

LITTLEHAM & LANDCROSS PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT - Minutes of the Council Meeting held at Littleham Village Hall on Thursday 05 September 2024 at 19.15

Present: Councillor – N Tregoning - Chairman
Councillors: P Jollands, S Read, M Brooks, G Smith, C Hassall and I Lawrence.

Apologies : Councillors G Gray, A Longstaff and L Batty
County Councillor L Hellyer

In Attendance: *David Edwards - Clerk to the Council*

2858 - The Chair welcomed everyone to the Meeting, apologies were accepted.

A particular welcome was made to Councillor Jollands who has returned following illness.

The absence of Councillor Longstaff (having not attended any meetings in the last 6 months and his desire to resign from the Council) has created a vacancy. The District Council will be informed and the appropriate notice issued,

[DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Councillors are invited to declare any declarable interest, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting. They are also reminded to consider whether any items within their Register of Interests should be updated].

There were no Declarations of Interest.

There were no members of the public present ,therefore, The Council RESOLVED not to suspend Standing Orders and adjourn the meeting.

Public Open Question Time

There were no members of the public present.

Report by County and District Councillors *(Allowance should be made for the District and County Councillor to speak later in the meeting should they be unable to arrive in time).*

The County Councillor Report had been circulated and was noted. The report is attached to the Minutes.

District Councillor Report:

There was no report from Councillor Pennington.

2859 - The Council RESOLVED to Approve Minutes 2850 – 2857 of the Parish Council meeting held on 11 July 2024.

Matters Arising -

2855 - Parish Paths - The Clerk explained that the legal process of Public Notice and consultation with regard to the proposed Bridleway at Shutta Track was ongoing. A copy of the email from the Highways Officer at County Hall is as follows:

Thank you for your email. I am hoping to make the relevant Modification Order this month which will be circulated to all statutory consultees and affected landowners, including your Council. Once published, there is a 6 week objection period. If at the end of that time, there are no objections, any works required will be scheduled and the Order confirmed.

2855 - Parish Paths - The Clerk advised that he had a quote from the County Council approved contractor which was £500 approximately to replace the stile on Footpath 1 with a swing gate. The Clerk was waiting for a reply from the Footpaths Officer on when the P3 Grant of £150 would be received and if the County Council would be willing to provide finance for the new gate.

2860 - PLANNING:

To discuss and/or respond to the following Planning Application:

Planning Application: 1/0727/2024/LBC

Proposal: Replacement French Windows

Location: Middle Langdon, Littleham, Bideford, Devon

OS Map Reference: (E) 243687. (N) 123072

The Council RESOLVED to recommend approval.

It was noted that the Planning Application: 1/0537/2024/FUL will be presented to Torridge District Council Planning Committee on 12 September 2024.

Proposal: Retrospective application for retention of building as open market dwelling (non compliance with condition 4 of 5 and planning permission 1/0651/2012/FUL)

Location: The Old Tallet, Hallsannery, Bideford, Devon

OS Map Reference: (E) 244972. (N) 124521

2861 - FINANCE (documents attached and will form of the Minutes)

- To approve the Cashbook as a reconciliation of the Bank balance £8027.64, including payments to:
 - Tamar Trading Ltd (reimburse the Clerk) - £31.46 - Paint and brushes for Bus shelter.
 - Microsoft Licence (reimburse the Clerk) - £59.99 - Annual Licence fee for Microsoft software use.

Councillor Smith suggested that the Council moves to a free software option, however, the Annual Licence had been renewed and this would be an option to discuss next year. It was the view that Microsoft is used throughout most Authorities and has specific advantages.

- To approve payment of £78.00 to VisionICT - Domain Name fee re Website.

It was RESOLVED to approve the documents and payments.

2862 - To discuss any action the Council can take to support its policy for reducing the Carbon footprint and improving the bio-diversity in Littleham and Landcross. Up date on recent Biodiversity Group Meeting.

The Group had agreed to proceed with another Biodiversity Day on a date in March 2025.

Councillor Jollands explained that there had been a discussion on raising the awareness of Biodiversity. An example of a project by the Devon Wildlife Trust could be adapted for Littleham and Landcross. The details are attached to the Minutes and detail awarding a plaque to residents to place on their gate showing that their garden is a “Wildlife Friendly Garden” Other ideas are to create a Wildflower Meadow along the Village Hall Field line and introduce other initiatives to increase community involvement.

This may involve planting in the Churchyards at Littleham and Landcross, additional signing, Moth traps and Bat boxes.

Councillor Jollands advised that he would put together a proposal and bring it to the next Council Meeting.

2863 - PARTNERSHIP WORKING WITH DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL HIGHWAYS:

Reference to funding by the Council to show a commitment to support DCC in the repair and upkeep of the street furniture in the Villages.

Reference to a recording of the event below accessed via DALC Website:

On 15 August, DALC hosted its second Connect Event with the Highways Team, focussing on empowering town and parish councils through community self-help schemes aimed at enhancing local highways management.

The event attracted a strong turnout of councillors and officers, reflecting a growing interest in collaborative approaches to maintaining and improving Devon’s extensive highways network. Topics included: Road Wardens, Snow Warden, self-funded delivery schemes, and the Parish Paths Partnership.

This was noted.

The option to repair the fingerpost at the Old Forge known as the Crossroads as a way of showing that the Council is prepared to work in partnership with the County Council was discussed. The option to add a sign showing the direction to the Church at the top of “Watery Lane” was mentioned. The Clerk and Chair would look to find a suitable Signwriter and obtain approximate costs.

2864 - To discuss the Council response to the reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework - the information and details are shown below. The registration to the Zoom event can be accessed via the DALC website.

****NEW CONNECT EVENT LISTED****

Meeting Code: 882 6882 5924

Password: 165776

Officers and Councillors join us at a Connect event to explore the proposed planning reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework

The Government’s consultation on the planning reforms closes soon (24 September), this Connect Event is a key opportunity for councils to come together, learn, and contribute to shaping the future of planning policy.

This was noted and it was the view that further documents and information will be published in the future. It may be that Ian Rowland Head of Planning at Torridge District Council be asked to speak to the Council at some stage in the future.

2865 - To consider correspondence & communications requiring attention. Emails circulated include:

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| DALC/NALC newsletter/updates/events | Public Sector - various |
| Devon County Council - various newsletters | Torridge DC – various |
| Torridge DC - Weekly Planning applications | Rural Services Network |
| The South West Cyber Resilience Centre. | Devon LEVI (Devon Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure) |
| Devon Communities Together | Royal Devon University Healthcare Trust |
| Flood Risk Management | Peninsula Transport |
| Devon Climate Emergency | |

These were noted.

2866 - Items for next meeting and Next Full Council Meeting - the next Meeting to be Thursday 03 October 2024.

Councillor Brooks mentioned the recent email (circulated) from Mrs Sharon Rees who is organising an awareness ride to take place Saturday 14th September 2024 as a part of the National Pass Wide and Slow campaign.

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and the Meeting was closed 20.30hrs

Signed:
Councillor N Tregoning (Chair to the Parish Council) Date.....