

## **LITTLEHAM & LANDCROSS PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Littleham Village Hall on Thursday 03 July 2025 at 19.15 hours**

**Present:** Councillors: P Jollands ( Chair), N Tregoning (Vice Chair), M Brooks, G Gray, L Batty, G Smith, C Hassall and P Footman.

**Apologies :** Councillor: S Read

**Also Present:** County Councillor Mark Barry  
5 members of the public

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

**2954 - The Chair welcomed everyone to the Meeting and apologies were accepted.**

#### **2955 - Declarations of Interest**

*[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].*

Councillors have been asked to complete new/updated Declaration of Interests.

***The Council RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders and adjourn the meeting.***

#### **Public Open Question Time**

*Reference to: Planning Application ref: 1/0070/2022/FUL & Sunset View Littleham Bideford Enforcement enquiry E/25/0109/UND*

Residents near to this property presented the Council with a statement which is attached to the Minutes. This relates to the excessive exterior lighting at the property and the impact it is having on neighbouring properties and wildlife.

The Members expressed sympathy with the residents and it was agreed that the Clerk would contact the owners.

**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).*

Report from Devon County Councillor Mark Barry:

*A Report had been submitted and forms part of the Minutes.*

Councillor Barry's report was discussed with regard to:

- The Council is financially unsustainable following the Government funding review. The Government has agreed to provide further funds to ensure that statutory services are maintained.
- Agreement to introduce 20mph speed limit zones. It was noted that means of enforcement is a particular issue. Comment that Landcross has a 30mph speed limit but vehicles regularly travel above this limit resulting in recent accidents.
- XLinks have formally withdrawn its planning application.

***The Council reconvened.***

**2956 - It was *RESOLVED* to approve the Minutes 2945 – 2953 of the Council meeting held on 05 June 2025.**

*Matters arising:*

*2953 - The Chair confirmed that the new clerk will be Mr Mike Norton. Arrangements will now be made for a handover of duties.*

## **2957 - PLANNING:**

**To consider the Council response to the following:**

Application Reference : 1/1034/2024/FUL  
Proposal: Demolition of existing sheds, development of 5 new dwellings with access and external works.  
Location: Land at Grid Reference ( E ) 243750 ( N ) 123359 Littleham, Devon

**The Council *RESOLVED* to recommend approval following the changes that had been made from the previous application, with comment that particular note should be taken to the issue of contamination and presence of Asbestos. Parking could be improved to overcome any vehicles reversing on to the road. The Council understands the need for development, however, the lack of any services and the poor road network does not reflect the policy statements relating to sustainability and environment. It should be noted that this development is outside the Local Plan development boundary and it is only being considered due to the requirement for the Planning Authority to meet the revised housing targets.**

Application Reference: 1/0448/2025/FUL  
Proposal: Erection of 1 no dwelling (Self build)  
Location: Land at Grid Reference ( E ) 243695 ( N ) 123232

**The Council *RESOLVED* to recommend approval with the following comments:**

**The applicant will use the property for his own use and a condition should be imposed that it can not be sold, used as a second home or for any tourist related purposes for a period of 5 years from the date of completion.**

**A factor of the Council approval is that the property will only develop part of the plot leaving a large garden and green space for wildlife and improved biodiversity.**

**The Council understands the need for development, however, the lack of any services and the poor road network does not reflect the policy statements relating to sustainability and environment. It should be noted that this development is outside the Local Plan development boundary and it is only being considered due to the requirement for the Planning Authority to meet the revised housing targets.**

The email from Mr Ian Rowland, Planning Officer regarding the Housing Monitoring Dashboard ( a document explaining the service was circulated)

**This was noted.**

## **2958 - FINANCE**

To Approve the Cashbook dated 25 June 2025 and note the bank balance of £8971.18. Councillor Batty, as the independent verifier, checked and initialled both the Cashbook and the Bank statement documents.

Note: Payments/Income since previous report. (*The document is an attachment to the Minutes*).  
*The above documents form attachments to the Minutes.*

The Clerk confirmed that in accordance with the Audit and Financial Regulations the period for public examination of the Council Accounts and records has been published and advertised. [30<sup>th</sup> June to 29<sup>th</sup> August 2025].

***It was RESOLVED to approve the documents and the information as shown.***

**2959 - 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. To Approve the Minutes (see attached) and actions of the Bio-Diversity Working Group**

***It was RESOLVED that the Minutes be approved and the following actions in accordance with the Minutes be approved:***

- *£100 be allocated to pay for Swift boxes - payment to Littleham Mens Shed.*
- *The Chair to be reimbursed for the cost of a Moth Trap £137.40 and Battery £134.98. A total cost of £272.38*

*The Pond Dipping event on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2025 is advertised as a Parish Council event to ensure that it is covered by the Council Public Liability.*

Reference was made to the overgrowth on the new Bridleway at the Shutta Path - Councillor Brooks will contact the County Council officer. (note: it is the responsibility of the landowners to cut the sides and hedges - the track surface is the only responsibility of the County Council. There is some doubt over the position of the Parish Council and the P3 Agreement. The Parish Council received no grant during the financial year.)

**2960 - To discuss the E Mail from Adrian Brendt and Hannah Greenburg from the Campaign Group "20 is Plenty" - the email is attached and forms part of the Minutes.**

This item was discussed during the County Councillor report and the email was noted. The Clerk advised that he had discussed the speed of traffic through Whitehall with the Highways Officer, following a meeting with the residents.

**2961 -To consider correspondence & communications requiring attention. Emails circulated include:**

1. DALC/NALC newsletter/updates/events
2. Public Sector - various
3. Devon County Council - various newsletters
4. Torridge DC – various
5. Torridge DC - Weekly Planning applications
6. Wild about Devon
7. Royal Devon and Exeter University Health Care (NHS Foundation Trust)

The items were noted.

**2962 - Items for next meeting and Next Full Council Meeting - Thursday 04 September 2025.**

**Signed:** .....

Councillor P Jollands (Chair to the Parish Council)

Date.....