

LAXTON AND MOORHOUSE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7.30 pm on Tuesday 23 November 2021 at The Visitor Centre, Laxton

Present: Councillors:

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

In attendance at parish council meeting

C. Wilson (Clerk)
 S, Michael (District councillor)
 B Perry (Thoresby Estate representative)
 Member of the public (x2)

		ACTION
LMPC/95/21	Apologies for absence: There were no absences. Apologies from Mr Pringle were noted.	
LMPC/96/21	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/97/21	Dispensations: None required.	
LMPC/98/21	10 Minutes public speaking: Nothing raised.	
LMPC/99/21	Thoresby Estate report (if any): Councillors welcomed Mr Perry to the meeting and were looking forward to working with him and the Thoresby Estate in the best interests of the parish. They thanked the Estate for the donation of Christmas trees and for the donation of land to the rear of the village hall to enable the creation of a garden space. They invited representatives of the Estate to attend the switch on of the Christmas lights on 5 December 2021. Mr Perry invited the parish council to contact him between meetings as necessary to address an issues which may crop up going forward.	
LMPC/100/21	Minutes of the village meeting held on 22 September 2021 and the Parish Council meeting held on 29 September 2021: The minutes of the village meeting held on 22 September 2021 and the Parish Council meeting held on 29 September 2021 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair, subject to the amendment of LMPC/88/21 (Defibrillator inspection report) to refer to Mr Jem Hill instead of Mr Mark Hennell. The chair praised the minutes of the village meeting in particular as a very fair, thorough and accurate representation of the discussions which had taken place.	
LMPC/101/21	Matters arising: No other matters arising which were not otherwise on the agenda.	

<p>LMPC/102/20</p>	<p>Reports from district and county councillors: Mr Pringle's report referring to the lack of progress in relation to the 30 mph signs and cancellation of the proposed meeting with NCC Highways (Via) was noted. Mrs Michael reported that steps continue to be taken to improve the condition of Bar Farmhouse but, otherwise, had nothing to report.</p>	
<p>LMPC/103/21</p>	<p>Reports from councillors: Mr S Hill reported that the most recent SNG meeting attended by PCSO Dunn and the newly appointed D Makin had considered:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The issue of abandoned cars 2. Rural theft 3. Enforcement of the 30mph speed limit on A616. <p>The next meeting would take place in January 2022.</p>	
<p>LMPC/104/21</p>	<p>2022 meeting dates: The dates circulated by the clerk were approved.</p>	
<p>LMPC/105/21</p>	<p>Property matters including sports field and Glebe Field and sub tenancy and associated legal services: Mr Rose reported that he had obtained three hedge laying quotes as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. James Hoyland - £3360 2. Critchleys - £2134 (excludes wood removal but contractor prepared to burn it if members of the parish council assist) 3. Whites -£3750 <p>all of which had been circulated. Mr J and Mr S Hill declared personal interests in this item, a cousin/nephew being one of the contractors, and did not participate in the discussions which followed. Councillors discussed the quotes agreeing that the firms were all reputable and the only difference was price. They noted that it would be necessary for the council to purchase tanalised posts. They also noted that the prospective tenant had tidied up the gate area and verbally indicated that they would be happy to maintain the hedge once re-laid. After consideration, councillors decided (5 in favour:2 abstentions) to approve and accept the quote from Critchleys, being the least expensive. They noted that a deposit was required in the sum of £864.80. After further discussion, they agreed that Mr Rose will accept the quote with the deposit to be paid subject to written confirmation to Critchley's that the deposit was to be applied to the materials and those materials would belong to the parish council. Councillors discussed the draft licence received from Larken & Co which had been circulated. They unanimously approved the licence and authorised the chair to sign on the council's behalf. The clerk will let Larken & Co know.</p>	<p>SR</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>LMPC/106/21</p>	<p>Planning matters:</p> <p>a. Applications: 21/02354/FUL - CONVERSION OF EXISTING BARN TO FORM A SINGLE DWELLING - School Farm High Street Laxton NG22 0NX: The chair suspended standing orders to allow the members of the public to address the meeting. Councillors noted the concerns expressed, in particular:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the property which was the subject of the application was a semi-detached property 2. The proposal involved an extended footprint 3. The development was not in keeping with the adjoining property 4. The development, if approved, would be overbearing and intrusive on the adjacent property 5. The adjacent property would be overlooked 6. There was potential for noise and parking issues whilst any 	

