

LAXTON AND MOORHOUSE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7.30 pm on Wednesday 29 September 2021 at The Visitor Centre, Laxton

Present: Councillors:

M. Manning (chair)
 S. Hill
 M. Hennell
 J.Hill
 S,Rose
 J. Godson

In attendance at parish council meeting

C. Wilson (Clerk)
 S, Michael (District councillor)
 M. Pringle (county councillor)
 Juliette Wilson (Conservation officer)
 Member of the public (x1)

		ACTION
LMPC/76/21	Apologies for absence: Apologies were received and accepted from Mr R Hennell.	
LMPC/77/21	Declarations of interest: The chair declared an interest as a member of the sports field committee in item 11 (Property matters – including sports field and Glebe Field and sub-tenancy). There were no other declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda.	
LMPC/78/21	Dispensations: None required.	
LMPC/79/21	10 Minutes public speaking: The state of the roads and quality of repairs was discussed at length. Mr Pringle agreed and urged residents to report all issues to NCC. In order to facilitate this: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The member of the public would be provided with the link and telephone number to report problems to NCC 2. The chair will share the link and telephone number with the Open Field 3. The clerk will publish the link and telephone number on the website. The clerk will also: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Chase up the outcome of the traffic speed rumble strip survey b. Report the poor road condition at the bottom of Cocking Hill near the brickyard. 	<p>Clerk/ Chair Chair</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk Clerk</p>
LMPC/80/21	Minutes of the parish council meeting held on 21 July 2021: The minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2021 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair.	
LMPC/81/21	Matters arising: No other matters arising which were not otherwise on the agenda.	
LMPC/82/21	Laxton Conservation Area Character Appraisal – Review – Conservation Officer presentation: Councillors welcomed Ms Wilson to the meeting. The key elements of Ms Wilson’s presentation were as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The conservation area had been designated in the 1970s and 	

- had not been reviewed since.
2. NSDC had chosen a number of conservation areas to review. Laxton was one which had been identified as a priority
 3. The suggestion is that the boundary is extended to include the open fields
 4. The primary impact of a conservation area designation is on residential properties because it changes the planning context in terms of development. An extension to include the open fields would have minimal planning impact because it would not remove any rights. It would, however, bring the open fields within the scope of the conservation appraisal. This means that their importance and the reasons that they should be recognised would be formally set out in the assessment.
 5. Public support would be required for the extension. NSDC is only in the early stages of gauging opinion.
 6. The process would begin with a draft proposal which would then be put out to public consultation. If that demonstrates that there is no appetite for the extension, the area would remain as drawn now.
 7. The redrawn boundaries would extend planning scrutiny but because it was inclusive of the open fields, it would not increase restrictions. The extension would enhance the importance and value of the open fields by providing recognition within the planning system.
 8. NSDC is also looking at potential local policies to protect non-manmade structure archaeological sites such as grasslands
 9. Inclusion of the open fields would complement the village because the village is an inherent part of the open field system
 10. A management plan would look at and promote the overall condition of the area
 11. In a conservation area it is also possible to place an Article 4 direction on agricultural buildings which would restrict permitted development rights.
 12. Laxton had been selected because of the recent change of ownership and associated potential for change. It is also one of the oldest designations and has never had an appraisal
 13. Consultation is delivered as follows:
 - a. A paper copy is published and a copy made available online for a period of six weeks
 - b. Questionnaires are issued and public events held
 - c. NSDC will probably also write to every resident notifying them of the consultation, dates of events and how to view the documents
 - d. It is difficult to be definite because of Covid but the process will most likely take place in spring 2022
 - e. If the consultation is completed in spring 2022, any amendments would then be made before the proposal is considered by the Economic Committee. Adoption would be almost immediate with the new area being in effect at that point.
 14. Ms Wilson will update the clerk as to progress in advance of each meeting
 15. Ms Wilson was invited to attend the court leet on 2 December 2021

Councillors **agreed** that, being of benefit to the village, they supported the proposed extension in principle. If they have any queries or questions they will contact Ms Wilson. The clerk will circulate her details.

Ms Wilson also reported that she had inspected inside Bar Farmhouse and been in contact with the owner. NSDC is taking action. Some

	work had been done to tidy the site and works were being required to the roof before the winter sets in.	
LMPC/83/20	<p>Reports from district and county councillors: Mr Pringle's written report was noted.</p> <p>Mrs Michael reported that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safer Neighbourhood Group meetings had resumed. 2. In spring 2022, NSDC is moving from a committee to a cabinet model of governance. This will reduce the tiers in the decision making process and should therefore lead to quicker outcomes. Contrary to the committee based model, where all parties are represented, cabinet is run by whichever party is in power. Scrutiny will be exercised through the calling in process. 3. NSDC has no further involvement in the cattle market, the party interested in running the market having no interest in the site owned by NSDC. 	
LMPC/84/21	<p>Reports from councillors: Mr S Hill reported that the next SNG meeting would be on 30 September 2021. A new Chief Inspector and police constable had been appointed for the area, together with PCSO Dunn. The issues raised at the last meeting had been rural theft and traffic speeding through villages. In the latter regard, the police had offered to train a minimum of six volunteers to use a speed gun which the parish council would be required to buy. It had also been reported that the police were carrying out operations to tackle diesel theft. Councillors noted that a police representative would visit to talk about ways to secure properties.</p>	
LMPC/85/21	<p>Financial Matters:</p> <p>a. Financial position as at 31 August 2021: Councillors considered and noted the clerk's report showing the precise financial position at 31 August 2021 (incorporating the 2021-22 budget figures).</p> <p>b. Accounts for payment: The council unanimously approved ten payments totalling £1005.45. Councillors agreed that they had intended the clerk to order two dg bins. The clerk will place an order for the second.</p> <p>c. Use of reserves: To be discussed at items 11 (Property matters) and 15 e (Christmas events and decorations)</p>	
LMPC/86/21	<p>Property matters including sports field and Glebe Field and sub tenancy and associated legal services: Councillors reconsidered the requirements for the lease following a request received from Larken & Co. They noted that the field has no water supply and that someone had been doing some maintenance because the elders had been cut and burned. Further discussion confidential and minuted separately.</p> <p>The clerk will contact Larken & Co.</p> <p>Mr Rose confirmed that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The soil which had been blocking access to the field had been removed 2. He had tried to obtain three quotes for the fencing and hedge laying. Four contractors had inspected the site but he had received only one quote, £8535. Councillors thanked Mr Rose but, after discussion, agreed that the price was uneconomic. 	Clerk
LMPC/87/	Planning matters:	

21	<p>a. Applications: None.</p> <p>b. To note planning decisions by NSDC:</p> <p>i. 21/01548/HOUSE - Proposed single storey side sun lounge replacement extension - Brecks Cottage Bed And Breakfast, Green Lane, Moorhouse, Newark – Approval noted</p> <p>ii. 21/01573/HOUSE - Proposed single storey principal extension, partial conversion of garage and external alterations - Walnut Cottage, Toad Lane, Laxton, Newark – Approval noted</p> <p>c. Compliance: No matters raised.</p>	
LMPC/88/21	<p>Defibrillator inspection report: Mr Jem Hill had reported that he had completed the inspection. There were no issues</p>	
LMPC/89/21	<p>Thoresby Estate – Village meeting 22 September 2021 – Next steps: Councillors approved the record of the meeting circulated by the clerk. Councillors noted that the owner of Rufford Park was a regular visitor to Rufford Parish Council which aided good communication and effective working relationships. After discussion, they agreed that, now that the purchase was complete, Thoresby Estate had begun to establish itself as the new owner and the pandemic was easing meaning that projects and plans can be progressed, Mr Pierrepont or his representative should be invited to attend council meetings regularly. This would help forge a strong, constructive links with the estate for the future. The clerk will contact Mr Pierrepont.</p>	Clerk
LMPC/90/21	<p>Village environment and appearance, including:</p> <p>a. Dog bin installation – Update: See LMPC/85/21 above (Financial matters)</p> <p>b. Relocation – 30 mph speed signs to village entries: Mr Pringle had been in contact with the relevant officers.</p> <p>c. Speeding traffic including possible weight limit: See LMPC/79/21 (10 minutes public speaking time).</p> <p>d. Bar Farmhouse: see LMPC/82/21 above (Laxton Conservation Area).</p> <p>e. Christmas event and decorations Councillors discussed potential sites for trees and lights. The chair will formally apply to Thoresby Estate charity for a donation for Christmas trees lights and electricity costs. Mr S Hill will explore sources for a tree for Moorhouse. Councillors authorised Mr S Hill to order up to £500 worth of lights for Moorhouse. Councillors agreed that they should organise a light switch on event to take place at The Dovecote, together with other village representatives. They appointed Mr Rose, Mr Manning and Mr M Hennell as the parish council Christmas event representatives.</p>	
LMPC/91/21	<p>Service faults: None.</p>	
LMPC/92/21	<p>Correspondence: All items of correspondence noted</p>	
LMPC/93/21	<p>Agenda items for next meeting: As above</p>	
LMPC/94/21	<p>Date of next meeting: Tuesday 23 November 2021</p>	

The meeting closed at 9.55 pm