

## LAXTON AND MOORHOUSE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 26 September 2017 at The Visitor Centre, Laxton commencing 7.30 pm

**Present:** Councillors:

M. Manning (Chair)  
M.Hennell  
J.Godson  
S. Hill  
R.Hennell

**In attendance:**

C. Millward (Clerk)  
M. Pringle (County councillor)  
S.Michael (from 8.00 pm)

	<b>DISCUSSION AND DECISIONS</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>LMPC/86/17</b>	<b>Apologies for absence:</b> Apologies for absence with reasons were received and accepted from Mr J Hill and Mr D Brown. Councillor Michael had been delayed.	
<b>LMPC/87/17</b>	<b>Declarations of interest:</b> The chair declared an interest as a member of the sports field committee in items 10 a (Property matters – Sports field and water supply) and an interest as member of the village hall committee in item 14 a (Village environment – Village hall refurbishment project and grant).  There were no other declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda.	
<b>LMPC/88/17</b>	<b>Dispensations:</b> None required.	
<b>LMPC/89/17</b>	<b>10 Minutes public speaking:</b> No public present.	
<b>LMPC/90/17</b>	<b>Minutes of the parish council meeting held on 25 July 2017:</b> The minutes of the meeting held on 25 July 2017 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair.	
<b>LMPC/91/17</b>	<b>Matters arising:</b> <i>LMPC/72/17 – Matters arising</i> – The clerk had forwarded a copy of the approved schedule of fixed assets to Mr Godson. Councillors confirmed that the schedule of fixed assets will be reviewed in November 2017. The clerk will circulate her original schedule discussed at the meeting on 23 May 2017 (LMPC/55/17a).  There were no other matters arising.	<b>Agenda Clerk</b>
<b>LMPC/92/17</b>	<b>Reports from district and county councillors:</b> Mr Pringle had nothing to report.  The meeting reverted to this item after item 14a (Financial position as at 31 August 2017) to allow councillor Michael to address the meeting. Councillor Michael reported that:  i. NSDC’s new headquarters at Castle House are now fully operational and the shared base for a number of other services ii. The next SNG meeting is on 5 October 2017. Mr S Hill will try to attend.	<b>SH 5.10.17</b>

	<p>iii. She had spoken with the NSDC officer, Mr Batty, regarding the two empty properties in the village who had confirmed that:</p> <p>aa. NSDC is currently considering the position in relation to Bar Farmhouse</p> <p>bb. The other property had been sold but, as yet, no application for planning permission had been submitted.</p> <p>The meeting reverted to item 9 b on the agenda (Accounts for payment).</p>	
<b>LMPC/93/17</b>	<b>Reports from councillors:</b> The clerk will order the free winter salt to be delivered to Mr R Hennell. Location of and access to community resilience container to be agenda item for November 2017 meeting.	<b>Agenda</b>
<b>LMPC/94/17</b>	<p><b>Financial Matters:</b></p> <p><b>a. Financial position as at 31 August 2017:</b> Councillor Michael arrived at 8.00 pm at the beginning of this item. Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position at 30 August 2017 (incorporating the 2017-18 budget figures). Councillors noted that concerns had been raised by the Open Field regarding the volume of the 23 May 2017 minutes and the number of pages they had used. Councillors noted that this was because of they were not in the usual format due to holiday. Councillors noted a request for a contribution to the printing costs. They recognised the implications of longer minutes in terms of paper and associated cost. After discussion, they <b>agreed</b>, in principle, that the council would provide financial support to this much valued village publication. Mr R Hennell will make enquiries of the Open Field as to the amount of additional cost attributable to longer minutes. Financial contribution to Open Field printing costs to be agenda item for November 2017 meeting. The meeting reverted to item 8 on the agenda (Reports from councillors) to allow Mrs Michael to address the meeting.</p> <p><b>b. Accounts for payment:</b> The council unanimously <b>approved</b> eight payments totalling £1099.03.</p> <p><b>c. Appointment of internal auditor:</b> Mr S Hill will pursue his initial enquiries regarding a potential candidate.</p> <p><b>d. External auditor's report (if available):</b> Not yet received.</p>	<b>RH Agenda</b>
<b>LMPC/95/17</b>	<p><b>Property matters including:</b></p> <p><b>a. Sports field:</b> Nothing to discuss.</p> <p><b>b. Cricket pitch:</b> The chair had made an approach the landowner to discuss the possibility of the land remaining designated as a cricket pitch. He reported that initial indications were positive. Councillors <b>agreed</b> that he should pursue the possibility further.</p>	<b>Chair</b>
<b>LMPC/96/17</b>	<b>Parish council website – Transition arrangements and update:</b> Councillors were pleased that the new website was up and running. They thanked Mr Brown for all his work on the original site. The clerk will use the site to publish parish council news and events going forward.	
<b>LMPC/97/17</b>	<p><b>Planning matters:</b></p> <p><b>a. Applications: 17/01585/FUL   HOUSEHOLDER APPLICATION FOR THE CONVERSION OF AN ATTACHED, DISUSED FARM BUILDING TO FORM ANNEX   Twitchill Farm House Cross Hill Laxton:</b> Councillors considered the application and unanimously <b>decided</b> to support the proposal.</p> <p><b>b. To note planning decisions by NSDC: 17/01123/FUL – Ivy Cottage, main Street, Laxton – Erection of rear first floor extension – Approval noted.</b></p>	