	<p>works were underway.</p> <p>They also recognised that investment in the Laxton estate would involve some change, although that was not material to planning decisions.</p> <p>After discussion, councillors unanimously decided to object on the grounds that the proposed development is intrusive and would result in a loss of privacy for the adjoining property.</p> <p>The members of the public left the meeting at 8.30 pm.</p> <p>b. To note planning decisions by NSDC: None</p> <p>c. Compliance: No matters raised.</p>	
<p>LMPC/107/21</p>	<p>Defibrillator inspection report: Mr Jem Hill had reported that he had completed the inspection. There were no issues.</p> <p>Councillors went on to consider whether the defibrillator might be better located in the recently acquired telephone kiosk which was more visible than the Visitor Centre. After discussion, and noting that the Visitor Centre is close to the pub, a heavily visited location, the councillors decided to consider the purchase of a second defibrillator at their next meeting. The clerk will include it as an agenda item for the meeting on 25 January 2022.</p> <p>In the meantime, the chair will seek the parish's views on a second defibrillator and the wider question of the use of the telephone kiosk in The Open Field. Mr Perry offered to enquire whether the Thoresby Estate would be able to provide any support for a second defibrillator. There was also discussion relating to improving the signage for the defibrillator.</p>	<p>Agenda Jan 22</p> <p>Chair BP</p>
<p>LMPC/108/21</p>	<p>Village environment and appearance, including:</p> <p>a. Dog bin installation – Update: Mr J Hill will install the bins, one on either gate to Mill Field. He will let the clerk know when they are installed to enable her to advise NSDC waste collection to update their collection schedule.</p> <p>b. Relocation – 30 mph speed signs to village entries: See LMPC/102/21 (reports from District and County Councillors) above.</p> <p>c. Speeding traffic including possible weight limit - Update: Councillors noted that the speed survey had not revealed a speeding problem</p> <p>d. Bar Farmhouse: See LMPC/102/21 (reports from District and County Councillors) above</p> <p>e. Christmas event and decorations: The chair and Mr Rose updated the meeting as to the plans which were underway, referring to the following in particular:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The four trees would be on display in gardens because of issues erecting and lighting them on the kerb ii. As agreed at the September 2021 meeting, the chair had purchased the lights on behalf of the council iii. The trees and lights should be installed at the weekend. Councillors appreciated that a cherry picker would be required to install the lights and supports for the trees would also be required iv. The Dovecote had offered to host the switching on event outside and provide refreshments v. The event to take place on 5 December 2021. <p>Councillors discussed the plans, refreshments to be offered and costs at length and unanimously approved and adopted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The siting of the trees 2. The switch on event as planned, subject to a maximum expenditure on refreshments of £800 to be funded from the clothing bank proceeds 3. The use of a cherry picker to install the lights at a cost of £250 plus VAT 	<p>JH Clerk</p>

	<p>4. To pay Mr Rose for the supply of the tree supports. Mr Rose withdrew for the discussion of this matter.</p> <p>f. Laxton Conservation Area Character Appraisal – Update: Councillors noted that the consultation was planned for January 2022 and agreed to promote the appraisal.</p>	Agenda
LMPC/109/21	<p>a. Financial position as at 31 October 2021: Councillors considered and noted the clerk’s report showing the precise financial position at 31 October 2021 (incorporating the 2021-22 budget figures). The chair verified the stated balances against bank statements.</p> <p>b. Accounts for payment: The council unanimously approved ten payments totalling £2325.15.</p> <p>c. Appointment of internal auditor: Councillors agreed that Halam parish clerk should be asked whether she would be prepared to undertake the role for a further year.</p> <p>d. Review system of internal control: Councillors discussed the operation of the system of internal control and agreed that it was adequate for the size and needs of the council and continued to operate effectively, subject to the appointment of an internal auditor which was in hand.</p> <p>e. Consider need for interim internal audit: The clerk advised councillors as to the on-going nature of the internal audit process. Councillors considered their financial affairs for the financial year to date. They decided that, given the thorough nature of the internal audit carried out by Halam parish clerk, an interim internal audit would be disproportionate and was not justified.</p>	
LMPC/110/21	Service faults: The clerk will report that the street light adjacent to Lilac Farm has disappeared leaving a dangerous stump.	Clerk
LMPC/111/21	Correspondence: All items of correspondence noted.	
LMPC/112/21	Agenda items for next meeting: As above	
LMPC/113/21	Date of next meeting: Tuesday 25 January 2022	

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm