

Lifton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held remotely using Zoom on 28th January 2021

These minutes are provisional until they are agreed at the next meeting of the parish council; they will be signed by the Chairman at the earliest opportunity.

Present: Cllr C Edmonds (Chairman), Cllr Dunn, Cllr Elworthy, Cllr Glen, Cllr Lees, Cllr Measey, Cllr Moore and Cllr Sutton-Woodhouse

1. Apologies: Cllr Elias and Cllr Parsons

The Chairman paid tribute to former Lifton Parish Councillor Rita Willing who sadly passed away in December. Mrs Willing had served on the Parish Council and the QEII Management Committee and had been a valued member of the community.

2. Minutes: The minutes of the PC meeting 17th December 2020 were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting and will be signed by the Chairman at the earliest opportunity.

3. Dispensations and Declarations of Interest: None

4. Public Participation/Borough Cllr. Update

Public Participation: None

Borough Councillor Update: 11 different types of business grants continued to be available during the Covid-19 pandemic. WDBC had designed an online application process which helped to filter out the different types of business grants that were available. Grants were also available to businesses that were not required to close during this latest national lockdown.

WDBC were undertaking a consultation on the car parking charges within the borough. It sought to increase the cost of long-stay parking but to encourage more use of the short-stay parking facilities. The deadline for responses was 11th February 2021; full details were available on the WDBC website. The 6th May 2021 DCC and OPCC elections are due to take place and various polling jobs were available within the borough; details could also be found on WDBC's website.

5. General items:

5.1 Highways

The Clerk provided an update on the responses provided by DCC Highways in relation to several highways matters which had been reported online since the last meeting. The Clerk agreed to send further details of two DCC Highways temporary traffic orders to Councillors via email after the meeting.

Councillors were informed that the Clerk had received the licence and permission from DCC Highways to plant the new trees in the village that had been provided, free of charge, by The Woodland Trust. The licence would enable trees to be planted on the Darkey Lane triangle, along New Road and Fore Street (village green).

Actions: The Clerk to report a noisy manhole cover outside the Arundel Arms to Highways.

The Chairman agreed to provide a photograph of the manhole cover which would help Highways identify its location.

5.2 Damaged dog bin at Old Tinhay

Councillors received photographs showing the damaged dog bin at Old Tinhay prior to the meeting and agreed that the local contractor should be asked to repair this whilst he was in the village undertaking other work. Councillors discussed the siting of this dog bin and whether it should be moved to an alternative location. Councillors agreed unanimously that the dog bin should remain where it is but to review the situation in six months' time if necessary.

Councillors were informed that the local contractor had provided a quote of £80.00 to plant the new trees (detailed in item 5.1) and £20.00 to install the new marker post at the village green and to repair the post/dog bin at Old Tinhay.

Councillors agreed that the local contractor should also be asked to remove the old bench on the road signposted Cookworthy and beyond the property known as The Retreat and that he be asked to provide an additional quote for this work.

Motion: To delegate discretion to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman should the quote from the local contractor be more than £50.00 for the removal of the old bench. Proposed and seconded; all agreed.

Action: Chairman to contact the local contractor regarding the work detailed above.

5.3 Food donation to local community from Harrington Homes (Ivybridge)

The Chairman reported that the workers at the Harrington Homes building site in Lifton had kindly donated a food parcel in December which they wanted to be shared to those in need within the Lifton community. The Headteacher of Lifton Primary School was contacted and agreed to accept the donation so that it could be used to support local families.

Action: Councillors asked the Clerk to write a letter of thanks to the workers at Harrington Homes.

5.4 WDBC Public Consultation on Dog Controls (Public Space Protection Orders)

Councillors were informed that WDBC had allowed towns and parishes some additional time to respond to the public consultation on dog controls across the borough which originally ran from 1st June to 31st July 2020. The deadline for any further responses was now 31st January 2021.

In response to the public consultation on dog controls Councillors agreed that they are happy with the controls already detailed in the existing Public Space Protection Orders.

With regard to the proposed new Order which will include a control that dog walkers must carry the means to pick up faeces if their dog defecates on land in the restricted area, Councillors agreed that this should be included but felt that some work could be done to positively encourage dog walkers to comply with this order by setting out the expectation to dog walkers in a clear and effective way as opposed to enforcing any on the spot fines immediately.

Action: Clerk to respond to WDBC on behalf of Lifton Parish Council as detailed above.

5.5 DCT/DALC Climate emergency response support network – PC Response to consultation

The Chairman had responded to the online consultation on behalf of Lifton Parish Council as the original deadline for responses was 14th January 2021.

Devon Communities Together (DCT) provided a summary of the responses received from 75 parish councils which was shared with Councillors via email prior to the meeting.

Councillors were informed that further information had been requested from DCT so that they could discuss at a future meeting whether they wanted to sign up to be part of a Devon network of councils supporting each other on Climate emergency.

5.6 South Hams & West Devon Draft Housing Strategy Consultation 2021 - 2026 "Better Homes, Better Lives

Councillors had received details about consultation exercise on the South Hams and West Devon Draft Housing Strategy 2021 – 2026: "Better Homes, Better Lives", prior to the meeting. Councillors were asked to complete the online survey via the link the Clerk had provided via email.

5.7 Broadband fibre upgrade for Lifton

The Chairman reported that he was still awaiting a response from the Fibre Enquiries Team at Openreach regarding the fibre upgrade for the village.

Action: The Chairman to report back to a future meeting once he had received a response.

6. Reports:

6.1 QE11 report: The annual inspection of the fire extinguishers had taken place. The pavilion was still closed under current government lockdown guidelines. The parish council had applied to WDBC for a grant of £6k to go towards the play area replacement project. The Clerk informed Councillors that she was still awaiting a response from WDBC. The play area replacement project would be handled by the QE11 Management Committee and be undertaken in phases.

7. Finance

7.1 For payment

Clerk's salary for January	£ 416.22
Clerk's expenses: 2 reams of A4 paper	£ 6.70
Reimbursement to Cllr Edmonds for village salt bag shovel	£ 3.50

Martin Ashley & Son Gardening Services:

Recreation field:

Dead wood mature oak tree and dangerous pine (inc. £194.00 VAT)	£1164.00
Fell Ash trees (showing signs of Ash die back along river bank/playing field (inc. £100.00 VAT)	£600.00
Cut back hedges/trees encroaching on playing area & between playing field on river on the field side (inc. £120.00 VAT)	£720.00

Proposed and seconded that all the above payments be made.

[Total payments: £2910.42]

Action: Clerk to make all payments online.

7.2 Payment received:

Interest	£ 0.08
Zurich Insurance Claim (storm damage to QEII Pavilion)	£479.47

7.3 Outstanding invoices: None

General matters relating to Finance:

7.4 Bank reconciliation: Councillors noted the bank reconciliation.

8.0 Planning

8.1 Applications:

3848/20/FUL - Proposal: Conversion of former village hall to family dwelling. Site Address: Lifton Village Hall, Duntz Hill, Lifton PL16 0BJ

Councillors discussed the planning application and agreed that the new design was imaginative and included a much-improved plan.

Councillors would like to request that the two memorial plaques that are currently displayed on the front of the existing building be removed and either incorporated into the front of the new building design or given to the village to potentially be displayed elsewhere or kept safe as they are both of historic interest to the community.

Councillors, referring to the design and access statement, expressed concern that the roof area in the design had been slightly reduced with a proposal to continue to allow the rainwater to run off into the main sewage system. Given the pressure the sewage system was already under, Councillors asked whether there was an alternative way for the rainwater to be re-routed and disposed of elsewhere.

Proposed and seconded. PC decision: support (8); not support (0); abstain (0).

8.2 Approvals:

3256/20/FUL - Location: St Mary The Virgin Parsonage Court Lifton PL16 0BJ. Applicant Name: Net Coverage Solutions Ltd on behalf of Cornerstone. Application Type: Full Planning Application
Proposal: Installation of 4No. antennas behind replacement Glass Reinforced Plastic louvres, installation of equipment cabinets positioned in the church tower, installation of 1 No. GPS node below parapet level, installation of electric meter cabinet located adjacent to boundary wall alongside the lych gate and ancillary development. **Decision:** Conditional Approval

3678/20/PDM - Location: Cart Lodge Farm (Barn 'B') Launceston PL15 9QX. Application Type: Prior Approval Agricultural building to dwelling C3. Proposal: Application to determine if prior approval is required for proposed change of use of agricultural building to dwellinghouse (Class C3) and for associated operational development (Class Q(a+b)). **Decision:** Prior Approval Required and Given

8.3 Refusals: None

General matters relating to planning:

8.4 None

9. Correspondence: Councillors received details about:
Citizens Advice Torridge, North, Mid and West Devon – Thank you for donation
DCC & DALC - The Interim Devon Carbon Plan has launched

10. Councillors' items for future agenda: Defibrillator update and traffic issues in the village.

Next Meeting: 7.00pm, Thursday, 25th February 2021 - via Zoom

Meeting closed at 20:41.

SIGNED..... Date.....