councillor Jones

Health and Safety: The fire instructions on the entrance door were identified to those present.

Public Question Time: No questions were raised.

Councillor Question Time: No questions were raised.

MINUTES

19.103 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were given by Councillor Pritchard.

19.104 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

19.105 Dispensations

No requests for dispensation were received.

19.106 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman announced the resignation of Councillor Myszkowski, the Notice of Vacancy has been published which ends on 9 April 2020. After this date, the Council can consider any person wishing to be co-opted.

19.107 Minutes of the previous meeting

Members considered the minutes of 21 January 2020. The minutes were ADOPTED as a true record of the meetings and signed by the Chairman.

19.108 Wiltshire Councillor Update

Due to Covid-19, many Council meetings have been cancelled. Legislation is being reviewed with virtual meeting to be held in the near future.

19.109 Clerks Report – Members NOTED:

November PQT – Parish Stewards

Verges and Boundaries weeds, branches and shrub tidy – Request to Parish Steward.

Update: The Parish Stewards are still seconded to pothole filling although they should come on March 24 & April 21.

Gully Clearance

Requests have been made to Wiltshire Council to clear the gullies in Gosditch from junction with The Street to Limes Place up to the Church

2. The whole length of the old road (The Street) from the roundabout (leading off to Fairford) down to the next roundabout.

Update: Wiltshire Council has acknowledged receipt and the Councils requests are on the list. Email received 11 March, hope to be with us within 6 weeks.

Request for replacement 30 MPH signs

WC has confirmed an instruction has been made to replace the signs. The red surfacing will not be refreshed as it has been identified that this treatment at the entrances to villages is considered to be a maintenance liability with the material wearing within 5-6 years.

Members AGREED to CLOSE (pending WC action).

January PQT – Church Farm

WC confirmed Church Farm Road is an unadopted private development, and that access was only over the public highway and bridleway. Members AGREED to CLOSE

Solar Farm Donation – Water Eaton

This has been referred to CATG and is on the agenda for meeting on 18th March for discussion. Members AGREED to CLOSE (pending CATG action).

19.110 **Bus Services – Improvements**

Members NOTED the request from Wiltshire Council for suggestions for improved or enhanced bus services in Wiltshire, as Wiltshire Council has received £671,171 to do this.

Members AGREED that there was a requirement for an evening bus service through the village to stop the isolation it is causing to some residents in Latton as there are no buses after 6.40pm.

19.111 **Village Recreation Hall Development**

Members NOTED the report from Councillor Pritchard – main points were:

- A resubmission is to be made
- The number of houses is to be reduced
- The second access has been removed
- Mr Orman has raised issues with the WC Planning Department relating to timescales.

Following discussions, Members requested that Wiltshire Councillor Jones calls in the application at the appropriate time. Councillor Lloyd to draft a letter of support from the Council.

19.112 **Councillors Updates**

Speed Indicator Device - Cllr Rawsthorne SID is up and running data summary recorded fastest vehicle at 84mph. Members RESOLVED to purchase a second set of batteries, at a cost not exceeding £55.00 (fifty-five pounds)
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Speedwatch and Lorry Watch - Cllr Lennon Have gained a volunteer and lost a volunteer. Marston Meysey currently have the equipment. Councillor Hurst to undertake training when it is available.

19.113 **Gosditch Sign**

Members considered the option to repaint or replace the Gosditch sign. Following discussions, Members RESOLVED to replace the sign at a cost of £47.00 (forty-seven pounds).

19.114 **Open Space Survey**

Members NOTED the request from Wiltshire Council to complete a Parish Open Space Survey. Residents were requested to complete a Household Open Space survey, this request was circulated both to Latton and Water Eaton residents.

Following discussions, Members identified that the Jubilee Garden should be identified as a Park and Recreational area, better signage on footpaths in the area, the footpaths also need to be cleared of brambles etc. The shed at the Jubilee Garden needs to be replaced. The increase in housing, with both an aging and younger population supports the need for new community amenities.

19.115 **Play Area and Equipment**

Members NOTED the report. Members considered and ADOPTED the draft Play Area Inspection Guidelines and Inspection sheets. Members AGREED that 2 Councillors would be trained to undertake inspections, once training is available.

Members considered the quotes received and RESOLVED to ACCEPT Quote B at a cost of £196.39 (one hundred & ninety-six pounds, 39p). Members APPROVED the wording and layout of proposed signs (2 x entrance signs and a sign for usage of the free access equipment)

Members to arrange to repair see-saw area with wet pour, reassemble cable wire, treat the Barton seat, address issue with venting holes on frame of football goal (on grass) to prevent snagging.

Other identified works required was to put back the gate between Jubilee Garden and Play Area, flagpole treatment for rust and benches (to include the one at the Preaching Cross. The Clerk to investigate if benches can be sand blasted prior to repainting.

19.116 **Rural Facilities Survey**

Members NOTED the request from Wiltshire Council to complete a Rural Facilities Survey. The evidence provided will aid the development of policies to enhance and maintain the vitality of rural communities. Members supplied information on local facilities, local businesses and digital accessibility.

19.117 **Operation London Bridge**

Members NOTED the procedures that should be put in place on the passing of her HM Queen Elizabeth the Second. An official announcement will be made from Buckingham Palace, the code name is 'Operation London Bridge'.

Following discussions, it was AGREED that the Chairman of the Council would write suitable wording for the website, and the designated flower laying area would be at the Preaching Cross. Members RESOLVED to purchase a Union flag for the flagpole at a cost of up to £50.00 (fifty pounds).

19.118 **Financial Accounts & Bank Reconciliation**

Members NOTED and APPROVED the income and expenditure report and payments.
The Council bank reconciliation up to 11 February 2020 was duly NOTED

19.119 **Events 2020**

Members NOTED that the proposed Keep Britain Tidy campaign 'Great British Spring Clean' has been postponed due to Covid 19 – new dates to be given later in the year. The VE Day celebrations over the weekend of 8 – 10 May have also been cancelled due to Covid-19.

19.120 **Parish Council Grass Cutting**

Members NOTE the report and CONSIDER the quotes received. After discussions, Members RESOLVED to ACCEPT Quote C at a cost of £5197.50 (five thousand, one hundred and ninety-seven pound) per annum (£315 per cut), price fixed for 3 years. Further discussions took place, as the cost to mow the Churchyard alone is £210 per cut = £3360 per annum. The PCC currently contribute £350 per annum (this price was set in 2015), at the time this was one third of the cost. Members RESOLVED to request a sum of £1,250 per annum for 2020 – 2021.
Tree survey of Council land is to be postponed until Contractors have cut hedge and removed lower branches and epicormic tree growth.

Meeting Closed at 9pm