

## LAXTON AND MOORHOUSE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 22 January 2019 at the Visitor Centre, Laxton commencing 7.30 pm

**Present:** Councillors:

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

**In attendance at parish council meeting**

C. Millward (Clerk)  
S. Michael (District councillor)

		<b>ACTION</b>
<b>LMPC/1/ 19</b>	<b>Apologies for absence:</b> Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Mr M Hennell and Mr Brown.	
<b>LMPC/2/ 19</b>	<b>Declarations of interest:</b> The chair declared an interest as a member of the sports field committee in item 10 (Property matters – Sports field) and an interest as member of the village hall committee in item 13 a (Village environment – Village hall refurbishment project).  There were no other declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda	
<b>LMPC/3/ 19</b>	<b>Dispensations:</b> None required.	
<b>LMPC/4/ 19</b>	<b>10 Minutes public speaking:</b> No public present. Reports to councillors of dog mess in the churchyard and Chapel Lane vicinity were noted. Councillors <b>agreed</b> to discuss the matter under item 13 (Village environment).	
<b>LMPC/5/ 19</b>	<b>Minutes of the parish council meeting held on 27 November 2018:</b> The minutes of the meeting held on 27 November 2018 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair.	
<b>LMPC/6/ 19</b>	<b>Matters arising:</b> <i>LMPC/103/18 – Public speaking</i> – Councillor Michael reported that the NSDC officer needed access to the property adjoining Bar Farmhouse to be able to assess its condition. She will contact the adjoining landowner.  All other action points having been completed, being in hand or appearing elsewhere on the agenda, there were no matters arising	
<b>LMPC/7/ 19</b>	<b>Reports from district and county councillors:</b> Councillor Pringle: 1. Reported that the 50 mph speed limit on A617 was being effected. He will make enquiries regarding the siting of the 30 mph speed limit signs in Laxton first raised by the clerk with NCC in January 2018. 2. Expressed concern regarding the appropriateness of NCC as a landowner of the Laxton estate. 3. Reported that £18.6m was being made available to improve the six junctions on A614 between Ollerton and Lowdham. Mrs Michael reported that: a. NSDC’s fiftieth council house had been built.	<b>MP</b>

	<p>b. A £2.1m care facility is to be built in Ollerton</p> <p>c. The unitary council proposal had been suspended for the time being.</p>	
<b>LMPC/8/19</b>	<p><b>Reports from councillors:</b> Mr Hill reported on the matters discussed at the recent SNG meeting which included a spate of rural burglaries in the surrounding area. Property owners were reminded of the importance of securing their premises and buildings. It was also noted that diesel was being stolen from lorries parked on A1 in the course of which the bordering land is being damaged. It was noted that landowners are taking steps to reinforce the boundaries with the road. An incident of fly tipping at the entrance to the sewage works on Moorhouse Road. The clerk will report the matter to NSDC.</p> <p>Councillors discussed the issue of crime and local policing strategy. They <b>decided</b> that the new police inspector, Heather Sutton, should be invited to the March 2019 meeting.</p>	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>LMPC/9/19</b>	<p><b>Financial Matters:</b></p> <p>a. <b>Financial position as at 31 December 2018:</b> Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position at 31 December 2018 (incorporating the 2018-19 budget figures). The chair verified the stated balances against the reserve bank statement.</p> <p>b. <b>Accounts for payment:</b> The council unanimously <b>approved</b> ten payments totalling £811.86.</p> <p>c. <b>Appointment of internal auditor:</b> Councillors <b>agreed</b> that Mr To consider the financial information provided by the Clerk and NSDC's letter regarding 2019/20 precept estimates and to agree the precept for the year ending 31 March 2020: Councillors considered the financial information provided by the clerk. Councillors unanimously <b>decided</b> to retain the precept at £4600.</p> <p>d. <b>2019-20 insurance arrangements:</b> Councillors reviewed the renewal documentation. Councillors <b>decided</b> to enter into the 2019-20 insurance contract with Zurich.</p>	
<b>LMPC/10/19</b>	<b>Property matters including sports field:</b> Nothing to report.	
<b>LMPC/11/19</b>	<p><b>Planning matters:</b></p> <p>a. <b>Applications:</b> None</p> <p>b. <b>To note planning decisions by NSDC:</b> None.</p> <p>c. <b>Compliance:</b> No issues raised</p>	
<b>LMPC/12/19</b>	<p><b>Village development including The Crown's long term strategy:</b> Councillors noted the contents of the Crown Estate's update dated 17 January 2019, in particular that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. An encouraging number of Expressions of Interest had been received</li> <li>2. Interested parties will be asked to submit formal financial bids and more detailed proposals in terms of how they will look to preserve the Open Field System and Court Leet.</li> <li>3. Once this information has been received, a short-listing process will take place followed by interviews which will be hosted by The Crown Estate.</li> <li>4. Following the interviews it is likely that final bids will be requested.</li> </ol> <p>It was confirmed that tenants had also received update letters from the Crown Estate.</p>	

<p><b>LMPC/13/19</b></p>	<p><b>Village environment and appearance, including:</b></p> <p><b>a. Village Hall refurbishment project:</b> The chair reported that the Lottery Fund had approved the revised plans. A contractor is due to commence the revised works within the next two weeks which should be completed within five months.</p> <p><b>b. Moorhouse – Village fingerpost including LIS funding application:</b> Councillors noted the contents of Mr Keeling of NCC’s email dated 21 January 2019. Mr Hill confirmed his understanding from his discussions with Mr Keeling that, in view of the traditional design of the fingerpost, unlike a village entrance sign, no consents are required and the only outstanding matter is the siting of the brown cycle way signs. In that regard, it has been decided to leave the current post where it is with the brown signs remaining to avoid spoiling the traditional appearance of the new post with modern metal signs. .</p> <p><b>c. Permissive access – Land surrounding cricket pitch:</b> No developments.</p> <p><b>d. Fibre broadband for Moorhouse:</b> Mr Pringle reported that he is pressing for Moorhouse to be included in a £1m bid for funding to upgrade non-fibre areas.</p> <p>Councillors referred to their discussions at LMPC/121/19 above (Public speaking). They <b>agreed</b> that, in the interests of the village environment, a new dog bin should be installed at the west end of the twitchell at the churchyard. The clerk will place an order.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<p><b>LMPC/14/19</b></p>	<p><b>Service faults including landline telephone service and issues:</b> The clerk will report that the drain outside phone box on High Street is sunken and not clearing properly.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<p><b>LMPC/15/19</b></p>	<p><b>Correspondence:</b> Item b – Newark Community First aid – First aid training – The clerk will accept the offer of training but deferred to autumn 2019 when the village hall will be open again. All other items of correspondence noted.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<p><b>LMPC/16/19</b></p>	<p><b>10 Minutes public speaking time:</b> The May 2019 elections were noted. The clerk will produce an explanatory note for the March 2019 meeting. Elections to be an agenda item for the March meeting.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<p><b>LMPC/17/19</b></p>	<p><b>Agenda items for next meeting:</b> As above.</p>	
<p><b>LMPC/20/19</b></p>	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b> 7.30 pm on 26 March 2019</p>	

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.