

LAXTON AND MOORHOUSE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 25 July 2017 at Moorhouse Church commencing 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors:

M. Manning (Chair)
D. Brown
M. Hennell
J. Godson
S. Hill

In attendance:

C. Millward (Clerk)

| | DISCUSSION AND DECISIONS | ACTION |
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| LMPC/67/17 | Apologies for absence: Apologies for absence with reasons were received and accepted from Mr J Hill and Mr R Hennell. Councillors Michael and Pringle were also unable to attend. | |
| LMPC/68/17 | Declarations of interest: The chair declared an interest as a member of the sports field committee in items 10 a (Property matters – Sports field and water supply), an interest as a member of the visitor centre committee in item 13 (Village development) and an interest as member of the village hall committee in item 14 a (Village environment – Village hall refurbishment project). Mr Brown also declared an interest as a member of the visitor centre committee in item 13 (Village development). There were no other declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda. | |
| LMPC/69/17 | Dispensations: None required. | |
| LMPC/70/17 | 10 Minutes public speaking: No public present. | |
| LMPC/71/17 | Minutes of the parish council meetings held on 23 May and 20 June 2017: The minutes of the meeting held on 23 May and 20 June 2017 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair. | |
| LMPC/72/17 | Matters arising: <i>LMPC/55/17 – Financial matters</i> – The valuation of the fixed assets was discussed. The clerk will forward a copy of the approved schedule of fixed assets to Mr Godson. Schedule of fixed assets to be reviewed in November 2017. There were no other matters arising. | Clerk/JG Agenda |
| LMPC/73/17 | Reports from district and county councillors: None present. | |
| LMPC/74/17 | Reports from councillors: Concerns were reported regarding: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Heavy thistle growth in a field at Moorhouse. Mr Brown will seek more information regarding the concern. b. Drives are being used as passing places along Green Lane in the Moorhouse vicinity resulting in damage to the road and drives. The clerk will raise the matter with NCC Highways and councillor Pringle. c. The condition of the cow sign on Ossington Road. The clerk will | DB Clerk Clerk |

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| | inspect. | |
| LMPC/75/17 | <p>Financial Matters:</p> <p>a. Financial position as at 30 June 2017: Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position at 30 June 2017 (incorporating the 2017-18 budget figures).</p> <p>b. Accounts for payment: The council unanimously approved ten payments totalling £1514.63. Having declared an interest, the chair did not participate in the approval of payments in respect of the sports field water supply or visitor centre. Councillors (excluding the chair) confirmed that the council should pay the water supply charges for the sports field as the tenant of the field.</p> <p>c. Appointment of internal auditor: Mr S Hill will make enquiries regarding a potential candidate.</p> <p>d. Pension obligations and scheme: As this item related to staffing, councillors confirmed that it was confidential and the relevant minutes should not be made public.</p> | SH |
| LMPC/76/17 | <p>Property matters including:</p> <p>a. Sports field and water supply: Water supply obligations discussed at LMPC/75/17 b above (Financial matters – Accounts for payment).</p> <p>b. Cricket pitch: The use of the field once the fencing and pavilion had been removed was discussed. The chair will approach the landowner to discuss the possibility of the land remaining designated as a cricket pitch.</p> <p>The potential for the funds held by the cricket team be transferred to the sports field committee was raised. Councillors took the view that the ultimate recipient of the funds was a matter for the cricket team rather than the recipient. They confirmed that, were the funds held by the cricket team to be transferred to the parish council to be applied for the benefit of a future team should there be the interest, those funds would be held in a specific reserve for that purpose.</p> | Chair |
| LMPC/77/17 | <p>Parish council website – Transition arrangements and update: The clerk and Mr Brown will liaise jointly with the website designer to make progress, given the expiry of the existing domain in August 2017.</p> | DB/ Clerk |
| LMPC/78/17 | <p>Planning matters:</p> <p>a. Applications: None</p> <p>b. To note planning decisions by NSDC: None</p> <p>c. Compliance: No issues raised</p> | |
| LMPC/79/17 | <p>Village development including The Crown's long term strategy and letter dated 9 June 2017: By agreement deferred to the end of the meeting.</p> <p>Councillors discussed the Crown's response dated 9 June 2017 focussing on the following in particular:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The absence of a copy of Mr Coward's report, the Parliamentary Undertaking and details of the current review even though they were referred to in the letter. Their gratitude to The Crown for the new village signs but their concern at the absence of substantive, concrete, practical support The Crown's stated commitment to stewardship The desirability of a greater level of active engagement by the Crown, including regular visits and practical support for the Leet and engagement with it Other sources of support for and publicity of the open field | |

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| | <p>system</p> <p>f. Potential links with Sherwood Forest Trust</p> <p>The clerk will prepare a response.</p> | Clerk |
| LMPC/80/17 | <p>Village environment and appearance, including:</p> <p>a. Village Hall refurbishment project and grant: Lottery decision expected 31 July 2017. Noted that new members have joined the village hall committee.</p> <p>b. Footpaths including Twitchill footpath: The clerk will report overgrown vegetation along the footpath from Chapel Lane to churchyard. Written complaints from visitors to the village regarding the condition of the footpaths generally were noted, including a complaint from Collingham Ramblers regarding the footpath from the Holocaust Centre running parallel to the road. The councillors emphasised their commitment to supporting and encouraging visitors to the village to walk the village. The clerk will ask that an NCC officer visit to inspect the footpaths generally and identify where work is required and arrange for it to be undertaken.</p> <p>c. Key holder – Castle Mound: Councillors noted that, because it is working agricultural land, access to the Mound is restricted annually during the period 1 April to 1 November although access may be afforded in that time by prior arrangement (except dogs). The village information booklet will be revised to advise visitors to contact The Dovecote if they would like to arrange access. Mr Brown will then liaise with the landowner.</p> | <p>Chair</p> <p>Clerk</p> |
| LMPC/81/17 | Service faults: None. | |
| LMPC/82/17 | Correspondence: All items of correspondence noted. | |
| LMPC/83/17 | 10 Minutes public speaking time: The condition of two derelict sites in the village was raised. The clerk will contact councillor Michael for advice. | Clerk/SM |
| LMPC/84/17 | Agenda items for next meeting: As above. | |
| LMPC/85/17 | Date of next meeting: 26 September 2017 at Laxton Visitor Centre | |

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm.