	<b>c. Compliance:</b> No issues raised	
<b>LMPC/98/17</b>	<p><b>Village development including The Crown's long term strategy:</b> The chair updated the meeting as to the following developments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Following representation to him at his parish surgery, Mr Robert Jenrick MP had arranged to meet with the Crown representatives on 10 October 2017.</li> <li>2. Other meetings are in the pipeline</li> <li>3. The Crown Chief Executive had written and expressed the Crown's support for the open field system</li> </ol> <p>Councillors were pleased at the progress. The clerk will write to the Chief Executive to let her know that the council welcomes this positive response, offering the council's assistance and asking to be kept informed of developments. She will also ask Mr Jenrick's office to keep the council updated.</p>	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>LMPC/99/17</b>	<p><b>Village environment and appearance, including:</b></p> <p><b>a. Village Hall refurbishment project and grant:</b> The chair reported that the Village Hall refurbishment project had been awarded Lottery funding of £204,000. Councillors congratulated those involved on this fantastic news which would secure a very valuable asset for the community now and in the future. They recognised the huge amount of work that the project had taken so far and would take going forward and the substantial time commitment and responsibility involved. They thanked all behind the project and particularly the resident who had been the overall driving force and would take the project forward. The clerk will write a letter of thanks.</p> <p><b>b. Footpaths:</b> In hand. No longer required as agenda item.</p> <p><b>c. Re-surfacing – Moorhouse – Mid October 2017:</b> Works noted together with Via's confirmation that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It will only be working on the carriageway and repairing the settlement over the culvert.</li> <li>2. The brick arch, parapets and coping stones will be unaffected.</li> </ol> <p><b>d. Brown information road signs:</b> Councillors <b>agreed</b> that signs would be valuable and discussed possible locations and contents. They <b>decided</b> to hold a meeting at 7.00 pm immediately before their next scheduled meeting on 21 November 2017 to canvass views more widely.</p> <p><b>e. Moorhouse – Village fingerpost:</b> The clerk will send Mr S Hill the 2016-17 SLC funding information for information. This year's funding has not been announced.</p>	<b>Clerk</b>         <b>Clerk</b>
<b>LMPC/100/17</b>	<p><b>Service faults:</b> The clerk will report streetlights 13, 17 and 19 at the top of Cross Hill which are not working at all and streetlight 20 which is lit during the day.</p> <p>She will send Mr Pringle the email received from NCC footpaths officer regarding the timing of the restoration of the fingerpost at West Field which he will investigate.</p> <p>Mr S Hill will send photos of the drive problems on Green Lane reported at the meeting on 25 July 2017 which the clerk had raised with NCC.</p>	<b>Clerk</b>   <b>Clerk</b>  <b>MP</b> <b>SH</b>
<b>LMPC/101/17</b>	<b>Correspondence:</b> All items of correspondence noted.	
<b>LMPC/102/17</b>	<b>10 Minutes public speaking time:</b> No public present	
<b>LMPC/103/</b>	<b>Agenda items for next meeting:</b>	

<b>17</b>	As above.	
<b>LMPC/104/ 17</b>	<b>Date of next meeting:</b> 21 November 2017 at Laxton Visitor Centre	

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.